

Note: Per C.G.S. 10 – 218, Board of Education meeting minutes are provided in a draft format within 48 hours of the date the meeting was held. With the exception of motions and votes recorded, these minutes are unofficial until they have been read and approved by a majority vote of the Board. Should edits be necessary, they will be made at the next regularly scheduled meeting, noted in the meeting minutes, and voted upon.

SCOTLAND BOARD OF EDUCATION
Scotland, Connecticut
Meeting Minutes
July 12, 2022

Chairperson Cassidy Martin called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM. Present were Board members Sherry Smardon, Scott Sears, Rod Perry, Clark Stearns and Gracie Martin. Unable to attend was Board member Bill Trudelle. Administrators present was Superintendent Valerie Bruneau.

The Board recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC: None

3. COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD:

- Received a letter that will be discussed in Executive Session.
- A letter of resignation was received from School Nurse Charlene Petrone (suggested hiring Substitute Nurse Sharon St. Rock who will take the job).

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- **Regular Meeting of June 7, 2022:**
#1-22/23 Motion to approve the regular meeting minutes from June 7, 2022, was made by Sherry Smardon, seconded by Gracie Martin and carried with one abstention by Scott Sears.

5. OPPORTUNITY TO ADD OR DELETE AGENDA ITEMS:

Motion to add to agenda as Item #8J – Resignation from School Nurse Charlene Petrone, was made by Sherry Smardon, seconded by Scott Sears and carried unanimously.

6. CELEBRATIONS:

- School is out and Summer School has started.
 - Progress is being made on cleaning.
- Rod Perry asked about the piles of dirt outside (stumps were removed).

7. REPORTS

A. Chairperson's Oral Report: No Report

B. Superintendent's Report:

- Summer Extended School Year has 9 kids with double that for the enrichment program. The Reading assignment is "How to Eat Fried Worms" with little projects and Sign Language incorporated into the lessons. Will also be authors and making Budsies characters. One staff member couldn't stay due to a medical situation and was replaced with the Music teacher's twin sister.
- PD for Paras is going well. 5 people attended PMT training. Stop the Bleed (shows how to handle crisis situation if EMT not available) will be held along with staff from Andover next Tuesday by Nurse Charlene from 12:30 to 1:30pm. Nate from the Scotland Fire Department will do CPR training afterwards.
- May have a PE teacher (waiting for pending certification for candidate who was a K-6 teacher).

- May have someone in person through an outside agency for Speech.
- Looking at candidate who works part-time in neighboring town for the Finance position (Tim Smith could oversee and sign off while certification is pending).
- SBAC scores are in (Ann will present at the September meeting).
- Will be working with Troop D and the Fire Department in August to do risk assessment for Safety Plan.

C. Principal's Report:

Valerie Bruneau presented Principal's Report for Ann Knowles who could not attend tonight's meeting.

- Enrollment is at 93 students.
- The Curriculum Committee made final decisions to purchase the following: Math (Illustrated Math K-6), Literacy (Inter Reading K-6), and Writing (Empowering Writers K-6). PreK-3 will continue with Wilson Foundations. Training will be done during the summer.
- Thanks to Ann Knowles for the fantastic work designing the way the school will look this year to best serve the needs of the students with the strengths of the staff. Each class will have their own teacher with blocks of time for classes to be together in the following groups - (4th, 5th & 6th grade), (2nd & 3rd grade – the 2nd grade teacher is a Reading Specialist and the 3rd grade teacher will spearhead Math), (PreK, K and 1st grade).

D. Special Education Report: No Report

E. Financial Report:

Superintendent Bruneau reviewed reports sent by Tim Smith including: Grants with Revenues, Summary with Encumbrances (projected with a \$36,000 surplus after transfers), Propane Use for buses and Electrical use. An unanticipated bill was received for snow plowing that went to the town by mistake (about \$3,300). The oil tank was filled.

#3-21/22 Motion to approve the Financial Report, was made by Rod Perry, seconded by Scott Sears and carried unanimously.

F. PTO: No Report

G. Committee Reports:

Inter-district Cost Sharing, CABA/EASTCONN, Readiness Council, Policy Committee, Personnel Committee, Technology, Finance, Facilities and Climate Survey Committee

Inter-district Cost Sharing – The entire Committee will meet on July 21st to discuss rolling out the entire plan to the two Boards of Education (the Programming Committee will hold final meeting prior to the full Committee meeting). Each town will do an advisory vote.

EASTCONN – New Executive Director Eric Protulis starts July 18th (worked at EASTCONN previously).

CABA – The CABA Conference will be held November 18th & 19th at the Mystic Marriott (need to preregister). The Board can choose from many breakout sessions they want to attend (Board Attorney will be doing a breakout session on FOI).

School Readiness – All grants are done. The Policies Committee met and discussed charging for Special Ed students (Hampton does not charge, Scotland charges for the portion they are in the classroom). The liaison is looking for advice from the state.

- Cassidy Martin suggested all Committees meet at the beginning of the school year.

8. BOARD BUSINESS

H. Items for Discussion & Actions: None

I. Old Business updates

- BOE Goals/retreat ideas

Clark Stearns suggested not meeting at the school. Sherry Smardon suggested team building events in addition to lectures. Ideas included: escape room, pottery making and painting, drinking wine at Hillyland, meeting for breakfast and mini-golf. Superintendent Bruneau suggested planning three retreats a year: a serious event for the 1st one with the CABE Conference in the fall (they serve breakfast and the Board can have their own table), a fun event for the 2nd retreat and the Board's choosing for the 3rd event (many ideas will be generated from the CABE Conference). Sherry Smardon suggested going forward to do a fun event at the beginning or the end of the year to celebrate another year.

J. Resignation from School Nurse Charlene Petrone:

Motion to accept with regret resignation from School Nurse Charlene Petrone thanking her for her service during a really tough time, was made by Sherry Smardon, seconded by Scott Sears and carried with the following vote:

YES: Gracie Martin, Rod Perry, Sherry Smardon, Scott Sears, Clark Stearns.

NO: Cassidy Martin.

9. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON AGENDA ITEMS: None

10. OTHER ACTION ITEMS:

- Executive Session Anticipated
 - i. Item: Superintendent BOE Evaluation, Action: Discussion
 - ii. Item: BOE Self Evaluation, Action: Discussion
 - iii. Student Matter, Action: Discussion

#6-22/23 Motion to enter into Executive Session (7:47 PM) for the purpose of discussing Superintendent Evaluation, BOE Self Evaluation and Student Matter and invite the Superintendent to attend, was made by Sherry Smardon, seconded by Scott Sears and carried unanimously.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 10:04 PM.

11. UPCOMING MEETINGS

- Regular Board Meeting July 12, 2022
- Items for Next Meeting and Assignments

12. ADJOURNMENT:

#6-22/23 Motion to adjourn (10:04 PM) was made by Sherry Smardon, seconded by Clark Stearns and carried unanimously.

***Respectfully submitted by Kathleen Scott
Recording Clerk***