

EAST LYME BOARD OF EDUCATION
East Lyme, Connecticut

REGULAR MEETING
Tuesday, May 10, 2016 – 6:30 p.m.
Room B101, East Lyme High School

MINUTES

Board Members Present: Tim Hagen (Chair), Jaime Barr Shelburn (Acting Secretary), Eric Bauman, Candice Carlson, John Kleinhans (6:42), Marlene Nickerson, Barbara Senges

Board Members Absent: Jill Carini, Bill Derry, Al Littlefield (Secretary)

Administrators Present: Jeffrey Newton (Superintendent), Donna Gittleman (Interim Assistant Superintendent for Special Education and Pupil Personnel), Dr. Karen Costello (Administrator for Program Improvement), Linda Anania (Principal, Flanders School), Melissa DeLoreto (Principal, Niantic Center School), Dr. Judy DeLeeuw (Principal, East Lyme Middle School), Mike Susi (Principal, East Lyme High School), Jeff Provost (Assistant Principal, East Lyme High School), Kim Davis (Special Education Coordinator), Maria Whalen (Director of Business and Facilities), Pat Lannon (Technology Director)

I. CALL TO ORDER – 6:36 p.m. by Chair Tim Hagen

The Board took a short recess at 6:36 p.m. (Moving to Room B100, East Lyme High School)

II. EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION: Candice Carlson moved to enter into executive session at 6:36 p.m. and to include Jeffrey Newton (Superintendent) and Donna Gittleman (Interim Assistant Superintendent) to discuss personnel issues as follows: (1) Interview for Interim Principal, Niantic Center School and 2) Interview for Interim Director of Special Services); Barbara Senges seconded.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS

MOTION CARRIED

The Board exited executive session at 6:55 p.m.

Meeting reconvened at 7:00 p.m. (Room B101, East Lyme High School)

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Led by Chair Tim Hagen



East Lyme Middle School
Music Presentation

Caroline French, Jenny Guo, En-Ming Holtz, Alissa Li,
Jennie Lin, Yurina Shirai, Eve Slempe, Sam Yang

Karen Ciccone and Colin Wheatley
Music Teachers

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Carol Russell, 4 Bramble Bush Dr, Niantic, said she was saddened and disturbed by the Board's comments regarding the approved elementary building project ("best under circumstances" and "moving NC students to HA without renovations if referendum does not pass"). She asked what the rush is to vacate and move NC students to HA and feels as though the real motivator is the sale and development by the town of NC. She asked the Board to reconsider its decision and rescind or table the project to afford more opportunity for public input, and to pass action that no elementary school close that doesn't pass referendum. She encouraged the Board to file an application for state funds for NC and FL to meet deadline as we go forward, and to establish a parallel track so we have equitable plan moving forward.
2. Maura Donnelly, 14 Stoneywood Drive, Niantic, spoke as editor-in-chief of the ELHS Viking Saga and encouraged the Board to read her article of May 5, 2016. She stated she does not feel the current plan meets the needs of students and is disappointed that the FL project will be postponed for 5-7 years. She stated it is desirable to have equitable size schools in opposite ends of town and the plan the Board sends forward should be the best plan for students.
3. Mike McKee, 59 Black Point Road, Niantic, praised ELHS student Maura Donnelly for her research and eloquent article in the May 5 edition of the ELHS Viking Saga. He stated his family moved into town in 2009 because of the superior school system and community and without regard to town opportunities and improvements available today. He encouraged the Board to bring back transparency, not to eliminate NC, and to let the community have the opportunity to say what they need to say.
4. Jennifer Murray, 7 Tabernacle Avenue, Niantic, requested the Board put the brakes on the elementary building project and keep status quo on three elementary schools, especially in light of next year's increase in Kindergarten enrollment. She asked the Board if it took into consideration test scores and educational outcomes when coming to a decision. She stated HA is an overwhelming size for elementary children and playground space is inadequate with two of the playgrounds adjacent to an access road.
5. Julie Kuja, 4 Stone Cliff Dr, Niantic, HA teacher, spoke in support of a two school communities coming together as one amazing institution. She thanked the Board and Superintendent for their transparency and dedication for the best education decision for our children and she looks forward to moving forward.
6. Dawn Rodes, 26 North Road, Niantic, stated she does not agree with the BOE approved plan and encouraged the Board to address the HA playground confined space. She advised against putting kids in a construction zone.
7. Carolyn Locarno, 6 Pepperidge Lane, East Lyme, HA teacher, stated the HA playground is very sufficient and HA children feel safe and love all the playgrounds. She applauded the Board and administration for the past HA transition process to Camp Rowland and into the former MS while it was under construction, and stated it was a safe and memorable experience for students.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: Jaime Barr Shelburn moved approval of minutes of the Board of Education April 26, 2016 Regular Meeting as presented; Candice Carlson seconded.

VOTE PRO: Tim Hagen (Chair), Eric Bauman, Candice Carlson, John Kleinhans, Barbara Senges, Jaime Barr Shelburn

VOTE CON: None

ABSTAIN: Marlene Nickerson

MOTION CARRIED 7:0:1

MOTION: Jaime Barr Shelburn moved approval of minutes of the Board of Education May 5, 2016 Committee of the Whole Meeting as presented; Eric Bauman seconded.

VOTE PRO: Tim Hagen (Chair), Eric Bauman, Candice Carlson, Marlene Nickerson,

VOTE CON: None

ABSTAIN: Jaime Barr Shelburn, John Kleinhans, Barbara Senges

MOTION CARRIED 4:0:3

VI. SPECIAL REPORTS

A. Students' Representative – Matthew Spang (12) and Lily Zhong (11) were not present

B. Selectmen's Representative – Marc Salerno

- Last night Town Meeting re: FY 16/17 Budget, Referendum on 5/19/16, 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.

- CIP approved

- Last week BOS toured the three elementary schools

- Encouraged BOE to send elementary building project to BOS and BOF for review

C. Salem Board of Education – George Jackson

- Salem referendum re: FY 2016/2017 Budget (½% increase) is 5/11/16

- Requested Salem representative be included in EL Long Range Planning

D. Other Reporters - None.

VII. CONSENT AGENDA - None

VIII. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

A. Personnel

1. Discussion/action re: Proposed Appointment of Interim Principal for Niantic Center School Effective July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017

MOTION: Jaime Barr Shelburn moved to appoint Jeffrey Provost as Interim Principal for Niantic Center School Effective July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017 as presented; Candice Carlson seconded.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS

MOTION CARRIED

2. Discussion/action re: Proposed Appointment of Interim Director of Special Services for East Lyme Public Schools Effective July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017

MOTION: Marlene Nickerson moved to appoint Kimberly Davis as Interim Director of Special Services for East Lyme Public Schools Effective July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017 as presented; Barbara Senges seconded.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS

MOTION CARRIED

B. Instruction

1. Discussion re: ELPS Coastal Connections Program Presentation

Dr. Mike Sullivan and teacher/internship coordinator Dan Crowley provided an overview of the ELPS Coastal Connections Program. Inspired by *Big Picture Learning*, the program offers students an alternative way to learn in lieu of the tradition high school experience. Twenty six students are currently enrolled in the program. Students Emma Larson and Xavier Thompson shared their program experiences and gave examples of academic, professional and personal growth. They noted that without the program, they most likely would not be attending school. The Coastal Connections staff and students thanked the Board for supporting the program.



Big Picture Learning

- Established in 1995 by Dennis Littky and Elliot Washor
- Bill and Melinda Gates foundation
- Based on student interest/passion
- 50+ schools in USA and numerous other schools world wide:
 - (Australia, Canada, Israel, and Netherlands)
- 1 other BPL schools in CT (Storrs)
- More information www.bigpicturelearning.org

BIG PICTURE LEARNING GOALS

- **EMPIRICAL REASONING:** to think like a scientist, use evidence and a logical process to evaluate a hypothesis.
- **QUANTITATIVE REASONING:** to think like a mathematician, to understand numbers, to analyze uncertainty, comprehend the properties of shape and study how things change over time
- **COMMUNICATIVE ABILITY:** to be a great communicator, know your audience, speak and listen well, to use technology and artistic expression.
- **SOCIAL REASONING:** to see diverse perspectives, to understand social issues, to explore ethics, and to look at issues historically.
- **PERSONAL QUALITIES:** to demonstrate respect, leadership, responsibility, organization, time management, and to reflect on one's abilities and strive to improve

21st Century Skills

Goal: To Prepare Students to Contribute to the World of Work and Civic Life

- Oral and Written Communication
- Critical Thinking and Problem Solving
- Professionalism and Work Ethic
- Teamwork and Collaboration
- Working in Diverse Teams
- Applying Technology
- Leadership and Project Management

Personalized Learning: Learning Plans

COASTAL CONNECTIONS

Learning Plan	Student Advisor	Grade/CL Site	Quarter/ Mentor	Date/ Page	
Mr. Work	IP Learning Goals Addressed (Empirical Reasoning (R), Quantitative Reasoning (R), Communication (R), Social Reasoning (R), Personal Qualities (R))	Performance Expectations (R), (R), (R), (R), (R)	Resources to be used	How will I show it at my exhibition?	How will I be working as well?

Learning Through Internships

- Carelot Children's Center
- The Music Bin-out
- Crescent Point of Niantic
- High Hopes Therapeutic Riding Center
- Central Signs and More
- Flinders Fish Market
- East Lyme Town Hall
- Gerwick, Meteen, LLC Surveying
- Quig, Comodus Radio Broadcasting
- Garlic Art Theatre
- Nature's Art
- Coast Ford
- Light House
- Fresh, New London
- ELPS Tech Support
- Reboot Tech
- Niantic Flinders Fire Dept
- Flinders, Haynes, Niantic Center Schools & HAMS
- The Cake Lady
- Mitchell Farm
- Jimmy Marketing
- I&M Radiology Dept
- I&M Biomedical Tech Dept
- I&M Patient Transport Dept
- I&M Paramedic Department
- Advanced Power Equipment
- East Lyme Police Department
- Three Bells Marina
- Habitat for Humanity
- Montville Social Services
- Firmari's Garage
- Clark Veterinary
- Café Sol

Quarterly Exhibitions

- Project Organization
- Introduction
- Professionalism (e.g. eye contact, dress, demeanor)
- Visuals (professional, accurate, neat, and appropriate)
- Speech (e.g. rate, volume, clarity, and diction)
- Audience Engagement
- Creativity
- Content (e.g. level of rigor)

School Culture

WORK HABITS:

- Be on time
- Take responsibility
- Persevere
- Encourage team work
- Do your best in school/at internships
- 90/10 Rule

COMMUNICATION:

- Control volume of speech
- Be friendly, try to get along
- Trust in one another

BE RESPECTFUL:

- Listen to others
- Clean up after yourself
- Follow directions
- Be sensitive/considerate of others
- Use respectful language

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
7:30 - 7:45	Morning Advisory	ELL	Morning Advisory	ELL	Morning Advisory
7:45 - 8:15	Reading Plan/Independent Reading		Reading Plan/Independent Reading		Reading Plan/Independent Reading
8:15 - 9:30	Project Based Learning (PBL)		Project Based Learning (PBL)		Project Based Learning (PBL)
9:30 - 10:00	Core Subjects		Core Subjects		Core Subjects 9:30 - 10:00
10:00 - 10:30	Lunch		Lunch		Core Subjects 10:00 - 10:30
10:30 - 11:00	Core Subjects		Core Subjects		Lunch 10:30 - 11:00
11:00 - 11:30	Core Subjects		Core Subjects		Core Subjects 11:00 - 11:30
11:30 - 12:00	Core Subjects		Core Subjects		Core Subjects 11:30 - 12:00
12:00	Homework	Homework	Homework	Homework	Community Meeting 12:00 - 12:15 (1:00 - 1:15) 12:45 - 1:00 Homework 1:00

Daily Schedule

Application Process

Step 1: Informational Meeting
(Student & Parent/Guardian)

Step 2: 2 or 3 Day Visit
(Student only)

Step 3: Written Application
(Student & Parent/Guardian)

Step 4: Interview
(Student & Parent/Guardian)

Questions

C. Finance/Facilities/Community

1. Discussion re: Update on ELPS Elementary Building Project

- Superintendent Newton updated the Board on the ELPS elementary building project.
- The Board's recommendation will be forwarded to the Board of Selectmen at the end of the week.
- On May 23, start filling in framework w/architect
- A joint session is scheduled of the Board of Selectmen and Board of Finance on Wednesday, May 25, 7:00 p.m., in the HA gymnasium at which time Superintendent Newton will present information pertaining to the elementary building project and the history behind the plan.
- Construction process considerations will be further discussed at future BOE meetings – Critical factors are safety and least amount of disruption to the least amount of students.
- Community forums will be held once the BOE receives clarity and direction from the BOS and BOF.

2. Discussion/action re: Proposed CSDE FY 16-17 Healthy Food Certification Statement (ED-099)

Superintendent Newton recommended the Board approve the proposed CT State Department of Education FY 16/17 Healthy Food Certification Statement (ED-099) for East Lyme Public Schools. By complying, ELPS will receive an additional \$.10 per student lunch based on the total number of reimbursable lunches served in the district in the prior year.

- The election is the same as SY 15/16
- The East Lyme Food Service Program currently complies with the Federal and State mandated nutritional standards
- Certifies that all items sold to students meet CT Nutrition Standards

MOTION: Jaime Barr Shelburn moved to approve the proposed CSDE FY 16-17 Healthy Food Certification Statement (ED-099) as presented; Marlene Nickerson seconded.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS

MOTION CARRIED

3. Discussion/action re: East Lyme Board of Education Budget for FY 16/17

Superintendent Newton recommended the Board adopt the FY 2016/2017 budget for East Lyme Public Schools in the amount of \$45,484,605 (3.30%) to include the \$115,000 reduction directed by the Board of Finance as directed. He explained that he and the administrative staff have done their due diligence by spending months combing through the budget for possible reduction areas, with nowhere to go but to cut staff.

- Possible State of CT educational cuts could total \$244,000
- Kindergarten enrollment is being closely monitored for the possible need of additional teaching staff
- Cost saving suggestions included partial pay for play for middle and high school extra-curricular activities, delaying rehire's for secretarial retirement vacancies, and re-examining and discussion of Project O contract before next renewal
- Re-examine Project O contract and discuss before next renewal

MOTION: John Kleinhans moved to adopt the FY 2016-2017 budget for East Lyme Public Schools in the amount of \$45,484,605 (3.30%) to include the \$115,000 reduction directed by the Board of Finance as presented; Barbara Senges seconded.

VOTE PRO: Tim Hagen (Chair), Eric Bauman, John Kleinhans, Marlene Nickerson, Barbara Senges

VOTE CON: Jaime Barr Shelburn, Candice Carlson

ABSTAIN: None

MOTION CARRIED 5:2:0

D. Policy

E. Other

IX. ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

A. Superintendent of Schools – Mr. Jeffrey Newton

- BOE Goals will be set by July meeting
- BOS/BOF Meeting re: Elementary Project, Wednesday, May 25, 7:00 p.m., HA
- #104 in State for Per Pupil Expenditure w/high student performance

- B. Interim Assistant Superintendent for Special Education and Pupil Personnel – Ms. Donna Gittleman
 - Commented there are better ways to measure student performance than test scores – example Coastal Connections Program
- C. Business/Facilities Director – Mrs. Maria Whalen
 - High Deductible Health Plan meeting with staff this week – good turnout and great questions, ready to move forward

X. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. AAA Committee – Oral report of 5/10/16 meeting by Jaime Barr Shelburn
- B. FFO Committee – Minutes of 4/26/16 meeting
- C. Policy Review Committee
- D. ELPS Chinese Program ad Hoc Committee
- E. Board of Education Liaison to Board of Finance Schedule

XI. COMMUNICATIONS

- A. Grades 1-8 Summer Reading List for East Lyme and Salem Schools
- B. ELHS Viking Saga, Volume 49, Edition 17, dated 5/5/16
- C. *Coherence – The Right Drivers in Action for Schools, Districts, and Systems*, authors Michael Fullan and Joanne Quinn

XII. NOTICES

- A. Notice of the following 2015/2016 staffing changes:
 1. Appointments
 2. Reassignments
 3. Increases/Decreases in FTE
 4. Resignations
 - Melissa Bunkleman, 0.5 FTE Math Teacher, Coastal Connections, 6/13/16
 - Bernadette Hebbel, 1.0 FTE Teaching Assistant, HS, 6/13/16
 - Laura Tanner, 0.1 FTE Before School Care Aide, MS, 4/13/16
- B. Notice of the following staffing changes for 2016/2017:
 1. Appointments
 - Lisa Marie McNulty Miodonka, 1.0 FTE Science Teacher, HS
- C. Out of state field trips: None at this time.

XIII. BOARD COMMENTS/FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- A. Board Comments
 1. Eric Bauman - asked for elementary principal and student updates
 2. Jaime Barr Shelburn – question regarding hydrant on handicap spot at HS
- B. Future Agenda Items:
 - a. East Lyme Chinese Program Update – 5/23/16
 - b. Field Trip Discussion – *To be scheduled*
 - c. Short/Long-Term Savings Ideas – *To be scheduled*
 - d. Using Technology to Advance Curriculum – Eric Bauman – *To be scheduled*

XIV. PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Jennifer Murray, 7 Tabernacle Avenue, thanked Coastal Connections for providing a wonderful presentation and commented on the many caring and positive remarks made in relation to small schools. She suggested the BOE publicize the option of intradistrict transfers for students and stated she does not support moving 4th grade students to the middle school.

XV. EXECUTIVE SESSION – There was no need for executive session.

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Jaime Barr Shelburn moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:24 p.m.; John Kleinhans seconded.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS

MOTION CARRIED

Respectfully submitted,
Jaime Barr Shelburn
Jaime Barr Shelburn, Acting Secretary
East Lyme Board of Education