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**EAST LYME BOARD OF EDUCATION  
East Lyme, Connecticut**

*"East Lyme Public Schools will inspire, engage and educate each student to become a contributing citizen and a responsible, independent, and critical thinker."*

**Board of Education Special Meeting – Budget Workshop  
Wednesday, November 15, 2017, 5:30 p.m.  
Central Office Conference Room**

**MINUTES**

Board Members Present: Tim Hagen (Chair), Al Littlefield (Secretary), Eric Bauman, Candice Carlson, Bill Derry, Leigh Gianakos, Barbara Senges

Board Members Absent: Jaime Barr Shelburn, Jill Carini, John Kleinhans

Administrators Present: Jeff Newton (Superintendent), Amy Drowne, Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment), Kim Davis (Director of Student Services), Linda Anania (Principal, Flanders Elementary School), Melissa DeLoreto (Principal, Lillie B. Haynes Elementary School), Jeff Provost (Principal, Niantic Center Elementary School), Jason Bitgood (Principal, ELMS), Maryanna Stevens (Director of Finance, Marketing and Growth Management), Pat Lannon (Technology Director, ELPS)

I. **CALL TO ORDER** – The meeting was called to order at 5:35 p.m. by Chair Tim Hagen.

II. **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**A. Discussion/Workshop re: ELPS Budget for 2018-2019**

Superintendent Newton introduced the building principals that would be presenting their budget-related needs and rationale for these needs to the Board.

1. **Elementary Schools Budget Requests:**

Jeff Provost (Niantic Center School), Linda Anania (Flanders Elementary School), and Melissa DeLoreto (Principal of Lille B. Haynes) discussed that all three elementary schools are focused on District Goal 3: Student Centered Learning (social and emotional needs) with the desire to have a 0.5 FTE Social Worker in each building and the addition of a 0.5 FTE Psychologist to the 2.0 FTE we currently have on staff. This would provide a pro-active approach to providing needed services to all students. At present, a District-wide Social Worker provides only ten hours split between all three elementary schools.

Melissa DeLoreto also cited the need for an increase in the services provided by a Math Consultant who could provide additional math interventions which would be a 1.5 FTE increase. The Board asked to see the math data from Elementary through Middle School in an effort to provide the rationale for this increase.

2. **Middle School Budget Requests:**

Jason Bitgood (East Lyme Middle School), cited the need to add a 1.0 Math Consultant to the Middle School staff to assist in “building capacity within the Math Department.” The Board felt that this could possibly be a result of the problems with math seen at the elementary level. Again, the relevant data needs to be reviewed.

In keeping with District Goal 3, Principal Bitgood said that the Middle School presently had a 0.5 FTE Social Worker and would like an additional 0.5 FTE Social Worker.

3. High School Requests:

Mike Susi (East Lyme High School), indicated that at the High School there is presently Social Worker support for 30 hours per week with 15 hours allocated to the Therapeutic Program and 15 hours for other student support. His request is for another 1.0 FTE Social Worker.

Overall, the Board voiced its concern over the magnitude of the student social-emotional problems and indicated that it would like to “see the data” as to how big the problem is (number of occurrences, etc.), a detail of what present staff is available to provide support (considering that providing support pulls them away from other duties), and a plan as to how the District would address this issue.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** Barbara Senges moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 p.m.; Al Littlefield seconded.

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS**

**MOTION CARRIED**

Respectfully submitted,

*Al Littlefield*

Al Littlefield, Secretary

East Lyme Board of Education