

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
June 5, 2018

Superintendent Dr. Francis Baran called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Present were Board members Sherry Smardon, Steven Kurcinik, Brynn Lipstreu, Cassidy Martin, Scott Sears, Rod Perry and Anne Stearns. Administrators present were Principal Dr. Catherine Pinsonneault and Finance Coordinator Donna Sharp.

2. REVIEW OF ROSE KHOURIE SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS:

The Board was presented with two Rose Khourie Scholarship applications for review and will be selected later on the agenda.

3. ELECTION OF BOARD CHAIRPERSON AND OTHER OFFICES AS MIGHT BE NECESSARY:

Superintendent Dr. Baran opened nominations for Board Chair.

#1-17/18 Anne Stearns nominated Rod Perry for Board Chair who declined the nomination.

Steve Kurcinik nominated Brynn Lipstreu for Board Chair, seconded by Scott Sears. The vote to elect Brynn Lipstreu for Board Chair carried unanimously.

Chairperson Brynn Lipstreu opened nominations for Board Vice-Chair.

#2-17/18 Anne Stearns nominated Rod Perry for Board Vice-Chair, seconded by Steve Kurcinik.

Sherry Smardon nominated Scott Sears for Board Vice-Chair seconded by Anne Stearns.

The vote to elect Scott Sears for Board Vice-Chair carried with the following vote:

YES: S. Kurcinik, R. Perry, B. Lipstreu, C. Martin, S. Smardon.

NO: A. Stearns.

4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The Board recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

5. CELEBRATIONS/RECOGNITION:

- The SES Band marched in the Memorial Day parade.
- The SES Chorus won Gold in the Great East Music Festival.
- The Student Council worked at the cemetery preparing for services on Memorial Day.

6. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS:

A letter was received from the Teacher of the Year Committee asking to appoint a Board member to the Committee.

A letter was received from CABA thanking the Board for their continued membership and support. There will be no increase in dues.

A letter of retirement was received from Technology Specialist Joanne Lowney effective June 26, 2018. She will remain at Scotland Elementary as the School Library Media Specialist under the CT Teachers Retirement Regulations (identified as a shortage area).

A letter was received regarding concerns with renewal of the Superintendent's Contract from Lynn Johnson, Carol Sweat, Luz Desjardin, Jean Bach, Karen Clark and Sue Sullivan.

A letter was received regarding renewal of the Superintendent's Contract from April Coutu, Suellen Henry and another person.

7. COMMUNICATION WITH THE AUDIENCE: None

8. ADDITIONS TO AGENDA – ADDITIONAL BUSINESS MAY BE CONSIDERED AT A REGULAR MEETING UPON A 2/3 VOTE OF THOSE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD PRESENT AND VOTING, PER STATE STATUTE:

Add Administrative Regulations to Item #15A.

9. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

#3-17/18 Motion to approve the minutes of May 1, 2018, was made by Sherry Smardon, seconded by Scott Sears and carried unanimously.

10. FINANCE COORDINATOR REPORT:

A. Financial Report:

- 85% of the budget has been spent to date with 95% committed.
- The audit is complete with no adjustments. A copy of the audit is available in the Superintendent's office.

B. Approval of Financial Statement:

#4-17/18 Motion to approve the Financial Statement, was made by Rod Perry, seconded by Anne Stearns and carried unanimously.

11. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:

A. Curriculum Update:

Work continues on the Science curriculum and the Social Studies curriculum is on track. The Science room is clean and the next faculty meeting will be held there.

B. Solar Panel Program:

The application for the Solar Panel Program has been received, approved and assigned a Project Manager. The project is expected to begin in June.

C. Graduating class gifts:

Barnes and Noble gift cards will be presented to each 6th grade student at their Graduation. A \$25 gift card will be presented to a student for Science.

D. Rose Khourie Scholarship choice:

Sherry Smardon commented that the Rose Khourie Scholarship was originally intended for a student pursuing further education in the health field.

#5 – 17/18 Motion to nominate Hanna Viera for the Rose Khourie Scholarship, was made by Sherry Smardon, seconded by Scott Sears and carried with the following vote:

YES: S. Kurcinik, R. Perry, B. Lipstreu, C. Martin, S. Sears, S. Smardon.

NO: A. Stearns.

E. Special Education Director update:

Dr. Baran has reached out to other Superintendents for interest in the Special Education Director position. He will contact Directors outside of EASTCONN.

F. Other:

Dr. Baran presented three options for wording on the school calendar regarding snow days. Snow days could be made up using part of the April vacation with additional days added at the end of the school year. If there are more than 5 snow days prior to March 1st, the Board will monitor school closing days on a monthly basis and will consider publishing an alternate calendar using Professional Development days and/or vacation days as needed with additional days added to the end of the school year.

#6-17/18 Motion to approve option #3 for add wording to the school calendar to address make up days for snow days, was made by Anne Stearns, seconded by Steve Kurcinik and carried unanimously.

Upgrades to landscaping and the building was a community driven commitment organized by Wendy Sears who was commended for her efforts. Donations of mulch were received by Prides Corner and delivered by Savino Trucking. Stumps were ground up and removed by Joe.

The Teacher Evaluation Committee will meet to review the Teacher Evaluation Plan, update and resubmit in August.

12. PRINCIPAL REPORT:

Enrollment is at 119.

A. Teacher Evaluation (TEVAL) Update:

All formal observations for Non-tenured teachers are done. All walk-throughs are done.

B. Professional Development Opportunities:

Dr. Pinsonneault attended the session 7 of Professional Development in Middletown. The school Nurse completed the Sign Language class.

C. Other:

- The Kindergarten Celebration will be held on June 7th.
- The Music Concert will be held outside on June 13th.
- Field Day will be held on June 18th.
- The Student Council Field Trip will be held on June 19th.
- The Grade 6 Celebration will be held on June 25th at 6pm.
- The last day of school is June 27th.

13. FRIENDS OF SES REPORT:

Wendy Sears presented SES Report. Thanks to the following Friends of SES for their help with the grounds cleanup: Michelle Murray, Courtney Lawrence, Patricia Guy and Heather Nunn in addition to parents and students for their group effort.

- The Friends of SES will not be participating in the PH Spring Fling this year due to lack of interest. Wendy Sears will be participating as part of the Rec Commission.
- A Cruising for a Cause fundraiser is tentatively scheduled for July 21st. The sunset cruise with a cost of approximately \$20 per person will be held on the Blackhawk out of Niantic to see various historic sites.
- The Friends of SES hope to have a duo Movie Night before the end of the school year.
- More mulch is coming from Scotland Hardwoods and will be used in the Lori Fisher Memorial Garden and other needed areas.

Dr. Pinsonneault commended the Friends of SES for their fundraising efforts. Every student received a \$5 voucher for the B1G1 book sale with each receiving two books to help kick off the Reading Challenge.

14. NEW BUSINESS:

A. BOE Meetings Summer Schedule (Action Anticipated):

#7-17/18 Motion to cancel the July Board meeting and meet on August 14th at the discretion of the Board Chair with a regular meeting to be held on September 11th, was made by Anne Stearns, seconded by Steve Kurcinik and carried with one abstention by Anne Stearns.

B. Non-tenure Teacher recommendations (Action Anticipated):

Dr. Baran recommended reinstating contracts for 4 of 6 Non-tenured teachers. Reinstating the other two teachers needs further review based on enrollment and assignments. Dr. Baran will make recommendation by June 15th.

#8-17/18 Motion to reinstate contracts for Non-tenured teachers Carol Sweat, Joanne Lowney, Jessica Allaire and Michelle Wildowsky, was made by Rod Perry, seconded by Anne Stearns and carried with one abstention by Sherry Smardon.

#9-17/18 Motion to authorize Dr. Baran to reinstate Non-tenured teachers after he completes research by June 15th without a Board meeting, was made by Rod Perry, seconded by Steve Kurcinik and carried unanimously.

C. Authorization for Superintendent to make budget transfers to close out FY17-18 (Action Anticipated):

Funds need to be moved to areas that over budget. There is an approximately \$107,000 surplus.

#10-17/18 Motion to authorize the Superintendent to make budget transfers to close out FY17-18, was made by Rod Perry, seconded by Scott Sears and carried unanimously.

15. OLD BUSINESS:

A. Policies Second Read:

- 5113 Students Attendance and Excuses
- 5113.2 Truancy
- 5144.4 Physical Exercise and discipline of Students

- **6115.1 Religious Observances and displays**
- **6142.101 Student Nutrition and Physical Activity (School Wellness Policy)**
- **6162.51 Surveys of Students (Student Privacy)**
- **Administrative Regulations**

Dr. Baran presented recommended revisions for the above listed policies.

#11-17/18 Motion to approve the above listed policies, was made by Anne Stearns, seconded by Steve Kurcinik and carried unanimously.

16. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

A. Tri-Town BOE Meeting Update: No Update

B. CABE/EASTCONN:

- The end of the year meeting at EASTCONN was held with a program by the Quinebaug Middle College and Arts Magnet School.
- Upcoming Professional Development on Collective Bargaining will be held on June 12th at the Sheraton in Hartford with speaker Mark Brackett from Yale.
- The CABE Convention will be held November 16th - 17th.

C. Readiness Council Report:

No meeting was held in May. The next meeting will be held on September 25th.

D. Policies Committee:

The next meeting will be held in September.

E. Personnel Committee:

Negotiations will begin by October and any Board members interested in serving on the Negotiations Committee is asked to notify Brynn Lipstreu.

F. Technology Committee:

Mr. Lary presented the Committee with a detailed inventory of the equipment with its condition.

17. SECOND AUDIENCE FOR CITIZENS:

A member of the audience asked how Dr. Baran can make decision by June 15th when the deadline for PreK enrollment is June 21st. Dr. Baran reported that he receives detailed reports.

Wendy Sears asked about the meeting schedule for the Technology Committee and what happens to the Chromebooks. Dr. Baran reported that the Technology Committee meets twice a year with the first meeting in November/December. Chromebooks have a longer life span (approximately 4 years) since they don't go home with the students. They are then used for parts. Mrs. Sears suggested a policy for allowing students to take the Chromebooks with them to Parish Hill.

18. NEXT STEP HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS:

Notify Brynn Lipstreu if interested in serving on the Negotiations Committee.

19. NEXT MEETING AGENDA ITEMS: None

20. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

A. Personnel Matter

B. Superintendent Evaluation

#12-17/18 Motion to enter into Executive Session (8:34 PM) for the purpose of discussing Personnel Matter and Superintendent Evaluation and invite Superintendent Dr. Baran and Principal Dr. Pinsonneault to attend, was made by Steve Kurcinik, seconded by Sherry Smardon and carried unanimously.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 10:16 PM.

21. SUPERINTENDENT’S CONTRACT (Action Anticipated):

#13-17/18 Motion to extend two additional years to Dr. Baron’s contract, was made by Rod Perry, seconded by Anne Stearns and carried with the following vote:

YES: R. Perry, A. Stearns, B. Lipstreu, S. Kurcinik.

NO: S. Smardon, C. Cassidy Martin, S. Sears.

22. ADJOURNMENT:

#14-17/18 Motion to adjourn (10:19 PM) was made Sherry Smardon, seconded by Steve Kurcinik and carried unanimously.

*Respectfully submitted by Kathleen Scott
Recording Clerk*