

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
October 2, 2018

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

The Board recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. CELEBRATIONS/RECOGNITION:

- Scotland Elementary won the Summer Scholastic Reading Challenge. Students will be notified tomorrow. An assembly will be held later in the month to recognize the top readers from each class.
- There is a new Student Council with five 4th graders, five 5th graders and five 6th graders.

4. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS:

- A letter was received from the CEA regarding a request for information for negotiations.
- A letter was received from the Scotland Education Association regarding the language in the school calendar related to inclement weather.

5. COMMUNICATION WITH THE AUDIENCE: None

6. 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:

#1-18/19 Motion to add to agenda as Item #12E, CNR Request, was made by Sherry Smardon, seconded by Scott Sears and carried unanimously.

#2-18/19 Motion to add to agenda as Item #13A, Revisit Playup Program at Parish Hill, was made by Sherry Smardon, seconded by Steve Kurcinik and carried unanimously.

7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

#3-18/19 – Motion to approve the minutes of September 11, 2018, was made by Sherry Smardon with the following correction: Item #3 - correct the spelling of Ms. Marsalisi. The motion was seconded by Scott Sears and carried unanimously.

8. FINANCE COORDINATOR REPORT:

A. Financial Report:

15% of the budget has been spent to date with 94% committed.

B. Approval of Financial Statement:

#4-18/19 Motion to approve the Financial Statement dated September 26, 2018, was made by Steve Kurcinik, seconded by Anne Stearns and carried unanimously.

9. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:

A. Solar Panel Update:

The installers are working everyday on the solar panels. The inter-connection agreement has been signed. Once the power is switched over, the solar panels will be ready to go. The power will be shut off for a few hours during the switch over and done after hours.

B. Fire Inspection Report:

The Fire Inspection Report was received today and will be presented at the November meeting with an Action Plan.

C. SBAC Overview:

Dr. Baran presented an overview of the 2018 SBAC scores that included longitudinal comparisons and scores from surrounding districts (many other districts had similar scores). The scores represent students at level 3 (met standards) and level 4 (exceeded standards).

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

Grade 3	2018 – 82%	2017 – 50%	2016 – 20%
Grade 4	2018 – 44%	2017 – 60%	2016 – 65%
Grade 5	2018 – 67%	2017 – 82%	2016 – 65%
Grade 6	2018 – 81%	2017 – 87%	2016 – 86%

The 6th grade is doing well in ELA as they move onto middle school.

MATH

Grade 3	2018 – 55%	2017 – 31%	2016 – 10%
Grade 4	2018 – 50%	2017 – 50%	2016 – 28%
Grade 5	2018 – 25%	2017 – 59%	2016 – 54%
Grade 6	2018 – 53%	2017 – 74%	2016 – 64%

The math scores are of a major concern and will be reviewed extensively during Professional Development on Tuesday.

Sherry Smardon suggested reaching out to area schools who are doing well to find out what they are doing and also bringing back the Reflex Math Program.

D. 2018-2019 Budget update:

A contract was signed with the town for fuel oil through Saveway at \$2.419/gal. (there will be a budget deficit of approximately \$5,000). There will also be a budget deficit for STEM tuition (includes one student going to CREC).

E. Other:

- The bus contract expires the end of this year. A committee is needed to address and send out to bid.
- Dr. Baran introduced and welcomed new Special Education Director Dr. Judy Benson-Clark who will be at Scotland Elementary one day a week.

- The Board was presented with a letter that will be sent home tomorrow with students regarding food brought into the school. Parents are asked to submit to the School Nurse all ingredients used in food brought into the school.
- The law regarding teaching the Holocaust and Genocide will not be addressed for now. The legislature will clarify the law on their next meeting agenda.

10. PRINCIPAL REPORT:

A. Teacher Evaluation (TEVAL) Update:2018

Teachers are working on student objectives. The school-wide learning goal will be fluency in the area of Math.

B. Professional Development Opportunities:

A staff meeting will be held during Professional Development with a template presented to take each child's test scores and look at strengths and weaknesses.

C. Current Enrollment:

Enrollment is at 105 (down one student).

D. Other:

October is a busy month with the following:

- The Friends of SES are sponsoring a Cowabunga Fundraiser on October 11th.
- Picture retakes will be held on October 11th.
- The Cross Country Race-away will be held at Chaplin Elementary on October 16th.
- The Fire Department will be at the school with the Smoke House on October 18th.
- A celebration for winning the Scholastic Reading Challenge will be held on October 22nd.
- The Grandparents/Special Relative Luncheon will be held on October 26th along with Pirate Day. Dr. Pinsonneault will ask Parish Hill to borrow the Pirate Head and Pirate Ship.
- Scarecrows will be on display for Halloween.
- Parents can bring their children for Homecoming activities at Parish Hill on October 5th-6th.

11. FRIENDS OF SES REPORT:

Scott Sears presented an update from the Friends of SES. Fundraising efforts total \$580, mostly from the midnight cruise. Champion T-shirts for the Summer Reading Challenge will be provided for all students by the Friends of SES.

12. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Finance Coordinator Resignation (Action Anticipated):

A letter of resignation from Finance Coordinator Donna Sharp was presented at the last meeting. ***#5-18/19 Motion to accept with regret letter of resignation from Finance Coordinator Donna Sharp, was made by Sherry Sardon, seconded by Scott Sears and carried unanimously.***

B. Update on Lunch Program:

There was an average of 61 students (60-75 students) who participated in the Breakfast Program. There was an average of 74 students (56-86 students) who participated in the Lunch Program. The popular foods were cheesy pizza, cheeseburgers and cheesy mac & cheese. Dr. Baran will follow up on the lunch money refunds.

C. Climate Survey:

A Climate Committee will be established with various staff members and will not include the Superintendent or Principal. A meeting will be held to set ground rules.

D. Establishment of Annual Tuition Rate (Action Anticipated):

The current Tuition Rate is \$7,400.

#6-18/19 Motion to set the Annual Tuition Rate for Scotland Elementary at \$7,400, was made by Sherry Smardon, seconded by Scott Sears and carried unanimously.

E. CNR Request:

Dr. Baran presented CNR request for lock for the Library door (doesn't lock from the inside) and 10 electrical upgrades of motion sensor turn off switches (student bathrooms, bathrooms by the Library and copier room). The electrical upgrades and slide bolt for the door total \$1,250.

#7-18/19 Motion to approve CNR Request for Library door lock and electrical switch upgrades up to the amount of \$1,250, was made by Anne Stearns, seconded by Steve Kurcinik and failed with the following vote:

YES: A. Stearns.

NO: S. Kurcinik, R. Perry, B. Lipstreu, C. Martin, S. Smardon, S. Sears.

Rod Perry suggested checking with the original LED Contractor to see if the electrical upgrades were overlooked and obtain a quote. Brynn Lipstreu suggested a key lock for the Library door that would bring the total to \$3,550.

#8-18/19 Motion to approve CNR Request for Library door lock and electrical switch upgrades up to the amount of \$3,550, was made by Sherry Smardon, seconded by Rod Perry and carried with the following vote:

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

NO: A. Stearns.

13. OLD BUSINESS:

A. Revisit Playup Program at Parish Hill:

Brynn Lipstreu expressed concerns with allowing some students to leave school early for sports. The Board previously discussed not allowing students to leave school early if they wanted to participate in the Playup Program at Parish Hill. Sherry Smardon suggested developing an Athletic Policy to address the issue.

14. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. TRI-TOWN BOE MEETING UPDATE: No Report

B. CABE/EASTCONN:

The Board was presented with an annual notice regarding the Survey of Students.

C. READINESS COUNCIL REPORT:

There will be a new liaison coming from EASTCONN.

D. POLICIES COMMITTEE: No Report

E. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE:

Negotiations will begin with a meeting on October 15th.

F. TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE: No Report

15. SECOND AUDIENCE FOR CITIZENS: None

16. NEXT STEP HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS:

- Look at language for school calendar

17. NEXT MEETING AGENDA ITEMS:

- Fire Inspection Report
- School Calendar Language
- School Lunch Refunds
- Curriculum Update with Math & SBAC
- Solar Panel Update
- 2018-19 Budget Update
- Draft Athletic Policy

18. ADJOURNMENT:

#9-18/19 Motion to adjourn (8:31 PM) was made Sherry Smardon, seconded by Anne Stearns and carried unanimously.

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