

*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**  
**September 11, 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.

**2. CELEBRATIONS/RECOGNITION:**

The first day of school was very successful with an assembly, Boohoo Breakfast for parents, and first day pictures.

**3. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS:**

A letter was received from CABC thanking the Board for their continued participation with the CABC organization.

A letter was received from Wendy Sears regarding the multi-age classroom model. She commended Ms. Marsalini for her children's success both academically and socially due to starting their education in the SES PreK program.

A letter of resignation was received from Finance Coordinator Donna Sharp effective January 1, 2019.

**4. COMMUNICATION WITH THE AUDIENCE: None**

**5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

***#1-18/19 Motion to approve the meeting minutes of August 14, 2018, was made by Sherry Smardon, seconded by Scott Sears and carried unanimously.***

**6. FINANCE COORDINATOR REPORT:**

**A. Financial Report:**

The Annual Reports were submitted to the state by the deadline. 84% of the budget is committed.

**B. Approval of Financial Statement:**

***#2-18/19 Motion to approve the Financial Statement dated September 6, 2018, was made by Scott Sears, seconded by Steve Kurcinik and carried unanimously.***

## **7. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:**

### **A. Solar Panel Program:**

Installation of the solar panels was held off for a few days due to the high temperature and humidity.

### **B. Staffing:**

Liz Tucker was hired as the new part-time .5 Special Education Teacher. The para position has not been filled to date.

### **C. 2018-2019 Budget update:**

The following are two areas of concern with the current budget:

- Public Tuition-in state is overdrawn due to the STEM Academy. There are currently 10 students going to magnet schools (with one going to CREC in Hartford) and 6 students were budgeted for.
- The current the cost of oil is \$2.40/gal that could leave a potential shortfall of approximately \$5,000. There is some oil left in the tank.

### **D. Special Education Director Update:**

Judy Benson-Clark was hired as the new Special Education Director and will work one day a week.

### **E. Other:**

- There is a new state statute pertaining to teaching the Holocaust and genocide in public schools and is not specific to grade. Dr. Baran expressed concerns with this subject not being appropriate in grades K-6 and will follow up on the statute.
- The Fire Marshall conducted an inspection on September 10<sup>th</sup> with no major issues. A written report is due in 2-3 days and will be presented at the October meeting.
- SBAC scores will be presented in October.
- SES is now part of the federal free lunch program for all students. The program will be monitored closely and any funds remaining in the lunch program accounts will be refunded.

## **8. PRINCIPAL REPORT:**

### **A. Current Enrollment:**

There are currently 104 students (down 3 students from last month).

### **B. Other:**

- Fall Open House will be held Wednesday, September 12<sup>th</sup>.
- The Summer Reading Challenge is over with results expected soon.
- The 1<sup>st</sup> “Backwards Day” spirit day will be held on Friday, September 14<sup>th</sup>.
- Picture Day will be held on September 27<sup>th</sup>.

## **9. FRIENDS OF SES REPORT:**

Wendy Sears presented the Friends of SES Report.

- The boat cruise fundraiser was very successful raising \$500 with 38 people in attendance (the boat holds 95 people). The fundraiser received a lot of attention from other schools and will be held again next year.
- The 1<sup>st</sup> meeting will be held tentatively on Tuesday, September 18<sup>th</sup>.

- An email signup will be held at Open House.

**10. NEW BUSINESS:** None

**11. OLD BUSINESS:** None

**12. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**A. TRI-TOWN BOE MEETING UPDATE:**

Brynn Lipstreu will email RD11 BOE Chair Rose Bisson for an update.

**B. CABE/EASTCONN:**

The new EASTCONN Director is very involved and looking for more use of their services.

**C. READINESS COUNCIL REPORT:**

The 1<sup>st</sup> meeting will be held on September 25<sup>th</sup>.

**D. POLICIES COMMITTEE:** No Report

**E. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE:**

A meeting will be held tentatively on October 15<sup>th</sup> to discuss ground rules for negotiations.

**F. TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE:** No Report

**13. SECOND AUDIENCE FOR CITIZENS:**

Wendy Sears asked about the enrollment drop with 117 students at the end of the last school year and whether it was related to losing the PreK teacher. Dr. Pinsonneault reported that 5 or 6 families moved over the summer and 3 students went to the STEM Academy.

**14. NEXT STEP HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS:** None

**15. NEXT MEETING AGENDA ITEMS:**

- Finance Coordinator Resignation
- Update on Lunch Program
- SBAC Report
- Budget Update
- Climate Survey

**16. ADJOURNMENT:**

***#3-18/19 Motion to adjourn (7:55 PM) was made by Steve Kurcinik, seconded by Scott Sears and carried unanimously.***

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