

Filed subject to approval

EASTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Meeting Minutes
June 19, 2018

ATTENDANCE

Easton Board of Education Members: Parker, Chieda, Bindelglass, Hicks, Shortt,
Administration: McMorran, Kaplan, Pierson Ugol, Torre, Reiss
Others: 4 members of the public

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Parker called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

May 8, 2018 Easton Board of Education Regular Meeting:

Motion: move that the Easton Board of Education approve the minutes of the May 8, 2018 Easton Board of Education Regular Meeting. Bindelglass, Shortt. Approved. Unanimous.

May 14, 2018 Regular Joint Meeting of the Easton, Redding, and Region 9 Boards of Education:

Motion: move that the Easton Board of Education approve the minutes of the May 14, 2018 Regular Joint Meeting of the Easton, Redding, and Region 9 Boards of Education. Bindelglass, Shortt. Approved, 3-0-2. Chieda, Hicks abstained.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Nikki Kaldawy, Staples Rd., Easton: said the Easton PTA is happy to contribute \$10,000 toward funding extracurricular activities at the elementary and middle schools. She pointed out that this is a one-time assistance and that she hopes the town will assist more financially in the future.

Heidi Hansen, Wilson Rd., Easton: said she believes that it is important for the Board to include extracurricular activities in budget.

BUILDING ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Helen Keller Middle School: Mrs. Kaplan thanked the Easton Police Department on behalf of the students for their donation of \$2,000 for books for Samuel Staples Elementary School and Helen Keller Middle School. The funds were given from the DARE program. Ms. Kaplan spoke about the success of Diversity Day, The Talent Show and Teacher of the Year, Mr. Eric Dolecki.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: EXTENSION OF CONTRACT FOR FOOD SERVICES VENDOR

Motion: move to approve the renewal of the Chartwells Food Services contract for the 2018-2019 school year. Shortt, Chieda. Approved. Unanimous.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: HEALTHY FOOD CERTIFICATION AND EXEMPTION FOR FOOD AND BEVERAGE ITEMS

Motion: move that, for the 2018-2019 fiscal year, the Easton Board of Education will continue to certify to the Connecticut State Department of Education that all food items offered for sale to students separately from a reimbursable lunch will meet Connecticut Nutrition Standards. Such certification shall include all food offered for sale to students at all times, in all schools, and from all sources including, but not limited to, school stores, vending machines, school cafeterias, and any fundraising activities on school premises sponsored by the school or by non-school organizations and groups. Shortt, Hicks. Approved. Unanimous.

Motion: move that, for the 2018-2019 fiscal year, the Easton Board of Education will allow the sale to students of food items that do not meet the Connecticut Nutrition Standards and beverages that do not meet the requirements of state statute (Section 10-221q of the Connecticut General Statutes), provided (1) such sale is in connection with an event occurring after the end of the regular school day or on the weekend, (2) such sale is at the location of the event, and (3) such food and/or beverage is not sold from a vending machine or school store. An "event" is an occurrence that involves more than just a regularly scheduled practice, meeting or extracurricular activity. The "school day" is the period from midnight to 30 minutes after the end of the official school day. "Location" means where the event is being held and must be the same place as the food and beverage sales. Shortt, Hicks. Approved. Unanimous.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: POLICIES PRESENTED FOR 1ST READING
Dr. McMorran spoke about the Board reviewing revised policies. Mrs. Shortt commented on efforts to align policies with Redding.

Policies are as follows:

- P6162.51 (Instruction): Surveys of Students (Student Privacy)
- P6163.32 (Instruction): Live Animals in the Classroom-Service Animals
- P6159 (Instruction): Individualized Education Program/Special Education Program
- 5114 Appendix: Provision of an Alternative Educational Opportunity for Eligible Expelled Students

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: POSSIBLE REDUCTION OF STUDENT SCHOOL YEAR DAYS FROM 181 TO 180

Dr. McMorran noted that by changing parent/teacher conference days from 4 to 3 days two times during school year, it is possible to combine two half days to make one full day. This would eliminate a half day and one day could be eliminated from the school year.

Motion: move to reduce student school year days for the 2018-2019 school year from 181 to 180 days. Hicks, Chieda. Approved. Unanimous.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: FISCAL REPORT: END OF YEAR FOR 2017-2018

Mr. Reiss spoke about unexpended funds in the amount of 75,000 to 100,000. The actual number would not be final until August of 2018. Dr. Bindelglass noted that claims tend to be higher later in the fiscal year due to deductibles at the beginning of the year. He suggested having an Insurance Committee meeting to discuss strategies to manage insurance claims. Mr. Reiss requested authorization to balance remaining funds before he closed the books in July of 2018.

Motion: move to direct Mr. Reiss to balance the reserve fund for 2018-19 fiscal year to begin with zero balance, and return remaining funds to the Town of Easton. Approved, 3-1-1. Chieda opposed and Shortt abstained.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: APPROVAL OF 2018-2021 AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE EASTON BOARD OF EDUCATION AND THE EASTON NON-CERTIFIED STAFF, CSEA SEIU LOCAL 2001, CTW

Mr. Parker and Dr. McMorran reported on some changes to the contract, including changing insurance from PPO to HSA for employees and elimination of longevity benefit for employees hired after the contract is in effect.

Motion: move to accept the 2018-2021 Agreement between The Easton Board of Education and The Easton Non-Certified Staff, CSEA SEIU Local 2001, CTW. Bindelglass, Hicks, Approved. Unanimous.

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Mrs. Torre spoke about the high number of PPT's for the school year. Mrs. Torre said that the fourth grade typically has a large number of special education students. Dr. McMorran reported that 232 seniors graduated on June 17, 2018 from Joel Barlow High School. He thanked Vicki Cram for her hard work with the new insurance changes and all she does for the students of Easton and Redding.

BOARD OF EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORTS

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Anne Manusky, Morning Glory Dr., Easton: expressed concern that the Easton/Redding Joint Meeting Minutes were not posted online. She spoke about her concerns regarding the curriculum.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENT

Mrs. Shortt thanked Ms. Torre for her hard work, patience and passion for her job. Mrs. Chieda thanked Mrs. Kaplan and Mrs. Fox-Santora for their hard work on behalf of the students. Mr. Hicks asked about the number of students attending kindergarten in town for the coming school year. Mr. Parker spoke about the February 2009 Curriculum Committee purpose and read the "charge to the committee", which is available to the public online.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: move that the meeting be adjourned. Hicks, Shortt. Approved. Unanimous.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:02 p.m.

Submitted by,
Jenny Chieda, Easton Board of Education Secretary

Recorded by,
Deborah DeLorenzo