

*Filed subject to approval*  
(Revised to Include Entire Motion Under Item E.)

Easton, Redding & Region 9 Boards of Education  
Joint Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, May 16, 2017  
7:30 pm

**Attendance:**

Easton Board of Education: Bindleglass, Bobroske, Chieda, Hicks, Parker  
Redding Board of Education: Denny, Florkowski, Hoffman, Irwin, Miller, Whaley  
Region 9 Board of Education: Coppinger, D'Agostino, Gombos, Hancock, Hocker, King  
Administration: Lagas, McMorran, Pierson-Ugol  
Others: three members of the public

Chairman of the Region 9 Board of Education, Vance Hancock, opened the meeting of Tri-board in the Media Center of the Joel Barlow High School at 7:36 pm.

Mr. Hancock called the Region 9 Board of Education meeting to order at 7:36 pm.  
Mr. Parker called the Easton Board of Education meeting to order at 7:36 pm.  
Ms. Irwin called the Redding Board of Education meeting to order at 7:36 pm.

**Motion: Move that the Region 9 Board of Education enter into Executive Session inviting Dr. McMorran and Dr. Lagas. Gombos, Coppinger. Unanimous.**

**Easton: Move that the Easton Board of Education enter into Executive Session inviting Dr. McMorran and Dr. Lagas . Unanimous.**

**Hicks, Bobroske. Unanimous.**

**Redding: Move that the Redding Board of Education enter into Executive Session inviting Dr. McMorran and Dr. Lagas . Unanimous.**

**Hoffman, Miller. Unanimous.**

The public meeting reconvened at 8:09 pm.

PUBLIC COMMENT: No members of the public commented.

**BOARD MEMBER COMMENT**

Mr. Parker thanked Superintendent McMorran for the information regarding the upcoming CABE meeting.

**DISCUSSION AND ACTION**

**A. Recommendation from the ER9 Interview Panel Committee on Director of Finance & Operations**

Mr. Parker recommended the appointment of Scott Reiss as Director of Finance. Dr. McMorran will take the action necessary to implement the hiring of his selection for Director of Finance and Operations.

Discussion Ensued



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**B. Review of Policies- Shipman & Goodwin**

Dr. McMorran presented a proposal from Shipman and Goodwin to review all policies for all three districts. The fee is \$3,500 for the initial review and \$1,000 for each year following the initial review.

**Motion: Move that the Region 9 Board of Education hire Shipman and Goodman. D'Agostino, Gombos. Unanimous**

**Motion: Move that the Easton Board of Education hire Shipman and Goodman. Parker, Bindleglass. Unanimous.**

**Motion: Move that the Redding Board of Education hire Shipman and Goodman. Hoffman, Denny. Unanimous.**

**C. Status of Search for Special Education Administrators**

Dr. McMorran reviewed the status of leadership in Special Education in the district. Three of four leadership positions are currently open. The current structure may need adjustment. He initially recommends a central director and three supervisors: Pre-K to 5, Middle school and High School. Board members commented on the proposal. Mrs. Gombos suggests that interim appointments be made to allow time to study and recommend a new structure. Dr. Pierson-Ugol reported that a search is on going for the Supervisor of Special Education. Jeff Parker commented that Eason could come up with \$40,000 and is confident that he could speak with the Easton Board of Finance. He commented that Special Education Directors should not spend as much time in PPT/IEP meetings. Dr. McMorran commented that the Board of Education could make line item adjustments to cover the expense. Mr. D'Agostino commented that the interim position may be a solution and a committee should be assembled to study a best solution. Mr. Hoffman suggests that the boards find the \$40,000 to move forward with the central office director. Dr. McMorran suggested that Easton and Redding hire an interim director due to time constraints.

**D. Extension of Contract for Food Service Vendor**

Jeff Parker reviewed the committee's work on the food service contract. The committee recommends using Chartwells for the 2017-2018 school year.

**Motion: Move that the Region 9 Board of Education renew a one-year contract with Chartwells. D'Agostino, Coppinger. Unanimous**

**Motion: Move that the Easton Board of Education renew a one-year contract with Chartwells. Bobroske, Bindleglass. Unanimous**

**Motion: Move that the Redding Board of Education renew a one-year contract with Chartwells. Florkowski, Whatley. Unanimous**

Mr. Parker reported that there is an overage in funds from monies collected for lunches. These funds are re-invested in the district food service.

A discussion of the use of these funds occurred and Mrs. Gombos requested that the expenditures from the fund for the last 5 years be reported to the three boards, noting the Easton schools and the high school have had kitchen upgrades included in the building projects that have been bonded.

**E. Healthy Food Certification and Beverage Exemption**

**Motion:** Move that for the 2017-2018 fiscal year, the Region 9 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 whether or not school sponsored; and **FURTHER MOVED** that the Boards of Education continue to exempt from the above certification, sale of food items that do not meet 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. Gombos, King. Approved. Unanimous.

**Motion:** Move that for the 2017-2018 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 whether or not school sponsored; and **FURTHER MOVED** that the Boards of Education continue to exempt from the above certification, sale of food items that do not meet 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. Chieda, Hicks, Approved. Unanimous.

**Motion:** Move that for the 2017-2018 fiscal year, the Redding 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 whether or not school sponsored; and **FURTHER MOVED** that the Boards of Education continue to exempt from the above certification, sale of food items that do not meet 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. Florkowski, Denny, Approved. Unanimous.

**Motion: Move that the Region 9 Board of Education add agenda item F, Discussion of Central Office practices and procedures related to expenditures, transfers and the end-of-year surplus. Coppinger, D'Agostino. 3-3-0 Fails. Hancock, Hocker, King vote against.**

**Motion: Move that the Easton Board of Education add agenda item F Discussion of practices and procedures of the Director of Finance. No motion**

**Motion: Move that the Redding Board of Education add agenda item F Discussion of Central Office practices and procedures related to expenditures, transfers and end-of-year surplus. Hoffman, Denny. 2-3-0. Irwin, Florkowski, Whaley vote against. Miller exits the meeting, no vote.**

#### **Public Comment**

#### **Board Member Comment**

Ms. Gombos notes that she was disappointed that an item was not added to the evening's agenda regarding the Finance practices and procedures in the District.

Mr. Coppinger thanked Dr. McMorran for the interim report, but voices disappointment that an item was not added to the agenda for this meeting of the three Boards.

Mr. D'Agostino noted that the interim report suggests that best- practices were not in-place.

Dr. McMorran states that no agenda item was intentionally left off.

Mr. Hancock states that a discussion of the practices and procedures of Central Office Finance is in order, but not tonight.

Mr. Parker states that no judgment should be placed on the Easton BoE and that Dr. McMorran was capable of overseeing his own audit.

Ms. Bobroske asked that the Boards take time to think of ways to prevent teen traffic accidents in the future.

Dr. Bindleglass noted that he is open to the discussion of further audit at the appropriate time and that any shortcuts that were taken were necessitated by a lack of resources.

Ms. Chieda asked that the Boards work together to move forward.

Mr. King gave a brief overview of how the Audit Committee is working to move to implement best practices in the future.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion: move that the Region 9 Board of Education adjourn the meeting. D'Agostio, Gombos. Approved. Unanimous.**

**Motion: move that the Easton Board of Education adjourn the meeting. Bobroske, Hicks, Approved. Unanimous.**

**Motion: move that the Redding Board of Education adjourn the meeting. Florkowski, Denny.  
Approved. Unanimous.**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:57 pm

Submitted by Catherine Gombos, Region 9 Board of Education Secretary

Recorded by Elise Cavanaugh