

**East Hampton  
Board of Education  
East Hampton, CT 06424**

**MINUTES: April 6, 2020**

1. The special meeting was called to order by the Chairperson, Mr. Goff, at 6:35 p.m. in the ZOOM Virtual Meeting.

Members present: Mr. Goff, Ms. Oakley Mr. Lambert, Ms. Amtmanis, Mr. Carlson, Ms. Ordonez, Ms. Wick, Ms. Kohler and Mr. Radavich

Administration present: Mr. Smith, Superintendent of Schools  
Ms. Clark, Director of Curriculum & Instruction  
Mr. Mosier, Director of Special Education & Pupil Personnel Services  
Ms. Asetta, School Business Manager  
Mr. Verner, Principal of East Hampton High School  
Mr. Warner, Assistant Principal of East Hampton High School  
Mr. Kissinger, Interim Principal at East Hampton Middle School  
Mr. Sullivan, Principal of Center School  
Mr. Gonzalez, Principal of Memorial School  
Ms. Gadoury, Assistant Principal of Memorial School

2. Budget Workshop

- 2.1 Mr. Goff noted that the Town Council met last week and discussed the budget. Once the Board of Education discusses the budget we will open it up for comments from the public.

Open for discussion – Martha, Jim, Amanda, Nancy O, Jeff Carlson, Nancy K, Mark, Amy

No – Mark Lambert

Mr. Smith stated that it is really hard to predict if the ECS funding will be consistent. The Governor hasn't even made a decision to come back on April 20<sup>th</sup>. We are spending money on food which is essential at this point. We are taking a loss to funding of lunches due to the loss of funding from the cafeteria. It still has to be determined how long we will be out and how long we will be providing lunches. We are hoping that if we have money left over from this year's budget we can apply it to next year's budget. All staff are working due to us not being allowed to lay off school employees. The bus company is the only possible savings. We may have to pay 50%-80% to the bus company. We are hoping to come out even by the money saved through the bus company to put towards the lunch program. The insurance change has been put off until October. There are so many moving pieces there is no way to know where we are going to land. We have until Monday, April 13<sup>th</sup> to hand in a revised budget if we wish to do so. Tonight the Board needs to decide whether we submit a revised budget or a budget with no changes.

Mr. Goff noted that there will be no referendum this year. The budget will go to the Board of Finance and then to the Town Council. He feels that if we as a Board don't make reductions the Board of Finance and the Town Council will make changes for us.

Mr. Carlson noted that it's not within our scope to anticipate what the town can afford but we shouldn't have to. We should evaluate what the schools need to have to move forward.

Ms. Asetta noted that the lunches are being paid for by the state. We are serving as many lunches that we were serving when school is in session. We are at a loss for the teacher/staff lunches and extra sells. Ms. Asetta also noted that unemployment will carry over into the next year.

Mr. Brown noted that he finds it interesting that the Board of Education has no interest in participating in the process. You have a responsibility to the Town of East Hampton. A lot of people's wealth was cut back by 1/3. Things have changed over the last couple of months. It's going to be a long healing process for the state and the country. Mr. Brown noted that he thought everyone could work together. If you're not going to be responsible for cuts you're leaving it up to other people.

**Mr. Lambert made a motion to reduce the Board of Education budget for the 2020-21 school year by \$150,000 for resubmission. Mr. Carlson seconded the motion.**

Discussion followed.

Mr. Carlson asked what that number will represent. Mr. Smith noted 1.5% decrease or 2 teaching positions. This budget is not for right now, it is for the next school year. Mr. Carlson noted that he would much rather add to the budget rather than make cuts. Mr. Smith brings us well thought out budgets. That's as much of a hit he would want to make right now.

**Vote Yes: Mr. Lambert, Ms. Oakley, Ms. Wick, Ms. Kohler, Ms. Amtmanis, Mr. Carlson and  
Mr. Goff**

**Vote No: Ms. Ordonez and Mr. Radavich**

**Motion carried.**

3. Adjournment

**Motion by Mr. Carlson, seconded by Mr. Lambert, to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 p.m. Voted unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Ordonez,  
Secretary

AO:PKS:rs