

**East Hampton
Board of Education**

MINUTES: September 24, 2018

1. Motion to open executive session in the High School Office Conference Room was made by the Chairperson Mr. Goff and seconded by Ms. Villa at 6:02pm. Superintendent Smith was invited to join the session. Session adjourned at 6:14pm to the regular meeting.
2. The regular meeting was called to order by the Chairperson Mr. Goff at 6:33pm in the East Hampton High School T-Bell.
3. Pledge of Allegiance

Members present: Mr. Goff, Ms. Barmasse, Ms. Amtmanis, Ms. Caldwell, Mr. Lambert, Ms. Oakley, Ms. Villa and Mr. Carlson (arrived at 7:13pm)

Member(s) absent: Mr. Bushey

Administration and others present:

Mr. Smith, Superintendent of Schools
Ms. Clark, Director of Curriculum & Instruction
Ms. Asetta, School Business Manager
Mr. Mosier, Director of Special Education and Pupil Personnel
Mr. Rizzuto, Principal of East Hampton High School
Mr. Lehmann, Principal of East Hampton Middle School
Mr. Sullivan, Principal of Center Elementary School
Ms. Gadoury, Assistant Principal of Memorial Elementary School

Town Manager Michael Maniscalco arrived at 7pm

4. Liaisons
 - 4.1 Inter-board liaisons – none
 - 4.2 Labor union representative – none
 - 4.3 Updates from Principals and Director of Curriculum & Instruction
The Principals and Director of Curriculum & Instruction provided brief updates on current events at their respective schools and within the district

Motion made by Chairperson Mr. Goff and seconded by Ms. Villa to move the NEASC presentation from agenda item 10.1 to 8.1. Voted unanimously.

Motion made by Ms. Barmasse and seconded by Mr. Lambert to add discussion of emergency training drill to the Superintendent's Update. Voted unanimously.

5. Audience of Citizens
 - a. Thomas Cook, 28 Pinewood Dr

- a. Issue with bus stop. Lives on a dirt road and said daughter has a $\frac{3}{4}$ mile walk to the bus. She is the last stop on the van route. Wanted to know why bus doesn't come all the way down his dirt road.
 - b. Mr. Smith will bring to policy subcommittee for review, however policy states that buses do not travel on dirt roads and cul-de-sacs
 - c. Question by Ms. Villa: is the stop before Mr. Cook's also a dirt road? Mr. Cook stated no it is not
- b. Amy Ordonez, 116 Main St.
 - a. Stated the reasons why she voted no on the last town budget.
 - b. Asked the BOE to counter the latest proposal from the Town Manager to restore more teaching positions which in her opinion is a better compromise
- c. Tania Sones, 17 Curry Ln
 - a. Stated that the district needs a strong curriculum and smaller class sizes but also needs safety locks, technology (Chromebooks)
 - b. Cited the steady (not declining) student enrollment is at 2014 levels but with 8 fewer teachers
 - c. Ms. Sones stated that she did not agree with the latest proposal from the Town Manager and asked the BOE to keep fighting
- d. Jen Palma, 3 Wangok Trl
 - a. Stated she feels education supporters are being bullied and asked the BOE to keep fighting for them
- e. Rina Johnson, 36 Lakewood Rd
 - a. Stated that the BOE provides guidance for the public schools but the process has been high jacked by the Town Council and Board of Finance
 - b. Stated that bifurcation should allow the people to vote on the BOE budget
 - c. Said that the original BOE budget was high jacked and gamed and she expected the BOE to put up a fight
- f. Steve Jones, 3 Jacobsen Farm Rd
 - a. Said to stay strong and fight the fight
 - b. Voters are well-organized and will continue to vote no until the original (summer) compromise is put in place
 - c. Stated his appreciation for the school system and volunteers on this Board and others
- g. Ines Venetianer, 17 Berkshire Dr
 - a. Stated that the current compromise is a slap in the face of voters
 - b. 6th grade has no Chromebooks which is a total change in the classroom
 - c. Going backward with handwritten homework after using Chromebooks in 4th and 5th grades
 - d. Chromebooks must be part of any agreement
- h. Alyssa Snyder
 - a. 7th grader speaking up for her education
- i. Bob Hein, 19 Birchwood Rd
 - a. Misinformation out there and we need a reasonable compromise
 - b. Ideologues have caused an impasse
- j. Sonja Venetianer
 - a. Not fair to the 6th graders to not have Chromebooks
 - b. Disappointed in no world language for 6th graders

- c. Would like to see new cross country uniforms/tees
 - k. Meghan Gagne
 - a. A teacher who said there is world language in her district starting in 1st grade
 - b. Compared districts and said we are going backward in East Hampton
 - c. Urged the BOE to keep fighting
- 6. Consent Agenda
 - 6.1 September 10, 2018 minutes
 - 6.2 Disability leave and extended childrearing leave (as stated in 14.1)
 - a. Motion made by Ms. Villa, seconded by Ms. Oakley to approve the consent agenda. Voted unanimously.
- 7. Student/Staff Recognition
 - a. Friends of Education Awards
 - a. Memorial School – Julie Foulis
 - b. Center School – Ashley Stevens
 - c. Middle School – Kelly Snyder
 - d. High School – Sue Anelli
 - e. Districtwide – Dean Michelson

The Board took a brief recess for refreshments and reconvened at 7:28pm

- 8. Program Presentation
 - a. NEASC Report of the Visiting Team for East Hampton High School
 - b. Mr. Rizzuto and Ms. Della Volpe explained the process, the seven standards and commendations received by the High School
 - c. Summary: Some items are very much already in progress but the key needs to meet them all are time and funding for staff and professional development
- 9. Committee Reports
 - 9.1 Student Board of Education Representatives – none present
 - 9.2 Personnel Committee – Next contract negotiations to occur Monday, October 01, 2018
 - 9.3 Policy & Curriculum Committee – first reads tonight (see 12.1 and 12.2)
 - 9.4 Finance, Transportation, Buildings & Grounds – none
 - 9.5 Liaison Reports
 - a. LEARN – none
 - b. High School Building Committee
 - 1. Mr. Smith noted that the gym floor has been temporarily repaired and they are looking at the stage floor now
 - 2. Rocks were taken out on grassy hill and now need new topsoil and seeding
 - 3. DPH must approve new H2O system, expected by December
- 10. Communications
 - 10.1 Superintendent's Report
 - a. Senior Readers program beginning in schools
 - b. "Start with Hello" week across the district
 - c. "Mindset" book discussion held last Thursday and another tomorrow night
 - d. Budget update
 - 1. Mr. Smith summarized the proposal he worked on with Town Manager Michael Maniscalco and discussed the differences between it and the

proposal brought forth by Finance Director Jeff Jylkka aka “the summer proposal”

2. Mr. Goff asked Mr. Maniscalco when the the ECS funding would be received and Mr. Maniscalco stated the first installment is usually paid in October
 3. Discussion among the Board and Mr. Smith about the options for restoring teaching positions, technology and safety (capital) items
 4. Mr. Smith stated he would prioritize bringing an ELA teacher back to the High School to bring back electives that had been eliminated and he would bring back a teacher at Memorial to serve as a kindergarten reading specialist for the rest of the current school year
 5. Ms. Oakley asked Mr. Maniscalco how many referenda can take place on the town side and what happens if the next vote fails
 - a. Mr. Maniscalco replied that the town has looked into legal precedent and case law and believes that after a 4th failed referendum, Town Council can set a mill rate and move a budget forward with a 0% increase.
 6. Motion made by Mr. Carlson to recommend to the Board of Finance the “summer proposal” wherein all capital would remain intact and three teaching positions would be restored
 - a. Motion seconded by Ms. Villa
 - b. Motion carried with all in favor except Mr. Lambert
- e. Emergency Training Drill
1. Mr. Smith explained that the police department, fire department and ambulance requested to use Memorial School for their upcoming drill
 - a. Cost to BOE would be extra custodial fees (weekend event)
 - b. Police department would need to pay overtime of \$1,100 but since there is no town budget in place, town cannot support this
 - c. Motion made by Mr. Goff to fund the \$1,100 in police overtime so that they can be involved in this training drill
 - i. Motion seconded by Mr. Carlson
 - ii. Voted unanimously

11. Unfinished Business

- a. Review of Recommended Board of Education Policy 4111, Recruitment and Selection (Second Reading)
- b. Review or Recommended Board of Education Policy 5141.4, Reporting of Child Abuse (Second Reading)

12. New Business

- a. Approval to designate and authorize Paul K. Smith and Karen Asetta as the signers of the Connecticut State Department of Education ED-099 Agreement for Child Nutrition Programs
 - a. Yearly agreement
 - b. Motion made by Ms. Amtmanis, seconded by Ms. Oakley
 - c. Voted unanimously

13. Future Business – Mr. Goff indicated that the current items would be removed

14. Personnel Actions – see section 6

15. Audience of Citizens – none

16. Calendar of Events as attached

17. Adjournment

- a. Motion by Mr. Lambert, seconded by Ms. Barmasse to adjourn the meeting at 9:22pm.
Voted unanimously

Respectively submitted,

Nancy Oakley
Acting Secretary
no/ps