

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

**MINUTES: November 13, 2012**

1. The meeting was called to order by the Chairperson, Mr. Laraia at 6:15 p.m. in the East Hampton High School Library/Media Center.
2. Motion by Ms. Barmasse, seconded by Ms. Lane, to enter Executive Session in the East Hampton High School Library/Media Center at 6:15 p.m. to discuss a student issue, a staff issue and an Interim Superintendent. Voted unanimously.

Members present: Mr. Laraia, Ms. Barmasse, Mr. Marshall, Mr. Minnick, Mr. Coolican, Mr. Gemma, Mr. Piteo, Ms. Lane and Mr. Barber

Administration

Present: Dr. Golden, Superintendent of Schools

- 2.1 The regular meeting of the Board of Education was called to order by the Chairperson, Mr. Laraia, at 7:00 p.m. in the East Hampton High School Library/Media Center.

Members present: Mr. Laraia, Ms. Barmasse, Mr. Marshall, Mr. Minnick, Mr. Coolican, Mr. Gemma, Mr. Piteo, Ms. Lane and Mr. Barber

Members absent:

Administration Present: Dr. Golden, Superintendent of Schools  
Ms. Briere, Principal of East Hampton Middle School  
Ms. Turchi, Principal of Center Elementary School  
Dr. Fitzsimmons, Principal of Memorial Elementary School  
Mr. Discordia, Assistant Principal of Memorial Elementary School

Memorial Elementary School Student Representatives: Annin Daley and Chris Pragono  
Center Elementary School Student Council Representative: Noelle Vaillancourt  
East Hampton Middle School Student Council Representatives: Alyssa Chunko and  
Lindsay Dickerman  
East Hampton High School Student Council Representative: Margaret Lehmann

3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. Inter-Board Liaisons - None
5. Audience of Citizens
  - 5.1 Mr. Jonathan Miller, 27 Tarragon Drive, noted that he and several parents are following up to formally summarize their position that was stated at the Board of Education meeting on October 22, 2012 regarding an issue at Memorial Elementary School.

Ms. Caroline Gordon stated that the parents concerned with an issue at Memorial Elementary School have been invited to meet with the Superintendent of Schools on Wednesday. Ms. Gordon stated, "How dare the Superintendent turn the table on the parents regarding this matter." Ms. Gordon also stated that "She will make every parent aware of this child in his new class."

6. Consent Agenda
  - 6.1 October 22, 2012 Minutes as amended
  - 6.2 Retirement (as stated in 14.1)

Motion by Mr. Barber, seconded by Mr. Coolican, to approve the Consent Agenda.  
Voted unanimously.

7. Student/Staff Recognition - None

8. Committee Reports

- 8.1 Student Council

- 8.1.1 Annin Daley and Chris Pragono, Student Representatives for Memorial Elementary School reported the following:

**Hi I am Annin Daley ...and I am Chris Pragono and we are third graders at Memorial Elementary School**

Annin: We are here to tell you about some exciting things that happen at Memorial Elementary School. We are really excited about the SHINE program at Memorial School. This year we are learning about being Champions. We watched videos and learned how we can be a champion for someone else. We get checks for being a champion when we do a good deed or help out at the school.

Chris: As a champion we would stand up for someone that is being treated badly. It is our way to show we care about each other. The teachers put a check on the Champion Board. We hope to fill the Champion Board up.

Annin: Last year I was a SHINE winner four times. I am lucky because my name was drawn out of the second grade SHINE jar. This year I have earned many SHINE tickets. The last one was for picking up peanut free table it was a mess. Last year the teachers did a skit on SHINE behavior. They showed us all the things we should do and things we shouldn't do, such as throwing papers in the classroom. It was funny to see the teachers misbehaving.

Chris: Last year my favorite SHINE assembly was the last one. I liked it most because we had fun and danced outside. I got to go because I was showing SHINE behavior for over three months. This year I earned a SHINE ticket for listening in class and I did extra credit homework in math

Annin: My favorite subject is writing and reading. All my teachers have challenged me to work and try harder with my reading. I am doing a non-fiction reading and working hard on pronouncing the words correctly. The teachers learn about us and what we need to know such as what is a 'character trait'. I can find a character trait in any of the books I read. An example is when I wrote a story about a mermaid when I was in second grade. The girl in the story was

suspicious and adventurous. Would you go through a strange door that was opened? She did! Every summer I do the summer reading program. This summer I started reading The Cupcake Diaries series.

Chris: My favorite subject is science. I like it because you get to make explosion and work with a partner. I like to work with a partner. My favorite special is gym. I love to play games, like basketball, kickball, whiffle ball and lightning. I also enjoy running the mile. I played basketball with Mr. Discordia during recess.

Annin: My favorite subject is music. I get to learn notes. Last year I improved with playing the piano and Mrs. Jukkola helped me with  $\frac{1}{2}$  notes,  $\frac{1}{4}$  notes and dotted  $\frac{1}{2}$  notes. A dotted  $\frac{1}{2}$  note is a three beat note.

Chris: – One of our favorite assemblies was the Brian Show. We both loved the Brain Show. I felt good that my friend Joe got to go on stage, but I wished I got to go up on the stage because I knew the answers to the questions, and I knew how to do the dances.

Thank you for taking the time to listen to us tell you about our life at Memorial School.

Annin: Thank you for letting us come to your board meeting and talking about our school.

#### 8.1.2 Noelle Vaillancourt, Student Council Representative for Center Elementary School reported the following:

My name is Noelle Vaillancourt and I am a fifth grader at Center School. I was recently elected President of the Student Council. Other officers elected for the year are Caroline Engel, Vice President, Emily Balda, Secretary, and Taryn Potter, Treasurer. Many students attended the first few Student Council meetings and ran for office. It should be a great year!

On Friday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>, we sponsored our first school spirit day. We had a red, white and blue day in honor of the national election on Tuesday, November 6<sup>th</sup>. Many students and staff participated. At the end of the day we discovered that Mrs. Cote's 4<sup>th</sup> grade class won with 23 students dressed in red, white and blue.

Fifth grade band members began practicing the second week of school. The fifth grade band has 66 members this year. Fourth graders interested in learning an instrument have signed up, gotten their instruments, and are busy practicing. Students could pick from flute, trumpet, clarinet, saxophone, tenor sax, trombone or percussion. There are 100 in the fourth grade beginner band. This year we have a new chorus teacher, Mrs. Kendra Dickenson. The combined fourth and fifth grade chorus practices on Wednesday afternoons. Both band and chorus will have concerts throughout the year.

On Friday, October 26<sup>th</sup>, we had Senior Guest Day. We had over 100 grandparents and senior friends come and spend a few hours with us in our classrooms. It was great to share our routines with them, and hear how things have changed or stayed the same over the years. We did a lot of fun activities with our grandparents. This is a popular day at Center School.

On November 1st we had an Author Day at Center School. Jacqueline Davies, author of some very popular children's books, spent the day with us. She told us about what writer's do all day, and also how a book is developed. We had all read her book, *The Lemonade War*, in class and she used this to explain all the steps it took to write the book from getting the idea to having it published. She told us the idea for the book came from watching her own kids run a lemonade stand, and that she turned the book from a single book to a series when readers asked her questions about the characters. Students were able to buy signed copies of her books. Two students also won a three book set signed by the author by guessing the number of lemon drops in a jar. It was a great day!

The year is in full swing. Fifth graders have visited the Pequot Museum to support their Native American unit. Fourth graders visited the Chestnut Hill one-room schoolhouse across the street from the school. Schoolmaster Kirk taught the lessons, and they used slate boards to complete their work. This visit supports their study of early Connecticut history.

These are some of the things keeping us busy at Center School. Thank you for letting me share them with you.

8.1.3 Alyssa Chunko and Lindsay Dickerman, Student Council Representatives for East Hampton Middle School reported the following:

EH Board of Education meeting is on the 13<sup>th</sup> (Tuesday) at 7PM in the EHHS library. You should be able to leave by 7:20 or so.

Alyssa: My name is Alyssa Chunko.

Lindsay: And my name is Lindsay Dickerman.

Alyssa: And we're here to tell you about what's been going on at the middle school this fall. The Cross-Country teams both had 6-6 records this year; the girls were fourth at their league meet, while the boys were 6<sup>th</sup> at theirs. Runners won individual medals at both the league and state meets this year.

Alyssa: We enjoyed a great PBIS assembly on Friday. The guest speaker was Guilford's own Adam Greenberg, who was hit in the head with the first pitch in his first major-league at-bat for the Chicago Cubs, but who worked for seven years to get back to the major leagues to have his first official major-league at-bat, this time with the Miami Marlins. Mr. Greenberg, a childhood friend of Mr. Mannes, our school counselor, spoke to us about goals, working hard, and never giving up on your dreams.

Lindsay: The PTO arranged for Rachel's Challenge to come back to the middle school for an assembly about bullying, attitudes, and choices. We heard about the devastating attack on Columbine High School in 1999, and about one girl's efforts before that attack to help people fit in and feel accepted in her school. The assembly had supporting activities both before and after the school-wide assemblies. Our Chain Reaction club continues its efforts to build school community and reach out to the local community, first with the Turkey Plunge and later in the year with its collection of pull-tabs for the Shriners' Hospitals.

Alyssa: The entire 6<sup>th</sup> grade participated in a series of team-building activities. Random teams were set up for a variety of physical and mental challenges, to get people working together and supporting one another.

Lindsay: The American Math Exam was held today; 125 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> graders participated in this challenging national contest.

Alyssa: Unfortunately, the 6<sup>th</sup> grade Halloween Bash has been postponed twice due to weather; an alternate activity will be held sometime in December. The first 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade dance will be on Friday, November 30.

Lindsay: The fall sports awards program has also been postponed twice; a makeup date for that has not been announced yet.

Alyssa: In staff news, Mr. Lehmann organized a chili cookoff at lunchtime on the professional day last week. Seven staff members entered chili; Mrs. Wasserman was chosen as the best chili cook at EHMS.

8.1.4 Margaret Lehmann, Student Council Representative for East Hampton High School reported the following:

All fall sports had their last games this week. Report cards will be mailed out on Friday. The school had a mock election last week. Obama winning 60 to 40. Sports awards will be tomorrow evening. Homecoming is this Friday 8:30-11:15. Also boys football senior night is this Friday at 6.

8.2 Personnel Committee

8.2.1 Mr. Coolican had no report at this time.

8.3 Policy Committee

8.3.1 Mr. Barber noted that Dr. Golden is in the process of arranging a date for the Policy Committee to meet. Mr. Minnick noted that there will be a new item on the next Board agenda since it is not a Policy Committee item.

8.4 Curriculum Committee

8.4.1 Ms. Barmasse noted that the Curriculum Committee will meet on November 28<sup>th</sup>.

8.5 Transportation, Buildings and Grounds Committee

8.5.1 Mr. Gemma had no report at this time.

8.6 Financial Reports

8.6.1 Ms. Lane noted that the Finance Committee will meet prior to the November 26<sup>th</sup> Board meeting.

8.7 Liaison Reports

8.7.1 Ms. Barmasse updated the Board on the Superintendent's search process.

9. Communications

9.1 Dr. Golden reviewed the following communications for the Board:

- The Board & Administrator, November 2012.
- Dr. Golden noted that now that Mr. Reich is retired she has been busy covering many of his meetings.

9.2 Dr. Golden reviewed the student enrollment figures as of November 1, 2012.

10. Program Presentation

10.1 Technology Presentation

10.1.1 Mr. Tom McMahon, Network Administrator unveiled the new East Hampton portal, a website for district users (students, teachers, administrators and staff) to log into and receive district information. Mr. McMahon will also highlight a web based program that is being integrated into the district's portal that will allow modules for quizzes, tests and other information to be

posted and manipulated easily. Mr. McMahon answered questions from the Board.

11. Unfinished Business - None

12. New Business - None

13. Future Business

14. Personnel Actions

14.1 To accept Elaine Lucas' resignation as a special education teacher at Center Elementary School for the purpose of retirement.

15. Goal Report - None

16. Audience of Citizens - None

17. Adjournment

17.1 Motion by Ms. Barmasse, seconded by Mr. Barber, to adjourn the meeting at 8:04 p.m. Voted unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Lane  
Secretary

CL/JAG/RS