

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

MINUTES: September 26, 2011

1. The meeting was called to order by the Chairperson, Mr. Vasquenza, at 7:00 p.m. in the East Hampton High School Library/Media Center.

Members present: Mr. Vasquenza, Mr. Laraia, Mr. Piteo, Mr. Coolican, Ms. Robinson, Mr. Gemma, Ms. Wall, Ms. Barmasse and Ms. Lane

Administration Present: Dr. Golden, Superintendent of Schools
Mr. Reich, Assistant Superintendent of Schools
Ms. Asetta, School Business Manager
Mr. Fidler, Principal of East Hampton High School
Ms. Briere, Principal of East Hampton Middle School
Ms. Turchi, Principal of Center Elementary School
Dr. Fitzsimmons, Principal of Memorial Elementary School
Ms. Edele, Assistant Principal of Memorial Elementary School

East Hampton High School Student Council Representative: Jamie Sutcliffe

2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Inter-Board Liaisons - None
4. Audience of Citizens - None
5. Consent Agenda
 - 5.1 September 12, 2011 Minutes

Motion by Ms. Robinson, seconded by Mr. Coolican, to approve the Consent Agenda.

Vote Yes – Mr. Vasquenza, Mr. Laraia, Mr. Piteo, Mr. Coolican, Ms. Robinson, Mr. Gemma, Ms. Wall and Ms. Barmasse

Abstain – Ms. Lane

Motion carried.

6. Student/Staff Recognition - None
7. Committee Reports
 - 7.1 Student Council
 - 7.1.1 Jamie Sutcliffe, Student Council Representative for East Hampton High School reported the following:

The cross country team attended The Ocean State Meet in Warwick, Rhode Island on Saturday, where they competed against teams from all over the east coast. The girls' varsity team placed third in their division. The cross country team will host the

Bellringer invitational this Friday. The girls' soccer team has a record of 2-3. They had a game home against Coginchaug today and their next game is Friday at home versus Westbrook. The boys' soccer team is 4-1. They will play Coginchaug tomorrow at home at 3:45 and also host Westbrook on Friday. The EHVT football team is 0-2. Their next game is at Palmer Field versus Nonnewaug on October 1st at 10:30 am. The girls' volleyball team is 4-1. They were away at Haddam-Killingworth today and their next game is Friday at home at 5:30 against Valley. All of the sporting events on Friday are part of Bellfest. The Fall Sports Pep Rally will help to celebrate this event. The French club took part in a benefit walk for Haiti on September 18. Several EHHS students as well as some of their friends and family participated in the walk. The group won prizes for raising the most money and the most creative costumes. French club was able to raise about \$400 for the Roots of Development organization. The Model UN held their annual in-house event on Friday. The Interact club helped with the bone marrow drive that was held at the high school on Saturday. Many members donated baked goods to be sold at the bake sale while others volunteered at the event.

7.2 Personnel Committee

- 7.2.1 Mr. Coolican noted that the Personnel Committee met prior to tonight's meeting regarding an item that's on tonight's agenda.

7.3 Policy Committee

- 7.3.1 Mr. Laraia noted that the Policy Committee will meet on Thursday, September 29th.

7.4 Curriculum Committee

- 7.4.1 Ms. Barmasse had no report at this time.

7.5 Transportation, Buildings and Grounds Committee

- 7.5.1 Mr. Gemma had no report at this time. Ms. Barmasse gave an update for the roof committee.

7.6 Financial Reports

- 7.6.1 Ms. Robinson noted that the Finance Committee met prior to tonight's meeting and reviewed a transfer of funds related to personnel changes.

7.7 East Hampton Education Association – None

7.8 Liaison Reports - None

8. Communications

- 8.1 Dr. Golden reviewed the following communications for the Board:
- The Board and Administrator for School Board Members, September 2011.
 - The Center School Chronicle, September 16, 2011 and September 9, 2011.
 - Memorial's Bulletin Board, September 16, 2011
 - Dr. Golden noted that the Middle School Panther Fest was postponed from Friday to Monday due to the weather.

9. Program Presentation

9.1 Discussion of the CMT and CAPT Student Assessment

- 9.1.1 Mrs. Hardacker and Mrs. Connor reviewed the results of the 2011 CMT and CAPT. Mr. Fidler reviewed the results from the 2011 SAP and AP assessments. Dr. Golden noted that student achievement improvement will be reflected in district and school improvement goals and initiatives for the 2011-2012 school year.

Mr. Gemma asked if it's possible to find out what East Lyme and Bethel are doing that we're not doing.

9.2 Report on Adequate Yearly Progress from the State Department of Education

9.2.1 Dr. Golden noted that the East Hampton Middle School is no longer in safe harbor for the 2011-2012 school year. East Hampton's schools and district made the AYP benchmarks for proficiency, however, the Middle School dropped into need of improvement again after last year's enormous gains just in the subgroup of special education students of which there were 41. In calculating AYP for this particular sub-group the state does not just calculate how many children we moved from basic and below basic to proficient. They also counted those who dropped from goal or advanced goal to goal or proficient and added those into the calculation. East Hampton had 80% of our students reach proficient last year in this sub-group and 80% this past test. We did not reach the 89% goal which was the increased benchmark for the sub-group because some students who made goal or advanced goal last year dropped to goal or proficient. Rumor on the news has it that President Obama is going to change the regulation regarding sub-groups and just calculate based on whole schools and districts. That would be welcome news for us. Not that we do not provide every intervention possible for our children who need them but to expect every one of those children to reach an artificial benchmark on one test when they are struggling to learn to read and do math is unrealistic at best. Mrs. Briere along with Mrs. Hardacker and Mrs. Connor and her staff will be addressing this issue with instructional intervention.

10. Unfinished Business - None

11. New Business

11.1 List of Board Presentation

11.1.1 Dr. Golden gave the Board the most up-to-date list of Board presentations for the 2011-12 school year and noted that there may be changes as time goes on.

11.2 Approval of the UCONN Model United Nations Conference Trip to the University of Connecticut

11.2.1 Motion by Mr. Coolican, seconded by Mr. Laraia, to approve the Model United Nations Club participation for the University of Connecticut Conference as recommended by the Principal and Superintendent of Schools. Voted unanimously.

11.3 Transfer of Funds in the 2011-2012 Budget

11.3.1 Dr. Golden noted that it is necessary to transfer funds in various accounts to accommodate changes as discussed with the Finance and Personnel Committees prior to the meeting.

11.3.2 Motion by Mr. Coolican, seconded by Mr. Laraia, to approve the transfers as presented by the administration. Voted unanimously.

11.4 Discussion of School Uniforms

11.4.1 Mr. Coolican requested that a discussion of school uniforms be placed on the agenda. He stated that students be required to wear khaki pants or shorts and a golf shirt at the middle school. This would eliminate bullying due to clothing and he feels that it would be less expensive for parents. A discussion followed.

Mr. Vasquenza stated that if the Board supports looking into school uniforms then it will be referred to the Policy Committee for their review. He noted that he is not

in favor of school uniforms, however he is open minded to hearing what parents and the community think.

Ms. Robinson and Ms. Wall both noted that they support exploration of school uniforms.

Mr. Laraia stated that he is not in favor of school uniforms because the district already has a dress code policy. He suggested simply enforcing the dress code that is presently in place.

All those in favor of exploring the subject of dress code including uniforms: Mr. Vasquez, Mr. Piteo, Mr. Coolican, Ms. Robinson, Mr. Gemma, Ms. Wall, Ms. Barmasse and Ms. Lane.

All those not in favor of exploring the possibility of a dress code: Mr. Laraia

It was the consensus of the Board to refer the topic of school uniforms to the Policy Committee for their review.

12. Future Business - None

13. Personnel Actions - None

14. Goal Report - None

15. Audience of Citizens

- 15.1 Ms. Pam Reyome of 82 Main Street requested that a notice be sent home to parents listing the website for Everyday Math because not everyone is able to make the workshops. Ms. Reyome also noted that if kids were required to wear uniforms it would be more expensive for parents plus there would be extra laundry.

16. Adjournment

- 16.1 Motion by Mr. Laraia, seconded by Mr. Coolican, to adjourn the meeting at 9:55 p.m.
Voted unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheila Wall
Secretary

SW/JAG/RS