

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

MINUTES: January 25, 2010

1. The meeting was called to order by the Chairperson, Mr. Vasquenza, at 6:00 p.m. in the East Hampton High School Library/Media Center.
2. Motion by Ms. Robinson, seconded by Ms. Barmasse, to enter Executive Session in the High School Library/Media Center at 6:01 p.m. to discuss personnel matters.

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

Administration

Present: Dr. Golden, Superintendent of Schools

- 2.3 Motion by Ms. Robinson, seconded by Mr. Laraia, to leave Executive Session at 7:05 p.m. Voted unanimously.

- 2.2 The regular meeting of the Board of Education was called to order by the Chairperson, Mr. Vasquenza, at 7:09 p.m. in the High School Library/Media Center.

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

Administration Present: Dr. Golden, Superintendent of Schools
Mr. Reich, Assistant Superintendent of Schools
present: Mr. Reas, Director of Support Services
Dr. Berry, Principal of East Hampton High School
Mr. Fidler, Assistant Principal of East Hampton Middle School
Ms. Turchi, Principal of Center Elementary School
Dr. Fitzsimmons, Principal of Memorial Elementary School
Ms. Ryan, Assistant Principal of Memorial Elementary School

East Hampton High School Student Council Representative: Walid Ahmad

Motion by Mr. Coolican, seconded by Ms. Robinson, to move Personnel Action 14.1 to the consent agenda. Voted unanimously.

Motion by Mr. Coolican, seconded by Ms. Robinson, to add agenda item 14.4 to Personnel Actions regarding sick bank. Voted unanimously.

Motion by Mr. Coolican, seconded by Ms. Barmasse, to add agenda item 14.5 to Personnel Actions regarding labor contracts. Voted unanimously.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

4. Inter-Board Liaisons

4.1 Ms. Judith Isele, Town Council Liaison to the Board of Education, noted that the town is working on the budget process.

5. Audience of Citizens - None

6. Consent Agenda

6.1 January 11, 2010 Minutes

6.2 Action Pertaining to Non-bargaining Unit Employees

6.3 Leave of Absence (14.2)

6.4 Disability Leave (14.3)

Motion by Ms. Robinson, seconded by Mr. Laraia, to approve the Consent Agenda. Voted unanimously.

7. Student/Staff Recognition - None

8. Committee Reports

8.1 Student Council

8.1.1 Walid Ahmad, Student Council Representative for East Hampton High School reported the following:

- The boys' basketball team currently holds a record of 3-8, playing at Valley Regional tomorrow at 7:00.
- The girls' basketball team currently holds a record of 4-9, playing Hale Ray as we speak. We wish both the teams luck in their upcoming/current games.
- The indoor track team had quite a successful meet this past Saturday at Hillhouse. Being the second conference meet, it was a good way to gauge our performance against other teams. The results were promising as the girls won and the boys came in third, despite having moved several athletes between events. The team looks forward to the league championships in two weeks where their talent and hard work from the season will be showcased.
- The Yale Model UN conference was held this past weekend, post-midterms. The conference was as diverse as ever, collecting students from 6 different nations and a bundle of states, speaking a variety of languages and dialects. It was an enlightening event for all – whether it was learning about contemporary global issues, or just getting to converse with foreign students; an experience many students would not be able to receive otherwise. Just as every year, each student came back with something new.
- All the clubs at EHHS are in the process of coming together to unite in a coalition to help Haiti. We are planning out a possible Winter Carnival, similar to the concept of trick or treat street. There would be a variety of stations set up in the school, along with possible food and entertainment, for families and children of all ages to come and enjoy themselves. We are collecting the money specifically for the purpose of aiding Haiti in their recent crisis, caused by the intense earthquake. Hopefully this event will bring together both the school and town communities, and be of some help to those in need.

8.2 Personnel Committee

8.2.1 Mr. Coolican noted that the Personnel Committee hasn't met but several personnel items were discussed in tonight's executive session.

8.3 Policy Committee

8.3.1 Mr. Laraia had no report at this time.

8.4 Curriculum Committee

8.4.1 Ms. Barmasse noted that the Curriculum Committee will meet on Wednesday, January 27th.

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. Robinson noted that the Board will meet on Monday, February 1st to work on the budget.

8.7 East Hampton Education Association – None

8.8 Liaison Reports

8.1 Mr. Vasquenza noted that there is a Tri-Board meeting on Wednesday, January 27th at 6:30 p.m. at the Middle School. There will be a special Board of Education meeting on Monday, February 1st for the Budget Presentation and then on Monday, February 8th and February 22nd there will be a Budget Workshop from 5-7:00 p.m. followed by the regular Board meeting which will start at 7:00 p.m.

Ms. Barmasse noted that she attended two LEARN meetings and gave a brief overview of those meetings.

9. Communications

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

- Priorities To Be Considered from the Let's Talk evening. It was pointed out to the town manager that education was not mentioned.
- The Center School Chronicle, January 15, 2010 and January 8, 2010.
- Memorial School is having Snuggle Up and Read Day.
- A letter to the editor regarding Shaun Russell and the basketball program.
- Dr. Golden noted that she testified at the CAPSS office regarding certification. Dr. Golden noted that she hopes the superintendents have a strong influence because it is getting more and more difficult to do things with adequate funding.

10. Program Presentation - None

11. Unfinished Business - None

11.1 Approval to offer a Board of Education Early Retirement Program (Retirement Incentive)

11.1.1 Motion by Mr. Laraia, seconded by Ms. Barmasse, to approve the offering of an East Hampton Board of Education Voluntary Retirement Incentive Plan.

Yes – Mr. Vasquenza, Mr. Laraia, Ms. Robinson, Ms. Barmasse, Mr. Gemma and Ms. Lane

No – Mr. Coolican, Ms. Wall and Mr. Piteo

Motion carried.

12. New Business

12.1 NESDEC Enrollment Projections

12.1.1 Dr. Golden noted that the East Hampton Board of Education annually updates student enrollment projections. The projections allow district personnel time to adjust to and plan for shifting enrollment patterns. Mr. Reich noted that the East Hampton Board of

Education has used the modified cohort survival method to determine enrollment projections for the last twenty one years. These projections have been used to determine the personnel and facility needs for the district. Mr. Reich reviewed the report for the Board. A discussion followed.

12.2 Discussion of the Importance of Play for the Educational and Social Development of Young Children

12.2.1 Mr. Vasquenza noted that a Board member requested that a discussion of the importance of play for the educational and social development of young children be placed on the agenda. Mr. Piteo provided some brief articles for the interest of Board members. Mr. Piteo read an article, "Recess and the Importance of Play: A Position Statement on Young Children and Recess". The study was done by the National Association of Early Childhood Specialists in State Departments of Education, 2001. Mr. Piteo noted that for approximately a year parents have been questioning the amount of homework their children receive. Kids need enough free time for play. A discussion followed. It was agreed that this topic will be reviewed by the Curriculum Committee and they will report back to the Board their findings.

13. Future Business - None

14. Personnel Actions

- 14.1 To increase the salaries of the Lead Technology Specialist a 4% increase, the Technology Specialist a 4% increase and the Security Monitor a 3% increase for the period of January 1, 2010 through June 30, 2010.
- 14.2 To grant Donald Briere's request for a one year Leave of Absence for the 2010-2011 school year.
- 14.3 To grant Kelly Reynolds request for a disability leave commencing on approximately March 24, 2010 through approximately six weeks after the delivery of the baby.
- 14.4 Motion by Mr. Laraia, seconded by Ms. Barmasse, to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Board of Education and the East Hampton Education Association to allow donation of sick bank leave for an employee, P.F. Voted unanimously.
- 14.5 Motion by Ms. Robinson, seconded by Mr. Laraia, that the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent to communicate on its behalf to the labor groups in an effort to reopen contracts in order to seek concessions. Voted unanimously.

15. Goal Report - None

16. Audience of Citizens - None

17. Adjournment

- 17.1 Motion by Mr. Coolican, seconded by Ms. Barmasse, to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 p.m. Voted unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheila Wall
Secretary
SW/JAG/rs