

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

MINUTES: February 8, 2010

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, Ms. Robinson, Mr. Piteo, Mr. Laraia, Ms. Barmasse, Ms. Wall, Ms. Lane and Mr. Gemma

Members absent: Mr. Coolican

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

East Hampton High School Student Council Representative: Walid Ahmad
East Hampton Middle School Student Council Representative: Nick Piscatelli
Center Elementary School Student Council Representative: Hunter Brazal
Memorial Elementary School Student Representatives: Joey Caruso and Julia Smith

2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Inter-Board Liaisons - None
4. Audience of Citizens - None
5. Consent Agenda
 - 5.1 January 25, 2010 Minutes

Motion by Ms. Robinson, seconded by Mr. Laraia, to approve the revised minutes as discussed. Voted unanimously.

- 5.2 February 1, 2010 Minutes

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

6. Student/Staff Recognition - None
7. Committee Reports
 - 7.1 Student Council
 - 7.1.1 Joey Caruso and Julia Smith, Student Representatives for Memorial Elementary School reported the following:

As we thought about Memorial School, and what we want to tell you, we thought you would like to know what we liked about the school and something about each grade we attended so far. I thought kindergarten was a lot of fun. It was like playing all day. I turned my ABCs into fun characters in my art class. I played with blocks and dinosaurs.

In first grade I remember we had a huge party for the 100th day of school. As we came into the school there were 100 streamers greeting us at the entrance door. We also had a Mother's Day tea and a Dad's Donut Day. I liked it because my family came into school and we got to talk to them. Julia had a cuddle up and read day with her parents. The parents came in and read to them.

I liked second grade because we didn't have a desk. We had tables that were numbered. We sat in groups and sometimes we got to work in groups at our tables. Our teacher handed out fake money everyday and we would use the money to buy things we wanted in the classroom like an "I Spy" book. We kept the book for a whole week. Joey liked getting a container of puzzle pieces so he could connect them.

We really like third grade. We have many parties. Our teacher surprises us when we are working hard. We get to pick a whole class reward when we earn 10 compliments from any adult. We also earn stickers for answering the questions right and following the class rules. We get to roll the dice and whatever number shows up that is how many stickers we get. Once we earn about 25 stickers we get to go to Mrs. Singleton's treasure chest.

We both like science. We get to do experiments. In science we have hands on activities. Last year we had a scientist come into our class and we made a volcano. It exploded and made a gigantic mess. It was cool. This year Mrs. Singleton put two lizards (they were really Hershey kisses) in two different environments. One was under a lamp and the other one was under a cup to make it like an underground burrow. The one under the lamp ended up looking like hot coco as soon as Mrs. Singleton touched the Hershey. The one under the cup was a little bit soft.

We really like playing on the new playground. It is really cool and fun. Julia likes to swing on the bar. We also like the Katie Coolican playground. We really like the big slide and the bridge.

I really like that my mom and other parents can come into Memorial School anytime they want and help us with work. We would like you to come see us at Memorial School. Joey and I will take you around the school and out to the new playscape.

I also enjoy having my mom come into our classroom where she helps out with Readers Workshop or science experiments. Memorial School is a great place to learn and have fun!!☺

7.1.2 Hunter Brazal, Student Council Representative for Center Elementary School reported the following:

Good evening. My name is Hunter Brazal and I am the Treasurer of the Student Council at Center School. I am a fifth grader in Mrs. Sawyer's class.

Since the last report to the Board of Education there have been many things happening at Center School. The Student Council continues to sponsor community service projects. In December proceeds from a popsicle sale went to support an Eagle Scout project involving landscaping between the Congregational Church and Center School, and also towards mailing donated clothing to children in an orphanage in Zambia, Africa. We are currently collecting Crayons for Cancer. Used, worn down crayons are being collected for Connecticut Children's Medical Center's Family Fund. We are also collecting used holiday cards for St. Jude's Hospital.

School spirit days have also taken place. Twin Day left students and staff seeing double. Crazy Sock Day was lots of fun with students and staff showing their creativity. More Spirit Days are being planned.

All students participated in the fire prevention poster contest. The winners were chosen and announced recently. They are: Grade 4: Gabriella Crean; Grade 5: Jenna Pethybridge. Their posters will move on to the next round of competition.

In December students were invited to participate in a poster contest for the new Connecticut Regional Children's Probate Court in Meriden. Two students, Caroline Crean and Gabriella Crean drew a poster together. They were chosen as winners, and their artwork is now framed and hanging in the new Children's Probate Court.

In January 200 salmon eggs were delivered to Center School. They are residing in our library in a tank with a special chiller. We will raise the eggs until they hatch. When they become fry (very little fish) we will release them in the Salmon River. We will keep you posted about their progress.

Last week fifth grade classes had a workshop by Eli Whitney Museum. Each student constructed a workable violin. This activity supports the light and sound science unit. We all had a terrific time.

The Invention Convention was held on February 3rd. The judges had a hard time making a decision with all the wonderful inventions presented. Students did a terrific job explaining their inventions to the judges. Ten students will now move on to competition at UCONN.

As you can see, Center School has been a very busy place. Thank you for letting me share some of the things we have been doing at our school.

7.1.3 Nick Piscatelli , Student Council Representative for East Hampton Middle School reported the following:

- The Student Council is well into its Pennies for Patients drive, collecting money for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. After two weeks of collecting, we have over \$1800 counted. Donations will be collected until the end of this week.
- The basketball teams ended their seasons recently. The teams played together well and showed great teamwork. Volleyball season starts this week.
- Mrs. Nosal, in the library, continues to bring in guest speakers for students to meet. Mr. Gates was our most recent guest, as he brought in his coin collection to share.
- The PantherPostLive crew has been hard at work on its weekly news broadcasts, sharing the announcements live, along with school news and information. Mr.

Hendricks, Mrs. LaFaille, and the production crew put on a truly professional-looking broadcast.

- Students are hard at work preparing for the CMTs. A pep rally for the CMT period is coming up after vacation week.
- The EHMS Ski Club has been flying down the slopes at Mount Southington on skis and snowboards. A total of 70 students and 5 adults are currently on their way back as we speak.
- Plans are underway for this year's Variety Show. Students will have the opportunity to sing, dance, act, and show off their other skills – auditions are coming soon!

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

- The boys' basketball team currently holds a record of 4-10, playing Haddam Killingworth at home tomorrow.
- The girls' basketball team currently holds a record of 5-12, playing Westbrook at home tonight for their senior night. We wish both teams the best of luck in their games.
- Congratulations to the East Hampton High School cheer squad, for placing third in their cheering competition this past Saturday at Torrington. Displaying their talent and finesse, the squad's dedicated hard work paid off.
- The same applies to the indoor track team as well. The girls' team won at the Shoreline championship meet this past Saturday at Hillhouse, by a considerable margin. The boys' team, though not victorious, came in a close third place. There were also a host of athletes who were ranked as Shoreline all-conference and 2nd all conference, both as a part of relays and in individual events. However, without much time to celebrate, those athletes who have qualified are in preparation for the State Championships this Saturday at 4:00. We wish them luck in this meet, and in qualifying for the State Open.
- Student Council has once again initiated its annual Pennies for Patients fundraiser, to support the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.
- The Winter Carnival for Haiti has entered further planning stages; having assigned student coordinators and workers to the separate rooms. Students must now collaborate and organize themselves to prepare their individual activities. The involvement and enthusiasm is promising, and we look forward to seeing the success of this event on February 26.

7.2 Personnel Committee

- 7.2.1 Dr. Golden noted that she is following up on the Board's request to talk with unions regarding concessions for budgetary purposes.

7.3 Policy Committee

- 7.3.1 Mr. Laraia noted that the Policy Committee will meet on March 8th at 6:00 p.m.

7.4 Curriculum Committee

- 7.4.1 Ms. Barmasse noted that the Curriculum Committee met January 27th and reviewed the curriculum revision timeline update and the Grade 9 English.

7.5 Transportation, Buildings and Grounds Committee

- 7.5.1 Mr. Gemma had no report at this time.

7.6 Financial Reports

- 7.6.1 Ms. Robinson noted that there was a Board of Education budget workshop prior to tonight's Board meeting.

7.7 East Hampton Education Association – None

7.8 Liaison Reports

- 7.8.1 Ms. Robinson noted that she spoke with a CAFE attorney regarding advocating.

8. Communications

- 8.1 Dr. Golden reviewed the student enrollment figures as of February 8, 2010.
- 8.2 Dr. Golden reviewed the following communications for the Board:
- The Center School Chronicle, January 29, 2010 and January 22, 2010.
 - Memorial's Bulletin Board, January 22, 2010.
 - A letter from Maggie Hug, Program Director for Fulbright Teacher Exchange Programs, noting that Mr. Baine's application will continue to the next stage of the selection process for the 2010-2011 Fullbright Classroom Teacher Exchange program cycle.

9. Program Presentation - None

10. Unfinished Business

10.1 2010-2011 and 2011-2012 Calendar Revisions

- 10.1.1 Motion by Ms. Robinson, seconded by Mr. Laraia, to adopt the revised school calendars for the 2010-2011 and the 2011-2012 school years as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools. Voted unanimously.

11. New Business

11.1 Approval of the Model United Nations Club Trip to the University of Massachusetts

- 11.1.1 Motion by Ms. Robinson, seconded by Ms. Lane, to approve the Model United Nations Club to participate in the University of Massachusetts conference March 20-22, 2010 as recommended by the Principal and the Superintendent of Schools. Voted unanimously.

11.2 Adoption of Middle School Math Textbooks for Grades 6-8

- 11.2.1 Motion by Mr. Laraia, seconded by Ms. Wall, to adopt new Middle School Math textbooks for grades 6-8 entitled "Math, 2010", published by Hold/Littell, as approved Nancy Briere, K-12 Mathematics Coordinator, the Administration and the Board of Education Curriculum Committee. The Middle School Math textbooks will be funded with the current years budget. Voted unanimously.

12. Future Business - None

13. Personnel Actions - None

14. Goal Report - None

15. Audience of Citizens - None

16. Adjournment

- 16.1 Motion by Ms. Robinson, seconded by Mr. Laraia, to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 p.m. Voted unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheila Wall
Secretary

SW/JAG/RS