

**EAST LYME BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**East Lyme, Connecticut**

**Special Meeting Minutes**

Thursday, November 3, 2011

7:00 p.m.

Room B101 (INTV Room), East Lyme High School

Board Members Present: Tim Hagen (Chair), Beth Groeber (Secretary), Mary Broderick, Melissa Ford, Laura Greenstein, Al Littlefield, Rich Steel

Board Members Absent: Jaime Barr, Marlene Nickerson, Kevin Seery

Administrators Present: Dr. James Lombardo (Superintendent), Brian Reas (Assistant Superintendent), Dr. Karen Costello, Linda Anania (FL Principal), Melissa DeLoreto (NC Principal), Judy DeLeeuw (MS Principal), Don Meltabarger (Business/Facilities Director), Jeff Provost (HS Assistant Principal – 8:05 p.m.)

**I. CALL TO ORDER – 7:03 p.m.**

**II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Led by Tim Hagen**

**III. CONSENT AGENDA**

**MOTION:** Al Littlefield moved approval of the Consent Agenda (III.A. Proposed Donation to the ELHS Shoreline Leo's Club from the Niantic Lions Charities, Inc. in the Amount of \$500.00) as presented; Beth Groeber seconded.

**VOTE:** UNANIMOUS

**MOTION CARRIED**

**IV. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS**

1. Discussion/Action re: Proposed Appointment of ELHS Parents to the ELHS Leadership Team for 2011-2012

In accordance with Para 2.2 of the East Lyme and Salem High School Cooperative Agreement dated March 17, 1997, HS Principal Mike Susi recommended the appointment of Susan Sheehan and Paula Page as the East Lyme parent representatives to the High School Leadership Team for the 2011-2012 school year.

**MOTION:** Al Littlefield moved to appoint Susan Sheehan and Paula Page as the East Lyme parent representatives to the High School Leadership Team for 2011-2012 as presented; Beth Groeber seconded.

**VOTE:** UNANIMOUS

**MOTION CARRIED**

2. Discussion/Action re: Proposed Student Exchange Program Between ELHS and Barcelona, Spain on February 15-26, 2012 and March 22-31, 2012

Dr. Lombardo recommended approval of the proposed student exchange program between ELHS students and their pen pals from Spain. Our students will visit Madrid and Barcelona from February 15-26, 2012 and the students from Spain will visit East Lyme from March 22-31, 2012. The tour operator will be Carousel Student Tours of Pocasset, MA. World Language Curriculum and

Instructional Leader Laura Barry addressed questions regarding the three missed school days and offering financial assistance opportunities for all students.

**MOTION:** Mary Broderick moved to approve the student exchange program between East Lyme and Madrid and Barcelona, Spain with ELHS traveling to Spain on February 15-26, 2012 and Spanish students to East Lyme on March 22-31, 2012 as presented; Laura Greenstein seconded.

**VOTE:** UNANIMOUS **MOTION CARRIED**

3. Discussion/Action re: Proposed Hosting of French Students on February 18, 2012 - March 2, 2012  
Board approval was requested for ELHS to host 28 French students ranging from ages 13-17 years old from February 18, 2012 – March 2, 2012. French students will stay with families in East Lyme and Salem. The program will provide cultural learning opportunities for all students. Carousel Student Tours of Pocasset, MA will serve as the tour operator.

**MOTION:** Al Littlefield moved to approve the ELHS host program of French students from February 18, 2012 – March 2, 2012 as presented; Beth Groeber seconded.

**VOTE:** UNANIMOUS **MOTION CARRIED**

4. Discussion re: Update on Long Range Plan Goals and Priorities  
Dr. Lombardo provided an update on the district's efforts to move forward the long range plan goals and objectives. The ELPS Facilities Vision Committee is comprised of 33 members and will meet for the third time on November 9. The Full-Day Kindergarten Committee will begin meeting this month. Mary Broderick encouraged the committee to review the following NSBA study: <http://www.centerforpubliceducation.org/Main-Menu/Organizing-a-school/Starting-Out-Right-Pre-K-and-Kindergarten/Starting-Out-Right-Pre-K-and-Kindergarten-full-report.html>. Board members were impressed with the level of effort in working towards achieving the long range plan goals. They thanked Dr. Lombardo and the staff for all their hard work.
5. Discussion re: New Board Member Orientation (Board Goal #1 – BOE Development)  
AAA Committee Co-Chair Laura Greenstein presented a suggested list of readings, materials and meetings to be used for the orientation of new East Lyme Board of Education members. Additional suggestions were offered. Laura will meet with Dr. Lombardo next week and packets will be prepared before new board members come onboard next month.
6. Discussion re: Use of Breathalyzers at Extra-Curricular Activities  
The Board discussed the district's proposed use of breathalyzers to screen random individuals for alcohol use at extra-curricular high school activities. HS Assistant Principal Jeff Provost and ELPS Director of Safety and Security Chris Olsen reviewed alcohol and drug preventative type school measures currently being used with additional measures to be explored. The intent of the school administration is to give students a tool to help them make good decisions and to provide an effective detourant for safety reasons. Discussion and debate ensued regarding how this would change the school culture and the additional need to engage students in finding solutions to alcohol and drug use. In general, board members desired alternative options but agreed to go forward with a one time random breathalyzer testing at the rescheduled homecoming dance on Monday, November 7. Further communication, feedback and discussion will occur before proceeding with additional breathalyzer use.

## V. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

1. NSBA Conference, Boston, April 21-23, 2012
2. The Board agreed to hold AAA and FFO Committee meetings prior at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, November 14, 2011 before the regular BOE meeting.

**VI. PUBLIC COMMENT** – None

**VII. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** Al Littlefield moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 p.m.; Melissa Ford seconded.

**VOTE:** UNANIMOUS

**MOTION CARRIED**

Respectfully submitted,  
*Beth Groeber*  
Beth Groeber, Secretary  
East Lyme Board of Education.

