

*No official until approved by the East Lyme Board of Education on June 22, 2009*

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

**Monday, June 8, 2009  
Regular Meeting: 7:00 P.M.  
Library Media Center  
Flanders School**

**Regular Meeting**

Board Members Present: Kevin Seery (Chair), Beth Groeber (Secretary), Mary Broderick, Jaime Ellis, Tim Hagen, Al Littlefield, Marlene Nickerson, Richard Steel, Laura Greenstein (arrived at 7:55 p.m.)

Board Members Absent: Melissa Ford

Administrators Present: Paul Smotas, Paul Freeman, Karen Costello, Judy DeLeeuw, Cherry McLaughlin, Lucy Schuman, Don Meltabarger

- I. **CALL TO ORDER** - 7:00 p.m.
- II. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – Led by Flanders School Principal Dr. Cherry McLaughlin
- III. **PUBLIC COMMENT** - None

**Flanders School Presentation  
*Morning News Live***

Featuring  
Librarian Michael Mullen  
and Grade 4 Students

Anthony Abramov, Megan Appleton, Victoria Chong, Allison Christensen, Gillian Farrugia, D.J. Hardesty, Brianna Lally, Akash Mishra, Clark Patrone, Ellen Wei, Sean Williams

*Media images saturate our students' lives, yet children often sit passively in front of televisions, movies, and computers, receiving and absorbing the "language" of the screens without developing critical awareness of what they are seeing.*

Since 1992 Flanders School has had a student produced morning news program. Board members were invited to shadow the students as they prepared and presented the News at Flanders live!

**IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION:** Al Littlefield moved approval of the minutes of the Board of Education Regular Meeting on May 26, 2009; Jaime Ellis seconded.

**VOTE PRO:** Kevin Seery, Beth Groeber, Mary Broderick, Jaime Ellis, Laura Greenstein, Tim Hagen, Al Littlefield, Richard Steel

**ABSTAIN:** Marlene Nickerson

**MOTION CARRIED**

**V. SPECIAL REPORTS: STUDENTS' REPRESENTATIVES, SELECTMEN'S REPRESENTATIVE, and OTHER REPORTERS**

- A. Students' Representative – Sara Schwartz and Tasmia Khan were excused.
- B. Selectmen's Representative – Pamela Rowe was not present.
- C. Building Committee Representative – Gerard Burkhardt was not present.
- D. Other Reporters - None

**VI. CONSENT AGENDA - None**

**VII. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS**

**A. Finance/Facilities/Community**

**1. Discussion/action re: Proposed CSDE FY 09-10 Healthy Food Certification Statement (ED-009)**

The election remains the same as FY 08-09. East Lyme Public Schools has elected not to participate in the program because the \$.10 cents per lunch reimbursement from the State would not be sufficient to offset the revenue loss. Don Meltabarger reported that throughout the district, healthy food choices continue to be a priority.

**MOTION:** Marlene Nickerson moved to approve the proposed CSDE FY 09-10 Healthy Food Certification Statement (ED-0999) as presented; Al Littlefield seconded.

**VOTE:** Unanimous

**MOTION CARRIED**

**2. Discussion/action re: Proposed 2009-2010 Creative Playschool Budget Presentation**

Creative Playschool President Sara Wagner-Bonura presented the proposed 2009-2010 budget. The total tuition and registration is \$90,600. Expenses total \$90,178 resulting in income of \$422 which does not include proceeds from fundraising events. The district's relationship with CPS will terminate at the completion of the 2009-2010 school year to allow incoming superintendent Dr. Lombardo and the Futures Committee options for future growth in the district. The Board reiterated their commitment to seeing a preschool program in some form continuing forward. Dr. Smotas and the Board thanked the Creative Playschool former and present staff and parents for an outstanding program.

**MOTION:** Al Littlefield moved to approve the proposed 2009-2010 Creative Playschool Budget as presented; Jaime Ellis seconded.

**VOTE:** Unanimous

**MOTION CARRIED**

**3. Discussion/action re: Proposed Incentive Payment to Pool Director for FY 09**

Based upon the recommendation of the EL Aquatic and Fitness Center Committee, an \$8,000 incentive payment is recommended for Pool Director Jack Stabach in accordance with SECTION 8, 3a. of the School Pool Management Agreement (\$4,000 upon achievement of a breakeven year after a \$20,000 reserve for maintenance and \$4,000 if the Board determines the EL community is generally satisfied with the pool programs). Committee Chair Tim Hagen spoke of the pool and fitness center's best year yet and proposed scholarship opportunities which will be presented to the Board in the near future. The Board thanked Tim Hagen and the committee for their work.

**MOTION:** Marlene Nickerson moved to approve the proposed FY 09 incentive payment of \$8,000 to Pool Director Jack Stabach in accordance with SECTION 8, 3a. of the School Pool Management Agreement as presented; Mary Broderick seconded.

**VOTE:** Unanimous

**MOTION CARRIED**

4. Discussion/action re: Proposed Three-Year Renewal of the School Pool Management Agreement (2009-2012)

The three-year agreement, which reflects a 3% increase over the current year, was negotiated with the Pool Services Management Company (PSMC) and recommended for approval by the EL Aquatic and Fitness Center Committee.

**MOTION:** Tim Hagen moved to approve the proposed three-year renewal of the School Pool Management Agreement for July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2012 as amended (Section 6. PURCHASING – Add paragraph 2 as follows: “Purchasing policies will follow town charter.”; Jaime Ellis seconded.

**VOTE:** Unanimous

**MOTION CARRIED**

5. Discussion/action re: Proposed Additional Reductions and Adoption of the 2009-2010 Budget

The Budget Subcommittee met on May 26 and June 3 to finalize the proposed reductions to the 2009-2010 Budget. Budget reductions in the amount of \$146,431 include 1) the elimination of 2 buses @ \$70,000; 2) reduction of 1 furlough day for custodians @ \$4,765.62; 3) reduction of 1 furlough day for secretaries @ \$5,990.98; 4) reduction of professional development for teachers \$50,000; 5) reduction of professional development for administrators @ \$4,000.00; 6) decrease of wage increase for 2009 from 3.5% to 3.0% for non-union/non-certified @ \$11,674.40. The Board emphasized the importance of professional development and the commitment to building the reduction back into the budget. Kevin Seery was commended for his work with the bargaining units.

**MOTION:** Tim Hagen moved to approve the proposed additional reductions of \$146,431 and adoption of the 2009-2010 Budget of \$39,201,715 as presented; Beth Groeber seconded.

**VOTE:** Unanimous

**MOTION CARRIED**

6. Discussion/action re: Proposed July 20, 2009 Board of Education Meeting Date Change

The administration requested to change the date of the July 20, 2009 Board of Education Meeting to July 27, 2009.

**MOTION:** Jaime Ellis moved to approve the proposed July 20, 2009 Board of Education Meeting Date change to Monday, July 27, 2009, 7:30 p.m., East Lyme High School as presented; Al Littlefield seconded.

**VOTE:** Unanimous

**MOTION CARRIED**

**B. Instruction**

1. Discussion/action re: Proposed ELHS Out-of-Country Sunday Field Trip to Quebec, Canada

ELHS French teacher Nathalie Casey has volunteered to chaperone a field trip to Quebec, Canada for high school students during the February 2010 spring break. She also asked the Board to consider Lyman Memorial student participation with a chaperone. Fundraising opportunities will be available for students. The Board thanked Nathalie Casey for a thorough presentation and for providing this opportunity to her students.

**MOTION:** Lauren Greenstein moved to approve the proposed ELHS out-of-country field trip to Quebec, Canada on February 14 – 17, 2010 as presented; Richard Steel seconded.

**VOTE:** Unanimous

**MOTION CARRIED**

## C. Personnel

1. Discussion/action re: Proposed Election of Dr. Paul Freeman as Interim Superintendent of Schools from July 1 – 31, 2009

State Law requires a school district to have a superintendent officially elected by the Board of Education, even if it is in an interim or acting status. Dr. Smotas will retire on June 30, 2009 and Dr. Lombardo will start on August 1, 2009.

**MOTION:** Al Littlefield moved to elect Dr. Paul Freeman as Interim Superintendent of Schools from July 1, 2009 through July 31, 2009; Marlene Nickerson seconded.

**VOTE:** Unanimous

**MOTION CARRIED**

D. Policy

E. Other

### VIII. ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

A. Superintendent of Schools – Dr. Paul Smotas

- ELHS Family and Consumer Student Expo, 6/10/09, 3:30 p.m., HS
- Retirement Celebration for ELHS Math Teacher Karen Anthony, 10:30 a.m., 6/12/09, Room B119, HS
- ELHS Graduation Ceremony, 6:00 p.m., 6/24/09
- Senior Prom was held on 6/6/09 at Mashantucket Pequot Museum and was superb!
- *Plain Vanilla with Rainbow Sprinkles* Book Talk (In Memory of Mary Kasprzak), 6/10/09, 7:00 p.m., EL Community Library
- Thanks to Karen Bowyer for recent Tree Planting at HS. Trees donated by Stop and Shop Supermarket.
- Some staffing reductions have been made as a result of the recent budget cuts and an update will be presented at the next BOE meeting

B. Assistant Superintendent of Schools - Dr. Paul Freeman had no report.

C. Business Manager - Mr. Don Meltabarger

- 18 new car seats have been installed in BOE vans

D. East Lyme Middle School Principal – Judy DeLeeuw

- Step Up Day at MS for HA 4<sup>th</sup> graders - 6/8/09
- Step Up Day at MS for FL 4<sup>th</sup> graders - 6/9/09
- Step Up Day at MS for NC 4<sup>th</sup> graders – 6/10/09
- ELMS Jazz Concert – 6/10/09, 6:00 p.m.
- ELMS Fun Day – 6/15/09
- ELMS Grade 8 Class Trip to Holiday Hill – 6/15/09
- Retirement Celebration for ELMS teachers Pat Whitaker and Linda Meyers – 6/22/09, Dock & Dine
- ELMS Family Picnic – 6/23/09, 6:00 p.m.
- ELMS Class Night – 6/23/09, 7:00 p.m.

E. Niantic Center School Principal – Lucy Schuman

- NCS Passport Day – 6/8/09
- NCS Kindergarten Beach Day with HA – 6/9/09
- *Sir Ryan's Quest* Book Signing with Jason Deeble - 6/11/09
- NCS Kindergarten Visitation and Screening – 6/12/09
- NCS 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Concert – 6/17/09
- NCS Family Picnic – 6/18/09
- NCS 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Step Up Day at ELMS – 6/10/09
- NCS Crossover Ceremony – 6/24/09

F. Flanders School Principal – Dr. Cherry McLaughlin

- Dede Hewes Retirement Luncheon was 5/30/09 at Waters Edge
- FL Family Barbecue – 6/5/09
- Land the Astronaut Safely (egg drop event) – 6/8/09
- Meeting at “The Place” in Guilford for a Flanders staff gathering - 6/11/09
- FL Field Day – 6/17/09

**IX. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- A. Budget Committee – Committee Chair Tim Hagen reviewed the EL Town Audit Financial Statement Findings that involve the Board of Education. The information was included in the 6/3/09 Budget Subcommittee Minutes.
- B. Policy Committee
- C. Community Relations Committee
- D. Personnel Policy Committee – The next Non-Certified/Non-Administrative Personnel Policy Subcommittee Meeting is 6/22/09, 6:00 p.m.
- E. Long Range Planning Committee
- F. Buildings & Grounds Committee – The next B&G Subcommittee Meeting is 6/22/09, 6:30 p.m., Rm B100, HS
- G. Elementary/Middle School Enhancement Committee
- H. Substance Abuse Ad Hoc Committee
- I. School Calendar Ad Hoc Committee
- J. East Lyme Aquatic and Fitness Center Committee
- K. Early Childhood Ad Hoc Committee
- L. Other Committee Reports

**X. COMMUNICATIONS**

- A. Letter of Notification of Termination of Relationship Between ELPS and Creative Playschool from Dr. Smotas, dated 5/27/09
- B. CSDE letter to Kevin Seery and ELAA re: Notification of Mediation and Arbitration, dated 5/13/09
- C. CSDE letter to Kevin Seery and ELTA re: Notification of Mediation and Arbitration, dated 5/13/09
- D. Salem/East Lyme Cooperative Study Group Minutes of 5/4/09
- E. Salem/East Lyme Cooperative Study Group Minutes of 6/1/09
- F. Thank you letter to BOE from Linda Meyers for the ELPS Retiring Teachers' Reception
- G. Thank you letter to BOE and Dr. Smotas from Pat Whitaker for the ELPS Retiring Teachers' Reception
- H. Thank you letter to BOE and Dr. Smotas from Dede Hewes for the ELPS Retiring Teachers' Reception
- I. ELPS Enrollment, dated 5/31/09
- J. CABE letter to Kevin Seery re: Membership information and professional development opportunities, dated 5/12/09
- K. Invitation to ELMS Class Night Ceremony 2009 on June 23, 2009 at 7:00 p.m., ELMS

**XI. NOTICES**

- A. Notice of the following staffing changes:
  - 1. Appointments - None
  - 2. Increases/Decreases in FTE - None
  - 3. Reassignments - None
  - 4. Resignations
    - Erin Bradley, 1.0 Teaching Assistant, HS, 6/24/09
    - Eileen Storrs-Ruth, 1.0 Instructional Aide, FL, 6/2/09
    - Andrea Stricker, 1.0 Instructional Aide, DW 1:1 @ HS, 6/24/09
  - 5. Supplemental Appointments (2008-2009)
    - Hugh McKenney, Computer Technician, ELPS, 6/1-6/30/09
  - 6. Supplemental Appointments (2009-2010)
    - Hugh McKenney, Computer Technician, ELPS, 7/1-8/31/09
- B. Notice of the following out of state field trip – None

**XII. BOARD COMMENTS/FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- A. Board Comments
- B. Future Agenda Items
  - 1. 6/22/09 - Futures Health Core Report
  - 2. 6/22/09 – Non-Certified/Non-Administrative Salary and Benefit Schedule for 2009/2010

**XIII. PUBLIC COMMENT** – No public comment.

A short break took place at 8:50 p.m.

**XIV. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**MOTION:** Tim Hagen moved to enter into executive session at 8:55 p.m., to include the Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent and MS Principal Judy DeLeeuw, for the purpose of personnel/collective bargaining discussion; Al Littlefield seconded.

**VOTE:** Unanimous

**MOTION CARRIED**

The Board exited executive session at 9:05 p.m.

**XV. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** Jaime Ellis moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:10 p.m.; Al Littlefield seconded.

**VOTE:** Unanimous

**MOTION CARRIED**

Respectfully submitted,  
*Elizabeth Groeber/lb*  
Elizabeth Groeber, Secretary  
East Lyme Board of Education