

Not official until approved by the East Lyme Board of Education on October 27, 2009

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

**Tuesday, October 13, 2009
Regular Meeting: 7:30 P.M.
INTV Room (B101)
East Lyme High School**

Regular Meeting

Board Members Present: Kevin Seery (Chair), Beth Groeber (Secretary), Mary Broderick, Melissa Ford, Laura Greenstein, Tim Hagen, Marlene Nickerson, Richard Steel

Board Members Absent: Jaime Ellis, Al Littlefield

Administrators Present: James Lombardo (Superintendent), Wayne Sweeney (Admin Consultant for Superintendent), Karen Costello (Administrator for Program Improvement), Don Meltabarger (Business/Facilities Director), Judy DeLeeuw (MS Principal), Lucy Schuman (NC Principal), Jeff Provost (HS Assistant Principal), Laurie Zaneski (HS Assistant Principal)

I. CALL TO ORDER - 7:35 p.m.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Led by Marlene Nickerson

MOTION: Marlene Nickerson moved to approve adding A.2. Discussion re: HS Boilers to the agenda; Tim Hagen seconded.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS

MOTION CARRIED

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Mike Schultz, Lovers Lane, requested more “heads up” on content information discussed during executive session, especially regarding bargaining contracts. He also referred to Article IV Section III.8. of the ELTA/BOE contract regarding compensation for nonparticipation in the health benefit plan.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: Mary Broderick moved approval of the minutes of the Board of Education Regular Meeting on September 28, 2009 as presented; Marlene Nickerson seconded.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION: Melissa Ford moved approval of the minutes of the Board of Education Special Meeting on October 1, 2009 as presented; Richard Steel seconded.

VOTE PRO: Kevin Seery, Beth Groeber, Melissa Ford, Marlene Nickerson, Richard Steel

ABSTAIN: Mary Broderick, Laura Greenstein, Tim Hagen

MOTION CARRIED

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

- A. Students' Representative – Tasmia Khan
- Updates on sports teams and extracurricular events
 - NHS is getting involved with “Relay for Life”
 - HS teachers are volunteering with the Health Club fundraiser
 - PSATs, Saturday, October 17
 - Spirit Week kicks off next week
- B. Selectmen's Representative – Pam Rowe was not present.
- C. Building Committee Representative – Gerard Burkhardt was not present.
- D. Other Reporters – None

VI. CONSENT AGENDA

Beth Groeber requested to move Consent Agenda items to B. 3. and 4. Discussion/action: regarding (A) Proposed donation to the ELPS from the MetroCast Communications Citizen's Advisory Council in the amount of \$500.00 and (B) Proposed donation to the ELHS Technology Program (Mr. Lewis Tucker's class) in the amount of \$500.00 and to the ELHS Men's Soccer Team in the amount of \$300.00 from Daniel and Laura Morton for a total donation of \$800.00

VII. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

A. Finance/Facilities/Community

1. Discussion/action re: Proposed 2009/2010 and 2010/2011 ELPS Tuition Rates for Non-Salem Students

The proposed non-Salem tuition rates represent a 5% increase for each year. The proposed 2009/2010 regular education rate is \$12,075.00 for elementary through high school and \$6,037.50 for kindergarten. The proposed 2010/2011 regular education rate is \$12,678.75 for elementary through high school and \$6,339.37 for kindergarten. The proposed special education rate is set on a case by case basis, but not less than Salem's “Premium Tuition Rate.”

MOTION: Tim Hagen moved to approve the proposed 2009/2010 tuition rates for non-Salem students as presented and requested Policy Subcommittee propose guidelines for setting future rates to be brought back to the Board for discussion/action; Beth Groeber seconded.

VOTE: Unanimous

MOTION CARRIED

Kevin Seery requested the addition of A.2. to the agenda, Discussion re: HS Boiler Project

MOTION: Marlene Nickerson motioned to amend the Discussion/Action Items agenda to include a discussion of the HS Boiler Project; Tim Hagen seconded.

VOTE: Unanimous

MOTION CARRIED

2. Discussion re: HS Boiler Project

Kevin Seery reported on recent discussions with the Board of Selectmen (BOS) and Board of Finance (BOF) concerning the HS Boiler replacement. The BOS suggested additional options for boiler replacement. Ray O'Connor of the Building Committee authorized gathering additional bids. Concerns over this delay include the cooling weather and need to spend \$20,000 to \$30,000 to sustain the boilers for this year alone. Also, savings that could be realized from CL&P are time sensitive and may expire. The BOS recommended an additional \$10,000 be sought to request additional study of options and gathering of bids. The BOF denied this request sighting that adequate information had already been gathered. Kevin Seery will hold additional discussions with BOS and BOF to seek resolution.

B. Instruction

1. Discussion/action re: Proposed ELHS Out-of-Country Field Trip to Argentina in April 2010

ELHS Spanish teacher Michelle Lorince and three adult chaperones have offered to escort up to twenty high school Spanish students to Buenos Aires, Argentina during spring break from April 10, 2010 through April 18, 2010. The Gaia School Argentina combines Spanish language learning with exciting cultural activities and tourist excursions. Two years ago Mrs. Lorrince escorted students to the Gaia School in Chile where they had a very successful cultural experience. Fundraising opportunities will be available for students and an alternate lesson will be provided to non-participating students.

MOTION: Marlene Nickerson moved to approve the proposed out-of-country field trip to Buenos Aires, Argentina as presented; Mary Broderick seconded.

VOTE: Unanimous

MOTION CARRIED

2. Discussion/action re: Proposed LB Haynes After School Activities Program for Fall 2009

Fifteen classes will run for six weeks beginning the week of October 12, 2009.

MOTION: Mary Broderick moved approval of the proposed LB Haynes After School Activities Program for Fall 2009 as presented; Laura Greenstein seconded.

VOTE: Unanimous

MOTION CARRIED

Agenda Items 4. Discussion/action re: Proposed Donation to ELPS from the MetroCast Communications Citizen's Advisory Council in the Amount of \$500.00 and 5. Discussion/action re: Proposed Donation to the ELHS Technology Program (Mr. Lewis Tucker's class) in the Amount of \$500.00 and to the ELHS Men's Soccer Team in the Amount of \$300.00 from Daniel and Laura Morton for a Total Donation of \$800.00 were presented prior to 3. Discussion: 2009 ELHS SAT/ACT/CAPT/AP Presentation, without objection.

3. Discussion/action re: Proposed Donation to ELPS from the MetroCast Communications Citizen's Advisory Council in the Amount of \$500.00

MOTION: Beth Groeber moved approval of the proposed donation to ELPS from the MetroCast Communications Citizen's Advisory Council in the amount of \$500.00 with appreciated as presented; Tim Hagen seconded.

VOTE: Unanimous

MOTION CARRIED

4. Discussion/action re: Proposed Donation to the ELHS Technology Program (Mr. Lewis Tucker's class) in the amount of \$500.00 and to the ELHS Men's Soccer Team in the amount of \$300.00 from Daniel and Laura Morton for a total donation of \$800.00

MOTION: Beth Groeber moved approval of the proposed donation to the ELHS Technology Program (Mr. Lewis Tucker's class) in the amount of \$500.00 and to the ELHS Men's Soccer Team in the amount of \$300.00 from Daniel and Laura Morton for a total donation of \$800.00 with appreciation as presented; Marlene Nickerson seconded.

VOTE: Unanimous

MOTION CARRIED

5. Discussion: 2009 ELHS SAT/ACT/CAPT/AP Presentation

Assistant Principal Jeff Provost presented the 2009 ELHS test results. The average SAT scores of Critical Reading (formerly Verbal) 533, Math 549 and Writing 540 reflect a slight decrease from 2008, however scores remained higher than the state and national averages. An increasing number of students are taking the ACT. Mr. Provost reported that 219 students took 441 AP tests. Areas of concentration will be analyzed. CAPT – For the class of 2011, the percentage of students scoring at or above goal were as follows: Math 75.9, Science 69.6, Reading Across the Curriculum 67.2, and Writing Across the Curriculum, 76.4. The percentage of students performing at proficiency (score of 3 or higher) was noteworthy at over 94% in each

area. Students not meeting proficiency have the option of retaking the test or submitting a portfolio. A total of 49 students achieved advance level (5) on all of the CAPT subtests. Examples were given regarding where links to data on all tests are utilized and where improvements are being made.

C. Personnel

1. Discussion/action re: Proposed 2009/2010 ELPS Staffing Plan

The proposed plan aligns with the previous year staffing level plus Board approved modifications.

MOTION: Marlene Nickerson moved to approve the proposed 2009/2010 ELPS Staffing Plan as presented; Beth Groeber seconded.

VOTE: Unanimous

MOTION CARRIED

D. Policy

E. Other

VIII. ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

A. Superintendent of Schools – Dr. James Lombardo

- New MS Asst. Principal Richard Chocolate will begin 11/1/09 and Dr. Lombardo commended committee members for their work
- NC Principal application period closes October 16
- HS Principal, Asst. Supt of Sp. Ed and Pupil/Personnel Services, and Special Services Program Coordinator positions will be posted this week
- Dr. Lombardo thanked Alice Pembroke and Smidgie Macphail and for organizing Chinese visitor Julie Wang's 2-week visit to East Lyme. He also thanked community members for their help and support.
- Jim Littlefield's Anthropology class recently uncovered the remains of a approximately 800 year old native American
- Since his time joining the ELPS district, Dr. Lombardo has been engaging members of the schools, district and town to understand areas of strengths and priorities. He has synthesized the information and worked with the staff and Board of Education members to create a draft set of goals for the 2009-2010 year. Dr. Lombardo presented an overview of this plan, as follows:

Superintendent's Proposed ELPS Goals and Priorities for 2009-2010

1. In fulfilling all district goals and priorities, we will:
 - Engage and develop appropriate partnerships with the greater East Lyme community
 - Consider the time and resource impact of any new initiative
 - Explore ways to use appropriate and emerging technologies for effective and efficient implementation
2. Additionally, we will:
 - Ensure an engaging and challenging program of instruction that helps each student develop a personal vision of success
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 - Make certain that each child in the ELPS is supported by caring adults
 - Ensure that all children learn in a safe and healthy school environment and acquire the sensibilities to live a safe and healthy life
 - Ensure that our students are supported by the best leadership and workplace practices

Dr. Lombardo will ask the Board to adopt the proposed goals and priorities at the next Board meeting.

B. Business Manager - Mr. Don Meltabarger had no report.

IX. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Budget Committee – Committee Chair Tim Hagen reported that the district is currently running at a \$143,000 deficit and that freezes are in place. He also noted that stimulus money is being spent, but acknowledged the potential to realize this as a short fall in coming years.
- B. Policy Committee
- C. Community Relations Committee
- D. Personnel Policy Committee
- E. Long Range Planning Committee
- F. Buildings & Grounds Committee
- 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 – Committee Chair Tim Hagen reported that a committee member vacancy exists due to the resignation of Donna Palumbo.
- K. Early Childhood Ad Hoc Committee
- L. Other Committee Reports

X. COMMUNICATIONS

- A. ELHS Viking Saga, Edition 2, Volume XLIV, dated 9/17/09, Edition 3, Volume XLV
- B. EL Aquatic and Fitness Center Committee Minutes of 9/29/09

XI. NOTICES

- A. Notice of the following 2009/2010 staffing changes:
 - 1. Appointments:
 - Richard Chocolate, 1.0 Assistant Principal (12-month), MS, on or about 11/1/09
 - Katrina Clement, .3 Instructional Aide, FL, 10/1/09
 - Karly Grillo, .25 Instructional Aide, FL, 10/7/09
 - Kelsie Jacobs, .5 Instructional Aide, FL, 10/5/09
 - Susan Marks, .5 Copy Clerk, CO, 9/28/09
 - Christie Pilarski, .75 Instructional Aide, FL, 10/7/09
 - Gabrielle Robertson, After School Aide, NC, 9/23/09
 - 2. Increases/Decreases:
 - Alison Chmiel, increased from .3 to .8 School Aide, HA, 9/28/09
 - Susan Izadi, temporary increase from .8 to 1.0 Spanish Teacher, HS, 9/21/09 – 1/22/10
- B. Notice of the following out of state field trips
 - 1. ELHS students to Mt. Monadnock State Park, Jaffrey NH, 10/23-10/24/09

XII. BOARD COMMENTS/FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- A. Board Comments
 - 1. Reminder - Monday, October 26, 2009 “Building Resilience” with Dr. Kenneth Ginsburg will be at the Garde Arts Center in New London at 7:00 p.m. and the next Board meeting will be on Tuesday, October 27, 2009, 7:30 p.m., Room B101 at East Lyme High School.
- B. Future Agenda Items
 - 1. Futures HealthCore Presentation – 11/9/09
 - 2. Stimulus Funding Discussion – 10/27/09
 - 3. Proposed Adoption of Superintendent’s District Goals for 2009-2010

Short break at 9:37 p.m. Laura Greenstein left at 9:40 p.m.

XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Board Members Present: Kevin Seery, Elizabeth Groeber, Mary Broderick, Melissa Ford, Tim Hagen, Marlene Nickerson, Richard Steel

MOTION: Marlene Nickerson moved to enter into executive session at 9:43 p.m., and to include Superintendent of Schools Dr. James Lombardo, for the purpose of personnel issues; Tim Hagen seconded.

VOTE: Unanimous

MOTION CARRIED

Exited executive session at 9:55 p.m.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Marlene Nickerson moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:55 p.m.; Tim Hagen seconded.

VOTE: Unanimous

MOTION CARRIED

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Groeber/lb

Elizabeth Groeber, Secretary
East Lyme Board of Education