

EAST LYME BOARD OF EDUCATION
East Lyme, Connecticut

Board of Education Special Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, January 19, 2011
7:30 p.m.
INTV Room (B101)
East Lyme High School

Board Members Present: Tim Hagen (Chair), Jaime Ellis, Melissa Ford, Laura Greenstein (Acting Secretary), Al Littlefield, Kevin Seery

Board Members Absent: Mary Broderick, Beth Groeber, Marlene Nickerson, Rich Steel

Administrators Present: Dr. James Lombardo (Superintendent), Brian Reas (Assistant Superintendent), Dr. Karen Costello (Administrator for Program Improvement), Gina Olearczyk (Special Services Coordinator), Kim Davis (Special Services Coordinator), Michael Susi (HS Principal), Judy DeLewuw (MS Principal), Melissa DeLoreto (NC Principal), Linda Anania (FL Principal), Dr. David Miko (HA Principal), Jeff Provost (HS Asst. Principal), Laurie Zaneski (HS Asst. Principal), Rich Chocolate (MS Asst. Principal), Jason Bitgood (Asst. Principal HS Alternative Education Program), Don Meltabarger (Finance and Facilities Director), Nancy Burdick (Business Manager)

I. CALL TO ORDER—7:35 p.m.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. DISCUSSION/ACTION

1. Discussion re: Superintendent's Presentation of the Proposed ELPs Budget for 2011-2012

Dr. Lombardo presented the proposed budget for 2011-2012. Budget priorities align with district goals. The draft budget represents a 4.7% increase over the adopted budget for the current year.

The budget maintains current staffing levels, although some reallocation of staff may occur to accommodate program changes and district priorities. Salary and estimated benefit increases represent 3.4 of the 4.7% increase. It was noted that the FY 2010-2011 budget reflected no salary increases for administrators, teachers, secretaries, paraprofessionals, and a voluntary furlough day for custodians. Major increases by category were outlined. Cost control and program modifications include reductions in the substitute account, special education tuition and transportation due to programs changes, and fuel costs due to new high school boilers and a savings in "communications" due to a new district phone system. Special education tuition reflects a 45% savings over the current budget through tuition and transportation savings by providing programs and services in-district. Grant positions for year two of the Federal Jobs Bill were reviewed. It was explained that these are not in the general fund. A district enrollment reduction of 88 students is anticipated. Budget discussion dates are January 24, 31 and February 7 with a possible adoption of the budget on February 14, but no later than February 28. A public hearing will be held on January 31. The PowerPoint presentation is available on the district website. At the Board's request, Dr. Lombardo will explore the possibility of offering an early retirement incentive plan (Ohio Plan) for teachers and administrators, provide clarity on special education savings to include allocations received and

amount requested in comparison to how much the district has saved or not spent in the last two years and explain program changes that have provided a savings to the district.

2. Discussion/action re: Adoption of BOE Committee and Liaison Assignments
The committee assignments will be revisited in June for fall revolving assignments.

MOTION: Kevin Seery moved to adopt the East Lyme Board of Education Committee/Liaison Assignments for 2011 as presented; Jaime Ellis seconded.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS

MOTION CARRIED

3. Discussion/action re: Amended Board of Education Meeting Date Calendar for 2011
Noted were new 7:00 p.m. meeting times and alternate dates for committee meetings.

MOTION: Al Littlefield moved to adopt the amended Board of Education Meeting Date Calendar for 2011 dated January 19, 2011 as presented; Laura Greenstein seconded.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS

MOTION CARRIED

4. Discussion re: Update on East Lyme Athletic Complex Fundraising Project
Committee volunteers met last week to develop a fundraising plan to secure sufficient donations in order to cover the difference between the \$2.3 million bond we seek and the final cost of the project. The Community Foundation is willing to act as the depository for funds raised for this project. The committee felt that a two-year window for fundraising would be desirable. Since the town cannot sign a contract with a developer until all funds are secured for the project, the committee discussed options available for partial construction that does not exceed the \$2.3 million bond. The committee hopes to present a plan to the Board in late January.

IV. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

1. Dr. Lombardo publicly thanked Ted Hunt, the ELPS maintenance and custodial staff and the town crews for clearing snow during the recent storms.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Mike Schultz, Lovers Lane, asked that the feasibility study be presented earlier in the budget process. He congratulated the Board for proceeding with the EL Athletic Complex and offered a monetary donation to the fundraising committee.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Kevin Seery moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m.; Jaime Ellis seconded.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS

MOTION CARRIED

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Greenstein/BS

Laura Greenstein, Acting Secretary
East Lyme Board of Education