

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

**Special Meeting Minutes**

Monday, February 6, 2012

7:00 p.m.

Room B101 (INTV Room), ELHS

Board Members Present: Tim Hagen (Chair), Rich Steel (Secretary), Jaime Barr, Jill Carini, Laura Greenstein, Al Littlefield, Marlene Nickerson, Pam Rowe, Melissa Ford (arrived at 7:30 pm.)

Board Members Absent: Chris Sandford

Administrators Present: Dr. James Lombardo (Superintendent), Dr. Karen Costello (Administrator for Program Improvement), Kim Davis (Special Education Coordinator), Heather Mileski (Special Education Coordinator), Mike Susi (HS Principal), Don Meltabarger (Business/Facilities Director), Nancy Burdick (Business Manager)

**I. CALL TO ORDER**– 7:06 p.m.

**II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – Led by Board of Education members

**III. DISCUSSION/ACTION**

1. Discussion/action re: Draft Budget for ELPS for 2012-2013

Budget discussion continued. Dr. Lombardo responded to questions regarding Coastal Connections staffing, contingency funding, pay for play and grant opportunities. Pay for play was discussed; however, Board members were mindful that parents currently pay fees in many areas. Revenue accounts were seen as an area to review. The Board noted the importance of bringing forward a budget responsive to difficult economic times, while continuing to provide quality education for our children. Based on updated information, Dr. Lombardo presented additional reductions in the amount of \$200,000, bringing the budget increase to 3.3% over the current budget, but noted that further reductions would most likely be in positions. Other areas of possible savings may be health insurance, presently budgeted at 5% increase, and employee groups that have not negotiated salaries for next year. Tim Hagen reminded the Board that the average budget increase over the last four years was 1.69%. Budget questions and comments were encouraged and will continue to be posted to the district website. Further budget discussion and possible adoption is scheduled for Monday, February 13, 2012.

2. Discussion re: Proposed EL Athletic Complex Update

Tuesday, February 7, 2012	BOE/BOS Joint Public Hearing
Wednesday, February 8, 2012	Presentation to Board of Finance (BOF)
Wednesday, February 15, 2012	Town Meeting
Wednesday, February 29, 2012	Town Referendum

**IV. PUBLIC COMMENT**

1. Karen Rak, Black Point Road, asked the Board to consider pay for play for extracurricular activities, with no child turned away and more emphasis on academics rather than athletics and other extra curricular activities. She questioned the EL Athletic Complex traffic light and parking lot as not part of the original project and a lack of fundraising for the project.

**V. EXECUTIVE SESSION – None****VI. ADJOURNMENT**

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

**VOTE:** UNANIMOUS

**MOTION CARRIED**

Respectfully submitted,

*Richard Steel*

Richard Steel, Secretary  
East Lyme Board of Education