

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

**MINUTES OF**  
**ACADEMICS, ATHLETICS AND ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE MEETING**  
Monday, August 9, 2010  
Room B101, East Lyme High School  
7:00 p.m.

Members Present: Mary Broderick and Laura Greenstein (Co-Chairs), Jaime Ellis, Melissa Ford, Al Littlefield

Administrators Present: Dr. James Lombardo (Superintendent)

The meeting began at 7:07 p.m.

1. **Opening Book Discussion of “Drive”** – Discussion points included the importance of:
  - Moving away from “carrot and sticks” and towards critical thinking, complex problem solving, creativity and engaged learning;
  - Supporting classrooms that are developmentally based, self-directed, interactive, teacher as facilitator, and technology-based
  - Recognizing strategies and projects within the district that follow this philosophy and showcasing them at upcoming Board meetings and on public television (via videos and presentations);
  - Providing the staff with meaningful learning opportunities to develop exciting, motivational approaches resulting in high performance and satisfaction;
  - Exploring new approaches in student learning and motivation that will correlate with 21<sup>st</sup> century changes in the workplace.
  
2. **Update on Hiring of New Teachers and Administrators** – Dr. Lombardo provided an update on new hires and their credentials. Remaining vacancies are expected to be filled within the next two weeks. The principals forward their top two candidates to the superintendent. Following an interview by the superintendent and the requirement of a writing sample, the superintendent makes his decision for hire.
  
3. **Establishing Committee Agenda Items for the Remainder of the Calendar Year** – Agenda items will be added as follows:

- Presentation of Healthy Balanced Living Guide	9/13/10	AAA Committee Meeting
- Overview of the curriculum development process	9/27/10	BOE Meeting
- Update on athletic fields	9/27/10	BOE Meeting
- Status report on math curriculum/new sequencing	10/12/10	AAA Committee Meeting
- Reports from Curriculum Council	11/8/10	AAA Committee Meeting
- Report on 2010/2011 half-day in-service days	11/8/10	AAA Committee Meeting
- Examples of exciting and motivational learning activities (via videotapes and presentations)		BOE Meetings

Dr. Lombardo reported the HS Culinary Arts project bids came in a three times the amount budgeted in the capital plan. Rethinking of the project and negotiations with the architect are taking place to establish a clear plan before presentation to the town for approval. Classes will begin the school year in their current space. Local restaurants and businesses may provide other learning opportunities.

Dr. Lombardo stated a district feasibility study is being conducted which will help in the sequencing of requests to the town.

4. **Regional Calendar Proposal** – LEARN recently hosted a regional calendar meeting where area superintendents met to consider the initial draft of a proposed common calendar for the 2011-2012 school year. The goal to develop a regional calendar is to attempt to reduce additional costs to each school budget in transportation savings and by providing collaborative professional development for teachers. The importance of input and flexibility of staff was discussed. Dr. Lombardo will organize a calendar committee in the fall. LEARN is also exploring the possibility of a regionalized health care plan for municipalities.
5. **CAPT/CMT Summary/Overview** – Dr. Lombardo reported schools continue to do quite well. Results are embargoed until the State Department of Education’s tentatively scheduled press release on August 12.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Broderick  
Mary Broderick  
Co-Chair

Laura Greenstein  
Laura Greenstein  
Co-Chair