

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

**East Lyme Board of Education  
Tuesday, April 27, 2010  
Regular Board Meeting: 7:30 p.m.  
Room B101 (INTV Room)  
East Lyme High School**

**Regular Meeting**

Board Members Present: Tim Hagen (Chair and Acting Secretary), Mary Broderick, Jaime Ellis, Laura Greenstein, Al Littlefield, Marlene Nickerson, Kevin Seery, Rich Steel

Members Excused: Beth Groeber (Secretary), Melissa Ford

Administrators Present: Dr. James Lombardo (Superintendent), Dr. Karen Costello (Administrator for Program Improvement), Mr. Wayne Sweeney (Interim Assistant Superintendent for Special Education and Pupil Personnel Services), Gina Olearczyk (PK-12 Special Education Coordinator), Don Meltabarger (Business/Facilities Director), Dr. John Sullivan (Interim HS Principal), Judy DeLeeuw (MS Principal), Dr. David Miko (HA Principal), Linda Anania (FL Principal), Melissa DeLoreto (NC Principal), Jeff Provost (HS Assistant Principal)

I. **CALL TO ORDER** – 7:35 p.m.

II. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – Led by Tim Hagen and ELMS art students

**East Lyme Middle School  
Student Art Presentation**

Grade 5

Jacob Graham  
Sebastian Marocola

Grade 7

Aimee Cicchiello

Grade 8

Alexandra Atherton  
Maeghan Calzetta-Partridge  
Jessica Kimble  
Gwen Clement  
Aleck Mikulka

Grade 6

Lauren Alexandrescu  
Bianca Barroga  
Evelyn Huang  
Madison Lillie  
Danny Sitko

Hannah Smith  
Hannah Stiles  
Raiselle Swick  
Joel Yuhas  
Savannah Buckley

with

ELMS Art Teachers Anita Fravel and Cathy Lovell

**Presentation to Dr. John Sullivan  
Interim Principal of East Lyme High School**

Board of Education Chair Tim Hagen and Superintendent of Schools Dr. James Lombardo thanked and acknowledged the many contributions that Dr. John Sullivan has made to the staff and students of East Lyme High School during the past two years as Interim Principal. Dr. Sullivan will retire on April 30, 2010.

**III. PUBLIC COMMENT**

1. Lorraine Mattison, NC Kindergarten Teacher, 67 Hillcrest Rd., thanked the Board of Education for their services to the students and staff of East Lyme and asked that Kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> grade class sizes be kept small while making budget decisions for the 2010-2011 school year.
2. Julie Horner, NCS Grade 2 Teacher, 43 Manwaring Rd., echoed the comments of Lorrain Mattison and distributed samples of student work to show how the needs of elementary students vary in the younger grades.
3. Erin Burton, 8 Old Black Point Rd., emphasized the need for small class sizes at the elementary level, providing students with a good foundation before entering middle school.

**IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION:** Marlene Nickerson moved approval of the minutes of the Board of Education Special Meeting on March 22, 2010; Al Littlefield seconded.

**VOTE:** UNANIMOUS

**MOTION CARRIED**

**MOTION:** Al Littlefield moved approval of the minutes of the Board of Education Regular Meeting on March 22, 2010; Laura Greenstein seconded.

**VOTE:** UNANIMOUS

**MOTION CARRIED**

**MOTION:** Laura Greenstein moved approval of the minutes of the Board of Education Special Meeting on April 6, 2010; Al Littlefield seconded.

**VOTE:** Tim Hagen, Mary Broderick, Laura Greenstein, Al Littlefield, Kevin Seery, Rich Steel

**ABSTAIN:** Jaime Ellis, Marlene Nickerson

**MOTION CARRIED**

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

A. Students' Representatives – Jen Cordero

- The 3<sup>rd</sup> annual East Lyme Spectacular Talent Show will be held on May 7
- AP Testing will begin soon
- A new glee club has been formed
- The Cancer Action Club has been formed which is the first such club in New England
- *Rachel's Challenge* assemblies will be held on April 28
- Upcoming athletic events
- The National Honor Society will be holding a fundraiser
- The ELHS Dress and Accessories Swap fundraiser proceeds will be donated to the Senior Class
- The Junior Prom will be held on May 15

- Upcoming ELHS Blood Drive
  - ELHS will host 15 exchange students from France beginning May 2<sup>nd</sup>
  - Dr. John Sullivan was thanked for his service as HS Principal for the past two years
- C. Town Building Committee Representative – Gerard Burkhardt was not present.
- D. Salem Board of Education Representative – Stephen Buck
- Salem is busy working on their 2010-2011 budget
- E. Other Reporters

## VI. CONSENT AGENDA

**MOTION:** Kevin Seery moved to approve the Consent Agenda (A) Donation to NCS from the Cub Scouts in the amount of \$500.00; (B) Donation to the ELHS Viking Band from the Niantic Lions Charities Inc. in the amount of \$750.00; (C) Donation of Equipment (Boat) to the EL BOE from the EL Rowing Association valued at \$12,750.00; Jaime Ellis seconded.

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS**

**MOTION CARRIED**

## VII. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

A. Finance/Facilities/Community

B. Instruction

1. Discussion/action re: Proposed ELHS Graduation Date for the Class of 2010

**MOTION:** Kevin Seery moved to approve the proposed ELHS graduation date for the class of 2010 for Friday, June 18, 2010 (6:00 p.m.); Al Littlefield seconded.

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS**

**MOTION CARRIED**

2. Discussion/action re: Proposed HS Out-of-Country Field Trip to Puerto Rico

ELHS Spanish teacher Kelly Burton presented details of the proposed field trip to Puerto Rico and addressed Board questions. The trip includes five full days of sightseeing.

**MOTION:** Jaime Ellis moved to approve the ELHS out-of-country field trip to Puerto Rico from December 27, 2010 to December 31, 2010; Kevin Seery seconded.

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS**

**MOTION CARRIED**

3. Discussion/action re: Proposed Adoption of Draft 2010-2011 ELPS Calendar

The proposed draft calendar was posted on the district website for public comment and is recommended for adoption by the EL BOE Academics, Athletics and Activities Committee. Child care will be provided at no cost to parents for the five PD ½ days. Elementary principals and the Report Card Foundation Committee agree that the April conferences provide important information to parents regarding student growth and planning for the next school year. Teachers are in contact throughout the year with parents of those students experiencing difficulties.

**MOTION:** Laura Greenstein moved to approve the proposed 2010-2011 ELPS Calendar (Draft 7 dated 4/21/10); Mary Broderick seconded.

**VOTE:** Tim Hagen, Mary Broderick, Jaime Ellis, Laura Greenstein, Marlene Nickerson, Kevin Seery, Rich Steel

**OPPOSED:** Al Littlefield

**MOTION CARRIED**

4. Discussion re: Proposed Superintendent's Recommendation for Phase II Race to the Top (RTTT) Application

Dr. Lombardo presented information and the timeline for Phase II of Race to the Top. Dr. Lombardo recommended that both the Board of Education and the East Lyme Teachers' Association do not proceed further with the RTTT application and suggested they do not sign the Memorandum of Understanding agreement that is due May 19, 2010. The consensus of the Superintendent and the Board was that the RTTT direction is not appropriate for East Lyme Public Schools and the monetary resources that the District would be need to allocate for the required attendance at workshops and meetings, along with the assignment of an RTTT point person, would far surpass the \$48, 358.00 (based on Title I) that the District would receive per year for four years. No action was required.

5. Discussion re: Superintendent's Recommendation for Physical Education Program Grant

Dr. Lombardo informed the Board of his endorsement of the District PE Department's efforts in applying for a federal grant from the Carol M. White Physical Education Program sponsored by the Department of Education and the Office of Safe and Drug Free Schools. Lisa Kriger (ELMS PE Teacher) and Amy Fabry (ELHS PE Teacher) were available for questions and noted that the awards will range from \$100,000.00 to \$500,000.000. As part of the application process, height and weight of students, without names, will need to be submitted. Parents will have the option to have their child not participate in the data collection. No action was required.

C. Personnel

1. Discussion/action re: Proposed Ratification of ELPS Secretarial Contract for July 1, 2009 - June 30, 2010

Dr. Lombardo commended and thanked the administrative assistants for working with the Board of Education on ratification of their contract. He also thanked them for not taking a salary increase for 2010-2011 and recommended the suggested modifications to their contract. Tim Hagen thanked the Administrative Assistants on behalf of the Board of Education.

**MOTION:** Al Littlefield moved to approve the East Lyme Non-Certified Employees Secretarial Bargaining Unit wage and benefit reopener as presented; Marlene Nickerson seconded.

**VOTE:** UNANIMOUS

**MOTION CARRIED**

2. Discussion/action re: Proposed Two-Year Employment Contract for ELPS Assistant Superintendent of Special Education and Pupil Personnel

**MOTION:** Kevin Seery moved to approve the two-year employment contract between the Board of Education and Brian Reas for the position of Assistant Superintendent for Special Education and Pupil Personnel Services effective July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2012, as presented; Al Littlefield seconded.

**VOTE:** UNANIMOUS

**MOTION CARRIED**

3. Discussion/action re: Proposed Leave of Absence Beyond 12-Week Family Medical Leave for 1.0 Science Teacher, Carla Frisbie, MS

**MOTION:** Kevin Seery moved to approve the extended unpaid parenthood leave of absence beyond a 12-week Family Medical Leave for ELMS 1.0 Science Teacher Carla Frisbie beginning on or about November 27, 2010 through the first semester of the 2010-2011 school year, as presented; Rich Steel seconded.

**VOTE:** UNANIMOUS

**MOTION CARRIED**

## D. Policy

1. Discussion/action re: 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of Board of Education Policy 5131.4 – Students/Transportation for Off-Site Instruction

The AAA Committee recommended the revision of BOE Policy 5131.4 regarding transportation for off-site instruction. No additional changes have been made since the first reading on March 22, 2010.

**MOTION:** Mary Broderick moved to approve the revision of EL BOE Policy 5131.4 Students/Transportation for Off-Site Instruction, as presented, with an effective date of July 1, 2010; Jaime Ellis seconded

**VOTE:** UNANIMOUS

**MOTION CARRIED**

2. Discussion/action re: 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of Board of Education Regulation 5131.4 – Students/Transportation for Off-Site Instruction

The AAA Committee recommended the adoption of EL BOE Regulation 5131.4 defining the guidelines for students who wish to drive their own cars to approved off-site educational placements. No additional changes have been made since the first reading on March 22, 2010.

**MOTION:** Al Littlefield moved to approve the adoption of EL BOE Regulation 5131.4 Students/Transportation for Off-Site Instruction, as presented, with an effective date of July 1, 2010; Jaime Ellis seconded.

**VOTE:** UNANIMOUS

**MOTION CARRIED**

VIII. ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

## A. Superintendent of Schools – Dr. James Lombardo

1. Congratulated Kathleen Cietanno (ELMS Media Specialist) for receiving the Connecticut Association of Schools Librarians' Rheta Clark Award given each year to a Media Specialist who has served with distinction for more than ten years and has made outstanding contributions in the media field. Kathleen has demonstrated through action, philosophy and speech a dedication to the goals and principles of the media profession.
2. The Chinese School will hold their language and cultural classes at ELHS next year each Sunday. The fees will cover all ELPS out-of-pocket costs. The Chinese School will provide language instruction opportunities to ELPS students on Sundays and may perhaps provide additional instruction during the school week. This partnership will provide a unique opportunity for ELPS students at no cost to the District or to the parents of students.
3. The Vision Task Force will meet on Tuesday, May 25<sup>th</sup> from 5:30-9:00 p.m. and again on Wednesday, May 26<sup>th</sup>, from 8:00-11:30 a.m. The steering committee will work to draft a mission statement, future vision and a set of core beliefs for ELPS. Next fall the committee will reconvene to sponsor several community forums as it crafts the long term goals and objectives for the District.
4. The budget process is proceeding as expected. A Town Meeting is scheduled for May 10<sup>th</sup> and the referendum will be held on May 20<sup>th</sup>.
5. The annual Board of Education evaluation discussion is scheduled for Monday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30 p.m. at Central Office.

B. Business/Facilities Director – Mr. Don Meltabarger had no report.

IX. COMMITTEE REPORTS

## A. Academics, Athletics and Activities Committee

- Laura Greenstein and Mary Broderick reviewed the minutes of the 4/10/10 meeting.

## B. Finance, Facilities and Operations Committee

- Marlene Nickerson reviewed the minutes of the 4/10/10 meeting and Kevin Seery gave an update on the HS athletic field complex.

**X. COMMUNICATIONS**

- A. Email from Ann Marie Lenkiewicz dated 3/29/10 re: CT State Board of Education Position Statement on *Creating a Healthy Learning Environment that is Physically, Emotionally and Intellectually Safe*
- B. Alternative Education Task Force meeting minutes of 4/8/10

**XI. NOTICES**

- A. Notice of the following 2009/2010 staffing changes:

1. Appointments:
  - Jennifer Nowak, .5 Instructional Aide (DW @ FL), 4/20 – 6/18/10
  - Kamille Prevost, .6 Instructional Aide (DW @ HA), 4/23 – 6/18/10
2. Reassignments: None
3. Increases: None
4. Resignations/Retirements/Separations/Terminations:
  - Adam Coleman, 1.0 Science Teacher, MS, 6/18/10
  - Aaron Davis, 1.0 Custodian, HA, 4/23/10
  - Ann Hoffner, 1.0 Math Teacher, HS, 6/18/10
  - John Sullivan, 1.0 Interim Principal, HS, 4/30/10
  - Vita Wayman, 1.0 Special Education Teacher, HS, 6/18/10
5. Reduction in Force Notifications (effective end of 2009-2010 school year):
  - Meagan Greaney, 1.0 Elementary Teacher, FL
  - Mark Westcott, 1.0 Elementary Teacher, FL
  - Carol Parker Sprinkle, 1.0 Special Education Teacher, FL
  - Danielle Smith, 1.0 Elementary Teacher, FL
  - Stacia Halko, .7 Art Teacher, HA
  - Shannon Underwood, 1.0 Elementary Teacher, NC
  - Christopher Discordia, 1.0 Elementary Teacher, NC
  - Robin Soule, 1.0 Elementary Teacher, NC
  - Leslie Woods, .8/.2 Spanish Teacher, MS/HS
  - Richelle Johnson, 1.0 Social Studies Teacher, MS
  - Jenifer Lathrop, 1.0 Counselor, MS
  - Megan Lautieri, 1.0 School Psychologist, MS
  - Robin Shabunia, .4 Heath/Physical Education Teacher, MS
  - Dan Crowley, .8 English Teacher, HS
  - Jeffrey Drew, .5 Social Studies Teacher, HS
  - Colleen Gresh, .5 English Teacher, HS
  - Patricia Picard, .4 Math Teacher, HS
  - Rebecca Edelman, .6 Science Teacher, HS
  - Jennifer Salerno, .6 Spanish Teacher, HS

- B. Notice of the following out of state field trips/athletic competitions:

1. HS students to Bridgeport, CT on Wednesday, March 31, 2010 to visit Warren Harding High School
2. FL Fun Club to Providence, RI on Wednesday, April 14, 2010 to visit the Roger Williams Zoo
3. HS students to Jaffrey, NH on Friday, May 7, 2010 to go hiking at Mt. Monadnock
4. HS students to NYC, NY on Friday, June 4, 2010 to visit ESpace, Bowery Hotel and the French Culinary Institute
5. MS students to Boston, MA on Thursday, September 30, 2010 to visit the Freedom Trail, Boston Commons, Quincy Market, and the Museum of Science

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

- A. Board Comments

1. Mary Broderick stated how much the Board values the ELPS teaching staff and that the Board is sympathetic to everyone who is affected by the reduction in force recommendations and it will do all it can to minimize the RIF's.
- 2.

3. Tim Hagen thanked Dr. Lombardo for his clear and precise presentation to the Board of Finance on April 26 and commented how great it was to see so many ELPS staff and administration in attendance at that meeting.

B. Future Agenda Items

**XIII. PUBLIC COMMENT**

1. Janice Tangney, 11 Cavasin Drive, announced that the EL Parks and Recreation Department will be sponsoring the Sensation Synergy at Play Program for two weeks in the summer and a four week after school program.

A short break took place at 9:30 p.m.

**XIV. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Board Members Present: Kevin Seery, Laura Greenstein, Tim Hagen, Al Littlefield, Marlene Nickerson, Richard Steel, Mary Broderick, Jaime Ellis

**MOTION:** Kevin Seery moved to enter into executive session at 9:40 p.m. and to include the Superintendent of Schools, Dr. James Lombardo, and the Interim Assistant Superintendent for Special Education and Pupil Personnel Services, Mr. Wayne Sweeney, for the purpose of discussing personnel issues. Jaime Ellis seconded.

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS**

**MOTION CARRIED**

Executive session was exited at 10:05 p.m.

**XV. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** Richard Steel moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:05 p.m.; Jaime Ellis seconded.

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS**

**MOTION CARRIED**

Respectfully Submitted,  
 Tim Hagen  
 Tim Hagen, Acting Secretary  
 East Lyme Board of Education