

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

**Board of Education Special Meeting Minutes  
Monday, March 15, 2010  
6:30 p.m.**

INTV Room (B101), East Lyme High School

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

Board Members Absent: Al Littlefield

Administrators Present: Dr. James Lombardo (Superintendent), Dr. Karen Costello (Administrator for Program Improvement), Don Meltabarger (Business/Facilities Director), Dr. John Sullivan (Interim HS Principal), Judy DeLeeuw (MS Principal)

**I. Call to Order** – 6:40 p.m. by Tim Hagen

**II. Public Comment**

1. Karen Rak, 27 Black Point Road, encouraged the district to fully withdraw the application for participation in Race to the Top (RTT) and expressed concerns how mandates will be funded.
2. Bob Gadbois, 358 Boston Post Road, expressed concerns regarding the budget increase in light of declining enrollment and encouraged the Board to review Capital Improvement Plan “wants vs. needs.”

**III. Discussion/Action**

1. Discussion re: 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills Presentation – Dr. James Lombardo  
The presentation focused on how driving forces of change affect education and the framework of 21<sup>st</sup> century student outcomes to help them master the multi-dimensional abilities required of them in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Dr. Lombardo stressed the importance of critical thinking and problem solving, communication, collaboration, and creativity and innovation. He emphasized the importance of building leadership skills in children and encouraged the audience to visit the following websites: KnowledgeWorks – ([www.kwfdn.org](http://www.kwfdn.org)); The Partnership for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills ([www.p21.org](http://www.p21.org)); and 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools ([www.21stcenturyschools.com](http://www.21stcenturyschools.com)). The Board looks forward to further stimulation and engagement regarding this topic.
2. Discussion/action re: Proposed Endorsement for Modification of HS Culinary Arts Program  
Responses to questions posed by the Board at the last meeting were distributed. Dr. Karen Costello confirmed that the proposed changes are consistent with the philosophy of the 5-12 curriculum. Both the Academic, Athletic and Activities (AAA) and Finance, Facilities and Operations (FFO) Committees had met previously and reviewed the plans for curriculum enhancement and facility upgrade, respectively. The Board thanked the culinary arts teachers for their work.

**MOTION:** Mary Broderick moved to endorse the modifications and enhancement of the ELHS Culinary Arts Program, as presented, with the understanding that continued review and discussion of the program details would take place; Marlene Nickerson seconded.

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

**VOTE CON:** Beth Groeber

**MOTION CARRIED 8:1**

3. Proposed Endorsement of Inclusion of Funds to Town's Capital Plan for HS Culinary Arts Expansion Project

**MOTION:** Laura Greenstein moved to endorse the inclusion of funds to East Lyme's Capital Plan for the HS Culinary Arts Expansion Project as presented; Marlene Nickerson seconded.

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

**VOTE CON:** Beth Groeber

**MOTION CARRIED 8:1**

**IV. Public Comment**

1. Mike Schultz, Lovers Lane, thanked Dr. Lombardo for the presentation and recognized ELPS staff for not taking pay raises this year. He expressed concerns regarding the increase in the budget and the decrease in student population.
2. Karen Rak, 27 Black Point Road, thanked Dr. Lombardo for the presentation and encouraged Board members to review the Common Core Standards.

**V. Adjourn to Reconvene the Special Meeting following the Academics, Athletics and Activities and Finance, Facilities and Operations Committee Meetings**

7:55 p.m.

**VI. Reconvene Special Meeting**

The special meeting was reconvened at 10:05 p.m.

**VII. Executive Session**

**MOTION:** Jaime Ellis moved to enter into executive session to discuss personnel issues and to include the Superintendent of Schools; Kevin Seery seconded.

**VOTE:** Unanimous

**MOTION CARRIED**

**VIII. Adjournment**

**MOTION:** Jaime Ellis moved to adjourn the special meeting at 10:08 p.m.; Marlene Nickerson seconded.

**VOTE:** Unanimous

**MOTION CARRIED**

Respectfully submitted,  
Elizabeth Groeber/lb  
Elizabeth Groeber, Secretary  
East Lyme Board of Education