

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

**Board of Education Special Meeting Minutes
Monday, May 17, 2010
Immediately following East Lyme/Salem Cooperative Meeting
Room 160, Salem School, 200 Hartford Road,
Salem, CT**

- Board Members Present: Tim Hagen (Chair), Beth Groeber (Secretary), Mary Broderick, Melissa Ford, Laura Greenstein, Rich Steel
- Board Members Absent: Jamie Ellis, Al Littlefield, Marlene Nickerson, Kevin Seery
- Administrators Present: Dr. James Lombardo (Superintendent), Mr. Wayne Sweeney (Assistant Superintendent for Special Education and Pupil Personnel)

I. Call to Order – 7:25 p.m.

II. Discussion/Action

1. Discussion re: Proposed 2009/2010 ELPS Calendar Change
Following the recent server crash which affected the East Lyme High School and some areas of Central Office, there remains a need to allow teachers to spend some time recovering lost files. Dr. Lombardo requests that a change to the calendar year be made to end classes 1.5 days earlier than originally scheduled for the high school. With this change, June 16th would be the last day of school, and would be a full day. Teachers would use the 1.5 days to work on retrieving, restoring, and potentially reconstructing their lost files.
2. Discussion/action re: Reconsideration of Race to the Top (RTTT) Application
An emailed letter, addressed to Tim Hagen, was presented to the Board from Karen Rak, 27 Black Point Rd, Niantic, CT. In the letter, she expressed her continued concern over the participation of ELPS in the RTTT and likewise disappointment over the discussion being held outside of the regular board location (where more full discussion and community participation could ensue).

Dr. Lombardo presented his rationale for signing in to participate in RTTT as follows:

1. The CT Department of Education has revised its allocation for East Lyme to \$188,000, not the original \$48,000 figure.
2. New state legislation law will require CT school districts to develop and implement many of the same provisions that are part of the RTTT grant application. Thus, most of the provisions will be enacted, whether or not we are participating in the grant itself.
3. SE CT regional superintendents will work together as a consortium with LEARN to develop a plan that meets our needs. ELPS will have 90 days if the state gets the grant to develop our plan. During that 90-day period, East Lyme can withdraw from the grant and the

consortium with no penalty, except for the fact that we still would be required to implement the provisions of new CT legislation.

4. East Lyme should have a seat at the table to have some influence for how the grant and plan unfold.

Of note, the deadline to sign in for the program is Wed, May 19th.

MOTION: Mary Broderick motioned that while the ELBOE has serious reservations regarding the RTTT legislation, we recognize the importance of having a seat at the table and therefore authorize the Superintendent to sign the memorandum of understanding to allow for ELPS participation in the RTTT program. Laura Greenstein seconded.

VOTE: Unanimous

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION: Laura Greenstein moved to adjourn the special meeting at 7:45 p.m.; Melissa Ford seconded.

VOTE: Unanimous

MOTION CARRIED

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