

**THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO BOARD APPROVAL AT THE NEXT
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
ESSEX ELEMENTARY SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION
January 9, 2020 7:00pm**

The regular meeting of the Essex Board of Education was held on Thursday, January 9, 2020 in the EES Media Center. DG Fitton, Nancy Johnston, Cassandra Sweet, Mark Watson and Loretta McCluskey were in attendance. Also in attendance were Brian White, Superintendent of Schools, Kristina Martineau, Assistant Superintendent, Sarah Smalley, Pupil Services and Jennifer Tousignant, Principal. Absent: Lon Seidman

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Mr. White at 7:00p.m.

STUDENT REPORT

Ms. Tousignant introduced the student leaders Kier Seidman, Aeryn Smith, Sophie Kumpitch, Nia Marchase, Tristan Spallone and Emily Bachand who presented their efforts in Coding and Warm the Children.

CONSENT AGENDA

Upon a motion duly made by Loretta McCluskey seconded by Mark Watson the Essex Board of Education unanimously **VOTED** to approve the minutes from the regular meeting of November 14, 2019 and the Accounts Payable report.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No Comment

REPORTS and OTHER ITEMS:

Superintendent's Report

District Update

Mr. White noted that the budget process for EES will start on January 21st. The first Supervision District budget meeting was held last night. Input from the Board will be important.

Information and Communication

Transportation concerns about arrival times for buses at the school was discussed. A meeting was held with First Student and our interim Business Manager to improve the service. Bus ordering will be changed and individual routes will also be changed to help with this problem.

Assistant Superintendent's Report

Ms. Martineau discussed priority standards K-12. Work has been done on what a standards base report card is. Currently we are working on K-1 and Grade 2-3 review of English and Math grade level standards language. Language is being reviewed so that it is a meaningful tool for teachers, parents and students. Social and work habits will be moved into a separate section. By March a draft of the whole report card will be available.

Director of Pupil Services Report

Ms. Smalley discussed her activities this winter. Planning of the extended school year for regular education and special education students is being worked on. Transition for students moving between buildings is also being worked on. Buddy sports offer an opportunity for younger students to volunteer. This enhances our extracurricular sports activities for all students. Walter Bloom the director of the Connecticut Council of Developmental Disabilities will be speaking to parents about planning for life after high school.

Financial Status Report

Financial Status and Cafeteria Account Update

Mr. White stated that Mr. Richard Huot will be the Interim Business Manager. Mr. White credited his business office staff for their support during this transition. Mr. White discussed the report through November 29, 2019 and the new format being used. This reporting will be made available monthly when the agenda is available.

Principal's Update

Ms. Tousignant gave a brief update. On January 15th there will be a parent session on social emotional wellness at EES. The winter concert was great. The second annual gingerbread contest was held the same evening. The World Cultures program has started for Grade 2. Engineering with Legos and Makerspace programs have begun. The Chess Clinic will begin soon. PTO Square Art fundraiser is underway. Family night will be held on February 28th. The Invention Convention will be held in February.

Upon a motion made by Loretta McCluskey and seconded by Mark Watson the Essex Elementary Board of Education unanimously **VOTED** to add an item to the agenda to discuss accepting a donation of instruments and instrument accessories to the agenda.

Upon a motion made by Loretta McCluskey and seconded by Mark Watson the Essex Elementary Board of Education unanimously **VOTED** to accept a donation of instruments and instrumental accessories as discussed by the Ms. Tousignant.

Committee Reports

Finance - Next meeting is January 27, 2020

Curriculum – Next meeting is January 16, 2020

Policy – Next meeting is January 27, 2020

Supervision District:

No additional update.

Other Committee Reports

LEARN Committee Report

No report

Joint BOE Ad Hoc School Security Advisory Committee

This has been broken into two committees to discuss school climate and social development and well-being.

Discussion regarding and Pending Policies

Policy #5114 Suspension/Due Process

This policy has been updated as discussed with the addition of pepper spray.

PUBLIC COMMENT

A resident discussed the bus issues. He thanked the staff for addressing this.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

7.1 Essex BOE Budget Workshop I is Tues Jan 21, 2020 @ 6:00pm @EES Media Center

7.2 Essex Budget Workshop II is Wed Feb 12, 2020 @ 6:00pm @EES Media Center

7.3 Next Joint BOE Meeting is February 20, 2020 @ 7:00pm @ JWMS Library

7.4 Essex Budget Workshop III is Tues Feb 25, 2020 @ 6:00pm @EES Media Center

7.5 Next Essex BOE Regular Meeting is March 12, 2020 @ 7:00pm @ EES Media Center

7.6 BOE Self-evaluation (TBD)

ADJOURNMENT

On motion duly made and seconded the Board unanimously **VOTED** to adjourn at 7:45p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kelley Frazier, Secretary