

**ESSEX ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING
REMOTE MEETING
THURSDAY, JANUARY 13, 2022 7:00pm**

F.O.I. Compliance – Subject to BOE approval at a future meeting

(To view a recording of this meeting, please visit our website www.reg4.k12.ct.us and select “Remote Meeting Recordings” under the BOARD OF EDUCATION Heading)

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Seidman called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

VERBAL ROLL CALL FOR BOE MEMBERS

Attendance: Essex BOE

Lon Seidman

Justin Pillion

Nancy Johnston

Mark Watson

Administration:

Brian White

Bob Grissom

Jennifer Tousignant

Absent: Cassandra Sweet

CONSENT AGENDA

Upon a motion duly made by Mark Watson seconded by Nancy Johnston the Essex Board of Education unanimously **VOTED** to approve the minutes from the regular meeting on November 11, 2021 and the Accounts Payable report as written.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No Comment

REPORTS and OTHER ITEMS:

Superintendent’s Report

District Update

Mr. White gave a brief update. Mr. White discussed the guidelines received from the State of Connecticut regarding COVID. Masks and testing supplies have been received and more are expected tomorrow. The school will not be administering tests. Supplies on hand are expected to be adequate at this time.

Information and Communication

No additional report.

Assistant Superintendent’s Report S. Brzozowy

General Update

Ms. Brzozowy gave a brief status. She discussed how difficult COVID has been but that staff, students and administration come to school prepared to learn.

Student Achievement

Math scores were discussed. Winter data will be compiled and presented to the Board. Mr. Watson is interested in the strategies that could affect the budget. Grant dollars from ESSR funding could be used for this purpose. This will continue to be discussed.

Finance Office Report

Financial Status Updates

Current Year to Date Financial Status Update

Mr. Grissom gave an update on the financial status. All financial obligations are expected to be met. Expenses are trending well.

Cafeteria Fund Update

Mr. Grissom gave a brief update on the cafeteria reporting. At this time there is no subsidy from the Board.

Medical Reserve Tracking

Net favorable results have been realized for the beginning of the year. Contributions have been stable. Research will be done to see if these funds could be placed in investment funds.

Discussion and possible VOTE to direct the Superintendent to proceed with granting the contract for the snowplowing and sanding to the recommended firm in accordance with the vendor's submitted RFP bid.

Mr. Grissom discussed the terms of the contract. Board members asked questions regarding budgeting this service. It was asked if salting could be done separately.

Upon a motion made by Lon Seidman and seconded by Nancy Johnston the Essex Elementary Board of Education unanimously **VOTED** to direct the Superintendent to proceed with granting the all inclusive contract for the snowplowing and sanding to Giroux Landscaping with the stipulation that it is retroactive from the conclusion of the prior contract.

Principal's Update

Ms. Tousignant gave a brief report of the events occurring at EES. Ms. Tousignant discussed new staff. Foundation programs are underway. A STEM lab is being researched and may receive funding from the Foundation. Virtual programming is occurring for students. After school activities are starting again with smaller groups.

Committee Reports

Committees meetings are beginning next week.

Supervision District:

Budget workshops are being held. A budget consideration is for a special education program to deal with behavioral matters. The Public Hearing is on January 31st. Collaborative efforts with other districts is being discussed.

Other Committee Reports

LEARN Committee Report

No report at this time.

Discussion regarding and Pending Policies

None Pending.

Presentation on Outdoor Classroom

Melissa Ozols presented information on the proposed outdoor classroom to be enjoyed by the students and staff. Ms. Tousignant thanked Ms. Ozols for her hard work on this area. The media campaign will begin soon.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

–Interview - Candidate to fill BOE vacancy for a term to last until November 2023.

–Personnel- Discuss Superintendent’s recommendation regarding employees’ request in accordance with Article 26(F) of the teacher’s contract and Article 34

An interview will not take place tonight.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded the Essex Elementary Board of Education unanimously **VOTED** to go into Executive Session at 8:35pm.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 8:51pm.

Possible VOTE to appoint a candidate to fill a board vacancy for a term to last until November 2023 at which time the position goes on the ballot for a 6 year term.

No action taken.

Possible VOTE to approve an employees request in accordance with Article 26(F) of the teachers contract.

Upon a motion made by Mark Watson and seconded by Justin Pillion the Essex Board of Education unanimously **VOTED** to accept the Superintendent’s Recommendation to accept an employee request in accordance with Article 26F of the Teacher’s Contract.

Possible VOTE to approve an employees request in accordance with Article 34 of the teachers contract.

Upon a motion made by Nancy Johnston and seconded by Justin Pillion the Essex Board of Education unanimously **VOTED** to accept the Superintendent’s Recommendation to accept an employee request in accordance with Article 34 of the Teacher’s Contract.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No Comment

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- 11.1 EES BOE Budget Workshop I Monday, January 24, 2022 @ 6:00pm.
- 11.2 EES BOE Budget Workshop II Thursday, February 10, 2022 @ 6:00pm.
- 11.3 Joint BOE Meeting Thursday, February 24, 2022 @ 7:00pm
- 11.4 EES BOE Budget Workshop III Monday, March 7, 2022 @ 6:00pm.
- 11.5 Essex BOE Meeting next Regular is Thursday, March 10, 2022 @ 7:00pm

ADJOURNMENT

On motion duly made and seconded the Board unanimously **VOTED** to adjourn at 8:55pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kelley Frazier, Secretary