

**THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO BOARD APPROVAL AT THE NEXT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING  
CHESTER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
MARCH 28, 2019 7:00pm**

The meeting of the Chester Board of Education was held on Thursday, March 28, 2019. In attendance were David Fitzgibbons, Tom Englert, Becky Iselin, John Stack, Charlene Fearon, Theresa Myers, Maria Scherber, Rebecca Greenberg-Ellis and Rob Bibbiani. Also in attendance were Dr. Ruth Levy, Superintendent, Kristina Martineau, Assistant Superintendent, Kim Allen, Business Manager, Tyson Stoddard, Principal and Kelley Frazier, Clerk. Absent:

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman David Fitzgibbons called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Upon a motion made by Rob Bibbiani and seconded by Rebecca Greenberg-Ellis the Chester Board of Education **VOTED** unanimously to approve the minutes from the January 24, 2019 regular meeting and the Accounts Payable report.

**STUDENT REPORT**

STEAM Students presented their projects. Invention: Carter Dean, Experiment: Ethan Dean and Linnea Winkley, Catapult: Nathan Mezick and Rube Goldberg: Gavin Nadolny-Pallatto. The Board thanked the students for coming.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

No Comment

**OTHER ITEMS:**

**Update on Search for a Superintendent**

Supervision District recently met and agreed to hire a consultant firm to work with the search committee. All board members are able to participate in this process in some way. Email Mr. Fitzgibbons if interested. Mr. Fitzgibbons detailed the process.

**Principal's Update**

**General Update**

Mr. Stoddard gave a brief update of the events happening at Chester Elementary. The math coach and the reading and language consultant gave a presentation on data collections and analysis at CES.

**Possible VOTE to Adopt Proposed 2019-20 Chester Elementary Budget for Presentation to the Town.**

On a motion made by Maria Scherber and seconded by Rob Bibbiani the Chester School Board of Education unanimously **VOTED** to approve the 2019-2020 budget of \$4,868,977(four million, eight hundred sixty eight thousand, nine hundred seventy-seven dollars) and to recommend this be brought to the Town of Chester.

## **REPORTS:**

### **Financial Status Report – Ms. Allen**

Year to Date Budget Status and Cafeteria Status Report

Ms. Allen gave a brief update on the financial status for Chester Elementary School. Trends indicate a surplus at the end of the year but this may change due to unanticipated special education costs. Ms. Allen will remain vigilant of any unforeseen circumstances and we will keep the Board informed of any developments as they arise.

### **Cafeteria Report – Ms. Allen**

Ms. Allen gave an update on the status of the cafeteria budget. Reporting has changed to include more detailed information and revenue history.

### **Possible VOTE to Approve Request for Transfer of Funds**

Upon a motion made by Rebecca Greenberg-Ellis and seconded by Maria Scherber the Chester Elementary Board of Education unanimously **VOTED** to approve the transfer of funds as recommended by the Business Manager.

### **Committee Reports**

**Finance** – There were policy reviews. Assets were discussed. Guidelines for tracking is being reviewed.

**Curriculum** – Next meeting is in May

**Policy** – Meeting was cancelled

### **OTHER COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **Supervision District Committee Update**

The search for a new Superintendent is underway.

### **LEARN**

Discussion centered on changing the age to enter Kindergarten. There is a need for a plan for the shifting enrollment. The Marine Science Magnet has been named a school of distinction.

### **Joint Ad Hoc School Security Advisory Committee**

A five year plan will be developed. The Committee will continue to meet monthly to transitioning to reviewing school climate and what needs to be done next year.

### **Assistant Superintendent's Report**

#### **General Update**

Ms. Martineau noted that K-6 teachers met and discussed the Math assessments which occur in the spring. Discussions regarding using assessments as a tool. Specials are being reviewed. Work is being done on the development of a new report card.

### **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

#### **District Update**

#### **Critical and Creative Problem Solving**

Budgets are being completed. The Regionalization Cooperative Agreement is being worked on and will move forward for action in the legislature. The Governor may come and look at our district and how our three towns have come together. The E Courses for ALICE have been completed by  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the staff. The rollout is being discussed during Professional Development and faculty meetings. A letter will be sent out to families to make them aware of this training.

### **Information and Communication**

#### **Discussion of Joint BOE Policy Committee's Recommendation of the Following Policies:**

Policies were discussed. Questions should be sent to Dr. Levy.

#3260 Business-Sales and Disposal of Books, Equipment and Supplies

#5118 Students – Non Resident Attendance AND Related Policy #3240 Tuition Fee

#3324 Business-Ordering Goods and Services (Purchase Orders)

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Ms. Lenz wanted to thank Dr. Levy for her years of service in our district.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION –PERSONNEL-Discussion Superintendent's Recommendations Regarding Staff Non-Renewals**

#### **Pending Litigation**

Upon a motion duly made and seconded the Chester Elementary Board of Education unanimously **VOTED** to go into Executive Session at 8:30pm. Ms. Martineau and Mr. Stoddard were invited to stay.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 8:42pm.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded the Chester Elementary Board of Education unanimously **VOTED** to approve the Staff Non-Renewal

### **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- Next Joint BOE meeting April 4, 2019
- Next Chester Meeting is May 16, 2019 @ 7:00pm

### **ADJOURNMENT**

On motion duly made and seconded the Board unanimously **VOTED** to adjourn at 8:43p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kelley Frazier, Board Clerk

### **REPORTS**

#### **Financial Status Report – Ms. Allen**

Ms. Allen gave a brief update on the financial status for Chester Elementary School. Trends indicate a surplus at the end of the year. Ms. Allen will remain vigilant of any unforeseen circumstances and will keep the Board informed of any developments as they arise.

#### **Cafeteria Report – Ms. Allen**

Ms. Allen gave an update on the status of the cafeteria budget. Revenue has been received through November, but the federal government closure could affect this.

### **Committee Reports**

**Finance** - Next meeting is January 29, 2019.

**Curriculum** – Next meeting is January 29, 2019.

**Policy** – Next meeting is January 28, 2019.

### **Supervision District Committee Update**

There have been several budget workshops. This budget will go to Public Hearing on February 4, 2019. Mr. Stack discussed the consolidation of services. A list of consolidated items are being requested by Board members. Efficiencies will be realized if Network Techs are moved into Supervision District. It would also allow having multiple techs tackle big issues. Art, Music and FLES are in Supervision District currently. It is suggested that PE also be moved into Supervision District. Mr. Stack asked members to explain how services are being regionalized to the public. The Supervision District Board agrees that Chester Elementary is not in jeopardy. The FLES curriculum will be reviewed. The Library media specialist is increasing their time to include upper elementary grades. Mr. Stack asked that the Library Media Specialist be called Information Science or Information Technology.

### **LEARN**

No update.

### **Joint Ad Hoc School Security Advisory Committee**

All five schools have been prioritized as to their security needs. Additional training will be done. Central Office updates will be under Region 4 budgets.

### **Assistant Superintendent's Report**

#### **General Update**

Ms. Martineau gave a brief update. The language of assessment is being reviewed. K-12 standards for all content areas is also being reviewed and adjusted as to student needs. Progress Reports and Report Cards will better communicate student progress.

### **Superintendent's Report**

#### **District Update**

#### **Critical and Creative Problem Solving**

On February 25<sup>th</sup> the Wellness Committee and Tri Town will host the Choose Love program featuring Jessie Lewis. This is from 6:30 until 8:00pm at John Winthrop. Dr. Levy is working with Mr. Seidman and Senator Needleman on legislative issues. Bill 57 and Bill 454 are being researched regarding consolidation of schools. Board members are invited to the CABE Legislative breakfast on February 1<sup>st</sup> at 7:30am. The Chester Board would like legislatures to voice their opinion on Bill 54 and Bill 454.

### **Information and Communication**

#### **Discussion Regarding any Pending Policies**

**First Reading of Joint BOE Policy Committee’s Recommended Revisions to the Following Policies**

Policies were discussed. The second read will be at the Joint Board of Education meeting.

#5141.4 Students – Reporting Suspected Abuse

#5131.81 Students – Use of Private Technology

#3323 Business – Soliciting Prices

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

No Comment.

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- Next Joint BOE meeting February 21, 2019
- Next Chester BOE Meeting is March 21, 2019 @ 7:00pm
- Chester BOE Workshops Jan 31st, Feb 12th, Mar 5<sup>th</sup> @ 6:00pm at Central Office
- BOE and Community Input for 2019-20 (On-Going)
- BOE Self Evaluation (TBD)

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

No Comment

**ADJOURNMENT**

On motion duly made and seconded the Board unanimously **VOTED** to adjourn at 7:11p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kelley Frazier, Secretary