

**THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO BOARD APPROVAL AT THE NEXT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING  
ESSEX ELEMENTARY SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION  
MARCH 13, 2014**

The regular meeting of the Essex Board of Education was held on Thursday, March 13, 2014. In attendance were Lon Seidman, DG Fitton, Adam Conrad, Mark Watson and Carolyn Rotella. Also in attendance were Dr. Ruth Levy, Superintendent, Dr. Joanne Beekley, Assistant Superintendent, Mr. Scott Jeffrey, Principal and Kelley Frazier, Clerk. Absent: Loretta McCluskey,

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Lon Seidman at 7:00p.m.

Mr. Seidman presented a book to Dr. Burzin for his years of service on the Board of Education.

Mr. Seidman asked to move the student presentation up in the agenda to accommodate the attendees.

**STUDENT REPORT**

Mr. Jeffrey introduced the Kindergarten teachers and students who presented their work one in writer's workshop. Mr. Seidman thanked the children for coming.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Mark Watson made a motion to approve the minutes from the regular meeting of January 9, 2014 and the Accounts Payable report. Carolyn Rotella seconded the motion. The motion passed by a unanimous vote. Ayes: Mark Watson, Carolyn Rotella, Adam Conrad and Mark Watson. Abstention: DG Fitton

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**OTHER ITEMS:**

**Principal's Update - S. Jeffrey**

Mr. Jeffrey's gave a brief update of activities at the Elementary School. He did not that report cards come out next week. Parent conferences will take place on Thursday and Friday of next week. There will be many upcoming events like Family Math night, Kindergarten Orientation, the Art Show, Invention Convention and a fundraiser for Sister Cities Essex/Haiti.

## **REPORTS:**

Financial Status Report – Mr. Garth Sawyer

Essex Elementary is currently projecting a year end surplus, but we are always cognizant of the possibility of unanticipated special education needs that may arise during the year. The Administration will keep the Board informed if the situation changes as we proceed.

### **Cafeteria**

We are looking at a small deficit at the end of the year.

Deep River and Chester qualified for a state grant for breakfast for their free and reduced lunch needs. Students will be charged \$1.25. Essex will also offer this program beginning in a week. It is so important for kids to have a good breakfast to make learning easier.

### **Discussion and Possible Vote on Recommended Essex Budget Transfers for 2013-14.**

Dr. Levy reviewed the requested budget transfers.

Upon a motion made by DG Fitton and seconded by Adam Conrad the Board unanimously **VOTED** to approve the 2013-2014 budget transfers as recommended by Superintendent Levy.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Finance**

No Update.

### **Policy and Curriculum**

No Update.

### **Supervision District**

The Cooperative Agreement was discussed at the last meeting.

### **LEARN**

Ms. Rotella attended the meeting and gave a brief update.

## **ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT – J. Beekley**

### **General Update**

Dr. Beekley discussed the SBAC testing. Valley Regional begins testing next week. Parents in all elementary schools will receive a letter soon. There was a brief discussion on the SBAC process.

## **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT - R. Levy**

### **District Update**

Dr. Levy gave a brief update of the events in our district. The weekend the high school will present the Secret Garden and Grease will be presented in April at John Winthrop. We have our mosaic show coming to Central Office in April.

## **INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION**

### **Discussion and Possible Vote to Adopt 2014-15 Essex Elementary Budget to be Presented to the Town**

On a motion duly made and seconded, the Board unanimously **VOTED** to recommend bringing the Essex Elementary School Budget for school year 2014-15 to the Essex Board of Finance in the amount of \$7,742,313(seven million, seven hundred and forty two thousand, three hundred and thirteen dollars) to be presented to the Town. The motion passed.

### **Building Committee Update**

No Update

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION-Personnel Matter**

On motion duly made and seconded, the Board unanimously **VOTED** to move into Executive Session at 8:03pm to discuss a personnel matter. The motion passed unanimously. Dr. Levy, Dr. Beekley and Mr. Jeffrey were asked to attend the Executive Session.

The Board Moved out of Executive Session at 8:08pm.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

On a motion duly made and seconded the Board unanimously **VOTED** to adjourn at 8:15pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kelley Frazier, Board Clerk

## **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

10.1Essex BOE next Regular Meeting May 8, 2014 @7:00pm

10.2 Present EES 2013-14 Budget at town meeting (April 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm @ Essex Town Hall)

10.3BOE Self-Evaluation(TBD)