

**THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO BOARD APPROVAL AT THE NEXT
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
ESSEX ELEMENTARY SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION
MAY 9, 2013**

The regular meeting of the Essex Board of Education was held on Thursday, May 9, 2013. In attendance were Lon Seidman, Jeff Burzin(Arrival 7:06pm), Judie McCann(Arrival 7:34), DG Fitton, Loretta McCluskey and Adam Conrad. Also in attendance were Dr. Ruth Levy, Superintendent, Scott Jeffrey, Principal, Deborah O'Donnell, Assistant Principal, Garth Sawyer, Business Manager and Kelley Frazier, Clerk. Absent:

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Lon Seidman at 7:00p.m. The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

To accommodate the attendees, the Student Presentation was moved up in the agenda.

STUDENT UPDATE

Ms. O'Donnell introduced the students who represented our school at the state Invention Convention at UCONN. Alexis LaCross, Libby Cap, John Tibbetts and Caitlin Kressley presented their inventions.

CONSENT AGENDA

Loretta McCluskey made a motion to approve the minutes from the regular meeting of March 14, 2013 and the Accounts Payable report. Adam Conrad seconded the motion. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

OTHER ITEMS:

None

REPORTS:

Financial Status Report – Mr. Garth Sawyer

Mr. Sawyer gave a brief financial status for Essex Elementary School. Currently the Essex Elementary School is projecting to have a deficit based on unanticipated special education needs. The Administration will keep the Board informed if the situation changes as we proceed through the year. Mr. Seidman will discuss this deficit with the Town of Essex Board of Finance.

Cafeteria Report – Mr. Sawyer

Mr. Sawyer gave an update on the status of the Cafeteria Budget Updates. Mr. Fitton asked Mr. Sawyer to compare our Board subsidy with other comparable schools.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance – L. Seidman

The Finance Committee has not met.

Policy

No Update

Curriculum

No Update

Joint PK-12 Policy Committee – L. Seidman

No Updates

Supervision District

We got our grant for our cooperative agreement. Mr. Seidman is working with the Department of Education.

OTHER ITEMS:

Principal's Update - S. Jeffrey

Mr. Jeffrey noted that it is National Teacher Appreciation week. We celebrated with a luncheon coordinated by the PTO. The practice test for the Common Core State Standards is going well. Field Trips are taking place. The Sixth Grade will be going to John Winthrop for an information night and the students will attend Unity Day with all three schools. The salmon was released in fourth grade. The Land Trust gave an Osprey presentation to the sixth grade. We celebrated Arbor Day with the Third Grade planting a tree on the school grounds. The Memorial Day celebration will be May 24th at 9:00am. The Spring Concert was very good. Mr. Fitton noted that the staff was very professional during the fire drill.

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT – J. Beekley

General Update

Dr. Beekley was not present. The Common Core State Standard Pilot is being completed through out the district.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT - R. Levy

District Update

Dr. Levy noted that VRHS was again selected as one of the top schools across the nation. We are number 24 in Connecticut.

The Security Advisory Committee will be doing a walk through around the perimeter of our building as well as through the building. Training for the secretaries and the front office staff occurred two weeks ago. Ambulance and Fire from all three towns were met with and will join us on our walk through. Dr. Levy will meet with clergy from all three towns to have them ready to help in an emergency.

Region 4 budget passed. Essex is on Monday and Deep River is the 20th and Chester is the 21st.

Celebrate Learning this year will be more like a camp. There will be activities that are academically focused and other fun activities. We now accept VISA and MasterCard on our website. This will be expanded to include cafeteria accounts.

YMCA After School Care Contract

The YMCA After School program enrollment over the past three years has been approximately 22 students. They have worked well with the student. The staff is dependable. Overall Mr. Jeffrey's feels it is a steady program.

Upon a motion made by DG Fitton and seconded by Adam Conrad the Essex Board of Education **VOTED** to renew the YMCA After School Care Contract for one year. The terms are as previously stated. Ayes: DG Fitton, Adam Conrad, Judie McCann, Loretta McCluskey, Jeff Burzin. Abstentions: Lon Seidman

Discussion and possible Vote to Renew the Agreement Concerning the Establishment and Operation of an Interim Collaborative Preschool Program dated February 13, 2008.

On a motion duly made and seconded the Board unanimously **VOTED** to renew the Agreement Concerning the Establishment and Operation of an Interim Collaborative Preschool Program dated February 13, 2008 for renewal for a one year increment upon agreement (vote) of all signing parties (Boards of Education for Chester, Deep River, Essex and the Regional Supervision District Committee) no later than June 30, 2013.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

ADJOURNMENT

On motion duly made and seconded, the Board unanimously **VOTED** to move into Executive Session at 8:08pm to discuss a Personnel Matter - the Board of Education evaluation of the Superintendent and the Board of Education Self Evaluation. The motion passed. Dr. Levy remained at the meeting.

The Board Moved out of Executive Session at 8:44pm.

On a motion duly made and seconded the Board unanimously **VOTED** to adjourn at 8:45pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kelley Frazier, Board Clerk

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

9.1 Review Strategic School Profile (when available from State)-J. Beekley

9.2 Essex Annual Town Budget Meeting(May 13, 2013 at 7:30pm at Town Hall)