

**EAST WINDSOR BOARD OF EDUCATION
EAST WINDSOR, CONNECTICUT
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, February 26, 2025
6:00 p.m. - Room A5, Broad Brook Elementary School
14 Rye Street, Broad Brook, CT**

I. CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER

Chair K. Carey-Trull called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair K. Carey-Trull led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. ATTENDANCE

In attendance: Chair K. Carey-Trull, Vice Chair H. Spencer, Secretary F. Neill, C. Sevarino, K. Betancourt, E. LeBorious, D. Menard, G. Resto, N. Farmer, Dr. P. Tudryn

Also in attendance: D. Rouillard, R. Galloway, J. Martin, First Selectman J. Bowsza, S. D'Agostino and J. Giuliano from CSG

IV. BUDGET WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

Dr. P. Tudryn presented the budget workshop schedule. He advised the Board that R. Galloway provided an updated financial report.

V. NEW BUSINESS: DISCUSSION

Dr. P. Tudryn advised the Board that a decision would need to be made regarding the location of fifth grade, either at Broad Brook Elementary School or the combined middle/high school. C. Sevarino inquired about the schematics of the various space matrices with regard to fifth grade at the middle/high school and how that impacts the number of cafeterias. J. Giuliano advised that the space standards are determined by the state and clarified the space matrixes with regard to the cafeterias and kitchens. H. Spencer inquired about the safeguards for separating the middle and high school students. S. D'Agostino reiterated that determining which school fifth grade students will attend will allow GWWO to put together conceptual designs which will assist in determining safeguards for separating students. Dr. P. Tudryn advised that there would be separate entrances for the middle and high school portions of the building however, there would be some shared spaces such as the auditorium. Additionally, there would be distinct beginning of school and dismissal times, separate buses, etc.

On a motion by Secretary F. Neill, second by Vice Chair H. Spencer, to include fifth grade in the combined middle/high school. Discussion ensued regarding the topic. N. Farmer expressed concern with including the fifth grade at the combined middle/high school.

On a motion by D. Menard, second by Vice Chair H. Spencer, to table the vote to include fifth grade in the combined middle/high school. PASSED with a unanimous vote.

J. Giuliano spoke to the space standards at the schools including if FRC is included in those space considerations. He advised that the architects would need to analyze the ed specs in order to develop conceptual designs with additional details. Discussion ensued regarding the various cost and reimbursement aspects of the projects. S. D'Agostino advised the Board that a link to a questionnaire was sent to the Board.

H. Spencer inquired about whether or not sixth grade should be included in the combined middle/high school. F. Neill advocated for the fifth grade to be included in the combined middle/high school. Discussion ensued at length regarding public opinion.

On a motion by Vice Chair H. Spencer, second by Secretary F. Neill to take the motion to include fifth grade in the combined middle/high school off the table. PASSED with a unanimous vote.

On a motion by Secretary F. Neill, second by Vice Chair H. Spencer, to amend the motion to say, "to include the fifth grade with the middle school on the new proposed middle school high school campus provided that we keep safeguards to ensure no intermingling between the middle school and the high school. Discussion ensued regarding the language. F. Neill withdrew both the amendment and the original motion.

On a motion by Secretary F. Neill, second by Vice Chair H. Spencer, to keep the fifth grade with the middle school at the new middle school high school campus. Discussion ensued. G. Resto stated for the record, "the intent would be to implement physical barriers/safeguards to limit interaction between middle school and high school students". F. Neill stated for the record, "the reason being is that I want to provide, with this configuration, the best possible education for our kids". E. LeBorious stated for the record, "I am going to kind of defer to, again, Justin, to what Justin can do in a very short period of time as far as a quick survey because I think the process, our process of doing that, is incredibly important in terms of just saying that we actually reached out in that way when we start to explain what our proposal to move forward is". Motion PASSED with 8 members in favor, 1 opposed (N. Farmer).

Discussion ensued regarding public engagement and messaging to the public. Vice Chair H. Spencer suggested putting out Facebook updates following every ad hoc committee meeting.

VI. NEW BUSINESS: VOTE

- 1) Discussion ensued regarding the 2025-2026 school calendar. On a motion by E. LeBorious, second by K. Betancourt, to approve the 2025-2026 school calendar as proposed by the superintendent. PASSED with a unanimous vote.
- 2) On a motion by K. Betancourt, second by C. Sevarino, to approve the high school field trip request. Vice Chair H. Spencer inquired about the bus transportation. Dr. P. Tudryn clarified. N. Farmer inquired about the 30 day notice listed on the form. Dr. P. Tudryn advised the information was not provided by the event until recently. A request was made to amend the field trip form. Dr. P. Tudryn advised the timing on the form is procedural to allow time for the request to be brought before the Board. PASSED with a unanimous vote.

VII. MISCELLANEOUS

Chair K. Carey-Trull advised the Board that an all town pops concert was going to be held at 6 PM on March 13th. The Board was advised that the high school's musical, Clue, will take place in April. K. Betancourt informed the Board that the tri-town hockey team raised over \$2500 for cancer research, which is more than double what was raised last year. Vice Chair H. Spencer advised that the curriculum council spoke to the band and music teachers. She was excited by the proposed courses and collaboration. N. Farmer advised that she and K. Betancourt had met with community members regarding a cheerleading program on Monday with parents and children. Additionally, she spoke to the 2nd grade classrooms. She advised that the students reported that the school and teachers are awesome and they love coming to school. Secretary F. Neill shared that career day will be Friday, February 28th, at the middle school. She is looking forward to

presenting. D. Menard inquired about whether or not a community forum would be held prior to the ad hoc meeting. Dr. P. Tudryn shared that State Representative J. Foster held an event regarding special education at the high school.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by D. Menard, second by Vice Chair H. Spencer, the Board adjourned the meeting at 7:57 PM. PASSED with a unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted,
Jessica Ripley
Board Recording Secretary

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