

*Note: Per C.G.S. 10 – 218, Board of Education meeting minutes are provided in a draft format within 48 hours of the date the meeting was held. With the exception of motions and votes recorded, these minutes are unofficial until they have been read and approved by a majority vote of the Board. Should edits be necessary, they will be made at the next regularly scheduled meeting, noted in the meeting minutes, and voted upon.*

## **SCOTLAND BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**Scotland, Connecticut**

### **Regular Meeting Minutes**

**August 5, 2025**

**Chair Cassidy Martin called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. Board members present: Brittany Santiago, Gracie Martin, Lisa LaBelle. Administrators present: Superintendent Valerie Bruneau, Principal Ann Knowles, Finance Coordinator Michele Demicco (online). Absent: Clark Stearns, Beth Troeger, Kaitlyn Shafer.**

Board recited Pledge of Allegiance; Chair read Intro Statement.

**2. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:** None

**3. COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD:** Letter of resignation received from Kaitlyn Shafer effective today.

**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

- **Regular Meeting of July 1, 2025**  
*#1-25/26 Motion to approve July 1, 2025 regular meeting minutes, made by Brittany Santiago, seconded by Gracie Martin and carried unanimously.*

**5. OPPORTUNITY TO ADD OR DELETE AGENDA ITEMS:** None

**6. CELEBRATIONS:** None

**7. REPORTS:**

**A. Chairperson's Oral Report:** No Report

**B. Superintendent's Report – grant, facilities & legislative updates, enrollment projections:**

Facilities – floors finished (coming to do touchups), waxing and cleaning classrooms.

ESY - went very well thanks to Dawn Davis with positive comments (3 towns came to see the program to confirm for next year).

PreK – Deep into LGP that follows state plan for birth to 5 (involves communities in the whole Northeast and more parent engagement). Close to a dozen families coming from 5 different towns (universal PreK coming in 2027 to choose where to go). Anticipating bringing in another staff member (will continue with co-teaching).

- Attended Zoning meeting letting them know young families interested in moving to Scotland if more houses available (2-acre subdivisions haven't sold – expensive to build, they plan to look at 55 plus).
- Waiting on Afterschool Grant (pushed out a month).
- October 4<sup>th</sup> rollout for Local Governance Partnership with SERAC (prevention program) and 22 presenters coming.
- Finished going through Business Office files dating back to 2010 and submitted paperwork to destroy records – waiting to be picked up (files remaining - 2021 to present).

Upcoming – Plan to invite other local boards for collaborative meetings. CAGE Conference (let Valerie know which days attending). Reached out to Cathy Osten for grant to get ESY funded. Consider CAGE coming to December for new members.

**C. Principal's Report – curriculum & instruction updates:**

- PreK boosted enrollment numbers (continuing to market PreK program). PreK Boot Camp very successful with out-of-towners attending (important for Early Start).

- Teachers coming in to setup their classrooms (Teamwork theme).
- Curriculum same for Reading and 4-6 grade Math (new program for K-3) – all curriculum to be posted on website.
- SBAC scores coming in September (family reports go out after).
- PD - Early Start for younger grades (embracing outsiders).
- Moving further away from Covid – relying on normalcy.
- Kicking off the school year with Open House August 26<sup>th</sup> from 4-5:30pm (light dinner served). Next day will be 1<sup>st</sup> full day - same calendar as the region with all buses running for Scotland.
- October 4<sup>th</sup> Health Fair kicks off Early Start Collaboration (partnering with Firehouse Open House).

**D. Special Education Report – ESY update:** Covered Already

**E. Financial Report EOY reporting:** Unreserved balance - \$90,000 (some items outstanding).

**F. Shared Services updates:** Covered already

**G. Liaison Reports:**

- Gracie Martin asked how EASTCONN is doing with Tech (no issues – will work on task list, purchased 2 refurbished Chromebooks at \$40 each)
- Lisa LaBelle suggested sending out Newsletter as 1<sup>st</sup> connection with the community.
- Board will do Meet & Greet at Open House on August 26<sup>th</sup> from 4-6pm (table will be setup in cafeteria with comment box and give-a-ways).

## **8. BOARD BUSINESS:**

**A. Item: 9000's Policies Continued (Discussion & Action):**

Current Board policies to be adopted with changes - 9000, 9020, 9110, combine 9120, 9121, 9122, 9123 into one policy, 9125, 9132, 9221 (combined with 9212), 9230, 9270 - remove 9134.

CABE's version of policies to be adopted - 9010, 9040, 9271, 9300, 9311, (combined with 9310 and 9311.1), 9325 (version 1). Policies to be approved next month.

## **9. OLD BUSINESS UPDATES**

**Item: Rose Khourie Scholarship:** No Update

**10. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON AGENDA ITEMS:** None

**11. OTHER ACTION ITEMS:** None

## **12. UPCOMING MEETINGS:**

- Regular Board Meeting September 2, 2025 at 6:30pm
- Items for Next Meeting and Assignments: more policy updates, set meeting schedule for future collaborative BOE meetings, SBAC scores, vote on 9000 policies, Newsletter

## **13. ADJOURNMENT:**

**#2-25/26 Motion to adjourn (8:09 PM) made by Lisa LaBelle, seconded by Brittany Santiago and carried unanimously.**

*Respectfully submitted by Kathleen Scott  
Recording Clerk*