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.

CHAPLIN, HAMPTON, SCOTLAND AND REGIONAL DISTRICT #11
BOARD OF EDUCATION
Chaplin, Connecticut
Meeting Minutes
March 21, 2017

Chairperson Steve Dunn called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM. Present were Board members Kate Donnelly, Sally Ireland, Rose Bisson, Bud Smallwood, Jennifer Nelson, Kathleen O'Callaghan and Stephanie Harrington. Administrators present were Superintendent Ken Henrici and Principal Brian Tedeschi. Unable to attend was Board member Stacy Foster.

The Board recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. **COMMUNICATION WITH THE AUDIENCE:** None

3. **WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD:**
   A letter was received from Ashford Superintendent James Longo regarding meeting to discuss options for an alternate middle school. Jennifer Nelson suggested sending a copy of the letter to the two Study Committees. Kate Donnelly suggested sending a copy of the letter to the elementary schools.

4. **STUDENT REPORT:**
   Senior Jonah Dupuis presented student report on various field trip opportunities that include: Boston trip to the New England Aquarium and Quincy Market, Providence trip and UCONN trip to Shakespeare's First Folio. Upcoming trips include Italy/Spain/France and visit to a prison to speak to inmates and corrections officers that ties in with his Senior Capstone project of Stress in Police Officer Careers. He thanked the Board for their support of all the field trips.

5. **APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 21, 2017 MINUTES:**
   Motion to approve the minutes of February 21, 2017, was made by Kate Donnelly with the following corrections: Item #8F should read – The cost of outplaced special education students is reduced due to students transitioning out. Item #9C should read – The audit was presented and a matching contribution for retirement was approved for the administrative secretaries. ***The motion was seconded by Rose Bisson and carried with the following vote:***
   YES: K. Donnelly, B. Smallwood, S. Ireland, R. Bisson, S. Dunn, J. Nelson.
   ABSTAIN: S. Harrington, K. O'Callaghan.

6. **APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS:**
   Motion to approve the Financial Statements, was made by Rose Bisson, seconded by Sally Ireland and carried with the following vote:

YES: K. Donnelly, B. Smallwood, S. Ireland, R. Bisson, S. Dunn, S. Harrington, J. Nelson, K. O'Callaghan.

7. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS/ADMINISTRATIVE REQUESTS FOR BOARD ACTION:

A. Principal:

- The Semi-Formal Dance with a Hollywood theme was held on March 17th with walking the red carpet and dancing.
- The musical "Annie" will be held on March 24th and 25th in the auditorium. Tickets are $7 for general admission and $5 for seniors and children under 12.
- The Spring Blood Drive will be held on March 29th with an opportunity for scholarships for seniors.
- The 18th annual Empty Bowl will be held on March 30th from 5-7pm with proceeds going to the Covenant Soup Kitchen, Helping Hands program and local food banks.
- SATs for high school juniors will be held on April 5th.
- National College Fair for juniors will be held on April 6th.
- Pi Day was held on March 15th with Max Blanchard the winner for reciting the most digits. He was rewarded with throwing a pie in his favorite teacher's face for reciting 66 digits.
- High School and Middle School spring sports will begin.
- Welcome to the new school Nurse Holly Sorrentino.

B. Superintendent:

- There is a high degree of uncertainty with the Governor's budget proposal.
- The next generation assessment data showed growth with all students.
- The Vertical Teaming Committee along with the 6th grade teachers and 7th grade team are meeting to observe classrooms and review strategies.
- The Board was presented with a longer term capital improvement plan. Big items include: replace breach and controller in Boiler #2 (17-18), update Fire Alarm (18-19), paint exterior, Library walkway roof repair (19-20), exterior camera, Boiler #1 replace breach (20-21), painting, upgrade bathroom toilets (21-22).

Bud Smallwood asked for a prioritized list of capital improvements. He also expressed concerns with the proposed cuts of funding to Scotland ($636,000/8.5 mill increase) that would be fiscally detrimental and concerns with passing a budget with the level of uncertainty. 48% of the budget is spent on education and Scotland is a large contributor to Parish Hill. Kate Donnelly urged everyone to contact their legislators.

Motion to move Item #8 to here, was made by Jennifer Nelson, seconded by Rose Bisson and carried with the following vote:
YES: K. Donnelly, B. Smallwood, S. Ireland, R. Bisson, S. Dunn, S. Harrington, J. Nelson, K. O'Callaghan.

Presentation of FY 15-16 Audit – MAWC, LLC:
Darin Offerdahl presented the audit with an unmodified opinion and a high level of auditing. No material weaknesses were found with internal controls and no issues with the revenue cycle.

There were no unrecorded items or adjustments and no issues with a solid closing. There were no difficulties in performing the audit and no findings of fraud.

8. OLD BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS:

A. Report by PTO/Parish Hill Action Community Team: No Report

B. Four Boards of Education Meetings and Subcommittee Meetings - Update:
The next meeting will be held on April 6th with a finalized survey and discussion of the next steps.

C. Addition/Withdrawal of Grades Committee Update:
The last meeting was combined with the Dissolution Committee. Jennifer Nelson expressed concerns with the momentum of the Committee that appears to be heading in the direction of a PreK-12 single district.

D. Dissolution Committee Update:
The representative from the State Board of Education would like to see the Committees moving forward together. Bud Smallwood commented on Malone and McBroom report that recommended full regionalization to save the most money. Stephanie Harrington recommended attending the meetings and reading the minutes to get a better picture of the progress. The State Board of Education needs an educational plan from the Addition/Withdrawal Committee.

First Selectman Dan Syme is not for closing any school but commented that regionalization would save 2 million dollars alone in administrative costs. He recommended moving forward with a plan before the state steps in and tells the district what to do with education.

E. Presentation of FY 15-16 Audit – MAWC, LLC: Moved to Item #7

F. Discussion and Approval of Final FY 17-18 Budget:
The FY 17-18 budget was presented with a 0% increase and very challenging. Major areas of impact from the budget include contractual salaries, magnet school tuition and health insurance (10% increase). There were cost savings for special education students that transitioned out. Jennifer Nelson expressed concerns with the COC budget not approved by the RD11 and CES Board before including in the RD11 budget. The RD11 budget and COC budget will be presented for approval at the April meeting.

G. Tentative Approval of Board Policies – 3280, 3281.2, 5145.4, 6142.101:
Motion for tentative approval of Board Policies 3280, 3281.2, 5145.4 and 6142.101, was made by Kate Donnelly, seconded by Sally Ireland and carried with the following vote:
YES: K. Donnelly, B. Smallwood, S. Ireland, R. Bisson, S. Dunn, S. Harrington, J. Nelson, K. O'Callaghan.

H. SDE NEXT GENERATION 2015 ASSESSMENT DATA, SPI INDEX:

Principal Tedeschi presented RD11 Next Generation Accountability Report Comparison and SPI Index. 78.6% for 2014-15 and 75.2% for 2015-16.

9. COMMITTEE REPORTS/REPORTS FOR BOARD ACTION:

A. Fiscal & Plant:
The Financial Statements were recommended for approval and the Maintenance Report was accepted.

B. Educational & Board Policies:

New policies will be shared with the Board.

C. Central Office:
A meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 28th.

D. Technology: No Report

E. Personnel and Supervision:
The negotiations process for secretaries will begin next year.

F. Shared Services: No Report

G. Allied Health:
There is a good interest in the Allied Health I class with 33 students signed up for the class.

H. Newsletter:
The next issue will be published soon.

I. CABE/EASTCONN: No Report

Joe Savino suggested establishing a timeline for the public for the Addition/Withdrawal Study Committee and the Dissolution Committee. He also suggested a longer meeting if the two Committees are going to meet jointly.

10. AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING:

- Budget

11. ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn (9:10 PM) was made by Kate Donnelly, seconded by Bud Smallwood and carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted by Kathleen Scott
Recording Clerk