

ESSEX AGRICULTURAL AND TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL
562 Maple St. Hathorne, Massachusetts 01937-0362

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MEETING MINUTES
Thursday April 10, 2008

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees was held Thursday, April 10, 2008 at 5:30 p.m. in the Smith Hall Conference Room with the following members in attendance: Chairman Edwards, Trustees Basile, Bennett, Evangelidis, and Cahill.

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.

II. Roll Call

Mr. Winthrop	-	Absent
Mr. Basile	-	Present
Ms. Holloran	-	Absent
Mr. Bennett	-	Present
Mr. Evangelidis	-	Present
Mr. Cahill	-	Present
Mr. Edwards	-	Present

III. Approval of Minutes

- a. Regular Board of Trustees Meeting of March 13, 2008: on a motion by Mr. Basile, seconded by Mr. Cahill, it was moved that the Board approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 13, 2008.

Roll Call Vote:	Mr. Winthrop	-	Absent
	Mr. Basile	-	Yes
	Ms. Holloran	-	Absent
	Mr. Bennett	-	Yes
	Mr. Evangelidis	-	Yes
	Mr. Cahill	-	Yes
	Mr. Edwards	-	Yes

Five trustees voting "Yes" and two Absent, the motion passes.

IV. Financial Report

Financial Report for March of FY08

Mr. Murtagh submitted the financial report through the end of March of FY08.

V. Unfinished Business

a. Proposed Essex/North Shore Merger Update

Mr. Bennett reported that a meeting was held with Dr. Dana Mohler-Faria , the Governor's Education Advisor, indicating that he supported the project and that he would express his feelings to the Governor.

Mr. Bourgeois stated the contents of a letter from Senator Berry to Senator Montigny, chair of the Bonding Committee for the Senate, supporting a \$60M state funding commitment for the project as requested by the North Shore Coalition of Town Managers and Mayors. The letter expressed his overwhelming support for this project.

b. Superintendent's Evaluation

Mr. Edwards introduced a letter from Mr. Evangelidis resigning from the Subcommittee for the Superintendent's Evaluation. Mr. Bennett agreed to accept Mr. Evangelidis' position on the subcommittee.

VI. New Business

a. Report on Student Activities

i. Sophomore and Junior Semi-Formal

Mr. Bourgeois asked the two class advisor's, Mike Pellegrino and Clarice Grima, to report on the first annual Sophomore and Junior Semi-Formal dance that was recently held in the gymnasium.

ii. National Technical Honor Society

Mr. Ron Vercellone, the Public Relations Director, described the event to the Board on behalf of guidance counselor Ms. Wendy Fajardo and curriculum coordinator Ms. Joy White who co-chaired the first induction ceremony of the National Technical Honor Society for fourteen of our eleventh and twelfth grade students.

iii. FFA State Competition

Mr. Ron Vercellone also described this event to the Board citing that twenty-four of our students recently competed in the state competition held in Sturbridge and won numerous medals and awards in a variety of agricultural and leadership events. All gold medal winners will be invited to compete at the National FFA competition scheduled for October in Indianapolis, Indiana.

b. School Psychologist Job Description

Mr. Bourgeois reviewed the job description for a School Psychologist and explained the need for this position.

On a motion by Mr. Bennett, seconded by Mr. Cahill, it was moved that the Board approve the job description of the School Psychologist as written.

Roll Call Vote:	Mr. Winthrop	-	Absent
	Mr. Basile	-	Yes
	Ms. Holloran	-	Absent
	Mr. Bennett	-	Yes
	Mr. Evangelidis	-	Yes
	Mr. Cahill	-	Yes
	Mr. Edwards	-	Yes

Five trustees voting “Yes” and two Absent, the motion passes.

c. Award of bid to Renovate the Lower Gym in Smith Hall into guidance offices and a classroom/laptop computer lab and renovate a Science Lab in Gallant Hall.

Mr. Bourgeois briefly described the renovation project and the Board reviewed the General Contractor and Subcontractor bids that were received as well as the recommendation from KBA Architects to award the contract for the project to the lowest qualified bidder - Falite Brothers, Inc. of Wakefield, MA.

On a motion by Mr. Bennett, seconded by Mr. Cahill, it was moved that the Board approve the award of the bid to the lowest qualified bidder.

Roll Call Vote:	Mr. Winthrop	-	Absent
	Mr. Basile	-	Abstain
	Ms. Holloran	-	Absent
	Mr. Bennett	-	Yes
	Mr. Evangelidis	-	Yes
	Mr. Cahill	-	Yes
	Mr. Edwards	-	Yes

Four trustees voting “Yes” one “Abstain” and two Absent, the motion passes.

d. Open Meeting Law

Mr. Bennett expressed a concern that he had with regards to ensuring that the requirements of the Open Meeting Law are followed with regards to subcommittee meetings. Mr. Edwards indicated that the chairs of the subcommittees will ensure that the requirements of the Open Meeting Law are followed.

e. Other

- i. Mr. Edwards asked Mr. Bourgeois to call the Governor's Office to ascertain the status of Mrs. Holloran's resignation.
- ii. On a motion by Mr. Bennett, seconded by Mr. Cahill, it was moved that the Board appoint an Interim Vice-Chairperson.

Roll Call Vote:	Mr. Winthrop	-	Absent
	Mr. Basile	-	Yes
	Ms. Holloran	-	Absent
	Mr. Bennett	-	Yes
	Mr. Evangelidis	-	Yes
	Mr. Cahill	-	Yes
	Mr. Edwards	-	Yes

Five trustees voting "Yes" and two Absent, the motion passes.

- iii. On a motion by Mr. Cahill, seconded by Mr. Evangelidis, it was moved that the Board appoint Mr. Daniel Bennett as the Interim Vice-Chairperson.

Mr. Bennett accepted this appointment.

Roll Call Vote:	Mr. Winthrop	-	Absent
	Mr. Basile	-	Yes
	Ms. Holloran	-	Absent
	Mr. Bennett	-	Yes
	Mr. Evangelidis	-	Yes
	Mr. Cahill	-	Yes
	Mr. Edwards	-	Yes

Five trustees voting "Yes" and two Absent, the motion passes.

IV. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Date of Next Meeting: May 8, 2008 at 5:30 p.m.

Lisa Horgan, Secretary to the Superintendent