



**Minutes of the February 28th, 2023, EASTCONN Board of Directors' Meeting
ZOOM MEETING**

Roll Call of Board Members:

Rod Perry, Scotland
Maryellen Donnelly, Hampton
Herb Arico, Willington
Sarah Haynes, Lebanon
Terry Cote, Eastford
Katherine Paulhus, Mansfield
Sonia Greene, Woodstock
Justin Phaiah, Brooklyn
Michael Morris, Region #8

EASTCONN Staff Present: Eric Protulis, Carol Klemyk, Larisa Carr, Sarah Mallory, Melanie Marcacchio, Kristin Hempel, Patricia Proctor, Dona Prindle, Diane Dugas, Evan Krawiec, Shawn Brodeur, David Brown, Kim Bush, Amy Margelony, Heather Plourde, Diane Gozemba

The Board Meeting was called to order at 5:32 pm by Board Chair, Justin Phaiah

Pledge of Allegiance

Introduction of two new Board Members:

**Michael Morris from Region #8
Sarah Haynes from Lebanon**

Additions to the Agenda – None

Audience with Citizens – None

Presentation by Sarah Mallory, Principal of ACT, and David Brown, Principal of QMC:

**Portrait of a Graduate and Mastery Based Grading
(see power point)**

Approval of minutes – one motion to approve all minutes as presented on the motion document:

**MOTION: Michael Morris motioned to approve the minutes of the following meetings:
January 2023 Board of Directors' Meeting, February 2, 2023 Finance Special Meeting,
February 16, 2023 Finance Special Meeting**

SECOND: Herb Arico
VOTE: Unanimous
ABSTENTIONS: None

SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Policy:

- Policy did not meet due to Agency MUNIS training

Finance:

Finance Updates from Eric Protulis and Patricia Proctor

- Discussed the MUNIS upgrade – additional new features will be available
- Discussion around the status of the audit – filed 3rd extension
- Finance Staffing is now complete:
 - Internal candidate applied for the accounting position
- Talked about the budget for ACT – cost of the facility is now carried through the ACT budget – instead of the Agency “absorbing” it
- Talked about expenses related to the ACT performances
- Finance will be looking at utility costs for all divisions and put those costs on the actual programs themselves
- Waiting for tuition payments from two large districts – anticipate these payments coming in soon

Facilities:

- Facilities did not meet due to Agency MUNIS training

Head Start Updates:

- Enrollment is remaining steady
- Not on an enrollment plan yet
- Challenges around staffing
- Will run one summer program at Mossup – 7/10 – 8/11
- Quality improvement dollars will be coming in soon
- Changes to program options – must provide a change in scope – let OEC know how those funds will be utilized – will provide updates at the March Board meeting
- Stafford will not hold contract anymore with Early Childhood. EASTCONN will absorb that case load
- Discussion around eliminating 40 home-based slots
- Movement of Head Start classrooms and staff

NEW BUSINESS:

Enrollment Report:

- Magnets are seeing new enrollment for the spring semester
- Clinical enrollments are down due to staffing issues
- Working on procedures to recruit staff members and procure candidates

Division Director's Report and Updates and Executive Director's Updates:

- February is the Legislative Month
- 8 Legislators attended the URSA/NASA virtual session
- 6-7 districts have funding decreased in the ECS model
- Lots of conversations around this and Special Ed funding for districts
- Already locked in our electric and oil rates for next year – great lock in prices
- Education Funding 101
- RESC Alliance Legislative Priorities
- Computer Gaming – egaming/esports:
 - Technology Solutions is looking into integrate sports into computer gaming
 - Create a curriculum and esports team
 - Would also include Special Ed students – that need this adaptive equipment
 - A great method to engage students

HR Report:

- January – net gain of two employees
- Moving forward with innovative ways for recruitment
- Connected with the Northeastern Chamber of Commerce
- Discussion around billboards
- Will be communicating out to high schools in the area about job opportunities at EASTCONN
- Include number of open positions in the monthly report moving forward

Discussion of the Board Retreat:

What is the role of the Board of Directors and focus on where they want to be moving forward
Plan a Saturday morning
Create a doodle poll and send dates to the full Board of Directors

Consent Agenda:

Approve the Updated Policies: 6146.1/6146.11/6146.13 as presented:

MOTION: Katherine Paulhus motioned to approve the Updated Policies as presented
SEOND: Maryellen Donnelly
VOTE: Unanimous
ABSTENTIONS: No

NO MOTION NEEDED FOR FIRST READ OF POLICIES

Discussion of Executive Director's Goals:

Reviewed the letter that was shared

Agency finances were the primary goal up to this date

Discussion around Strategic Planning

Set the agenda for the next 3-5 years as EASTCONN continues to grow

Talked about the Job Description for the Executive Director

The meeting adjourned at 7:15 pm

Respectfully Submitted

Carol Klemyk