

**REGIONAL DISTRICT ELEVEN
BOARD OF EDUCATION**
Parish Hill Middle/High School Library
Chaplin, Connecticut
March 24th, 2026
7:00pm

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

1. Call to Order at 7:04 pm by Stacy Foster and Pledge of Allegiance

Members in attendance: Michael Smardon, Cassidy Martin, Joy Becker, Hayley Albert, Ellen Gillon, Susan Lovegreen

Also Present: Superintendent Andrew Skarzynski, Principal McKenna

Members not in attendance: Steph Bayne, Camden Kammer, Michael Smardon

2. Communication with the Audience

No audience communication.

3. Written Communications to the Board

A letter was received regarding a staffing issue. Board members have been made aware of the letter but due to its nature cannot be read in open session.

4. Approval of February 17, 2026, Region 11 BOE Minutes

Motion by Ellen Gillon, 2nd by Cassidy Martin. Susan Lovegreen and Stacy Foster abstain. Remaining members vote to approve.

5. Approval of Financial Statements – February 2026

Motion by Ellen Gillon, 2nd by Cassidy Martin. Unanimous approval.

- i. Budget Forecast—FY 25-26

Jobina Miller provided a brief report on the monthly changes to the budget.

6. Administrative Reports/Administrative Requests for Board Action

- A. Student

No students available to provide a report.

- B. Teacher

No teacher available to provide a report.

- C. Principal

Principal McKenna provided a report. Discussed the recent blood drive, Pi Day, and the beginning of sports seasons. Empty Bowl fundraiser raised \$2200 for Helping

Hands and the Willimantic Soup Kitchen. National Honor Society awards. Field trip for women in manufacturing. Parent Teacher Conferences. April 8th capstone fair.

D. Superintendent

Superintendent Skarzynski provided a report. CAFE conference. Short legislative session. Lobbying to increase ECS base formula. Senate bill 298 passed and has a handful of things relevant to schools starting July 1st, 2026. Addressing Muslim studies, antisemitism in education. Seal of Civics education. Change to reserve fund usage. Non-lapsing funds can be used for educational umbrella items. Changes to expulsion laws. Changes to laws regarding active shooter drills, aims to increase safety in schools.

8. Old Business/New Business

A. Report by PHACT/PTSA

Spring Fling Saturday May 2nd 12-4. Bouncy Houses. Officer elections coming up.

B. Discussion and Possible Action on Initial Budget

Cassidy Martin made a motion to approve the 2026-2027 proposed budget for the Region 11 Board of Education in the amount of \$7,508,150, a 3.19% increase. Ellen Gillon seconded the motion.

Unanimous approval. (6 Y, 0 N, 0 Abstentions)

C. Tentative Approval of Board Policies:

i. 5123.3 - Graduation Ceremonies (Participation)

Motion by Cassidy Martin, 2nd by Joy Becker. Unanimous approval. Final approval is to take place at next meeting.

ii. 6146 - Graduation Requirements

Motion by Cassidy Martin, 2nd by Ellen Gillon. Unanimous approval. Final approval is to take place at next meeting.

iii. 7100 - New Construction (Planning)

Motion by Ellen Gillon, 2nd by Susan Lovegreen. Unanimous approval. Final approval is to take place at next meeting.

9. Committee Reports/Requests for Board Action

A. Fiscal & Plant

Met 3/24/2026 prior to this meeting.

B. Educational and Board Policies

Met 3/11/2026. Will not meet in April.

C. Central Office

Meeting 3/25/2026.

D. Technology/Website

TBD.

E. Personnel and Supervision

Currently working through negotiations for paraprofessionals, then secretaries.

F. Newsletter

Will be meeting 4/1/2026.

G. CABE/EASTCONN

CABE Meeting regionally with local school boards. Discussed shared services and current legislative session. Creating a database of district strengths to help each other out.

10. Second Audience for Citizens

Mark Cole, a teacher at Parish Hill, mentioned an upcoming theater production in April. Flyers to follow.

11. Agenda Items for Next Meeting

a. Final approval of policies 5123.3, 6146, and 7100.

b. Move PHACT/PTSA report to administrative reports section of agenda.

c. Final approval of 2026-2027 RD11 budget.

d. Discussion and action on final date of school.

12. Adjournment

Hayley Albert made a motion to adjourn at 7:58pm. 2nd by Cassidy Martin. Unanimous approval.

Respectfully submitted,

Hayley Tiller-Albert