

**MINUTES OF BOARD OF EDUCATION ELEMENTARY SHOWCASE MEETING  
HELD NOVEMBER 7, 2019 AT 7:30 P.M. AT HIGHLAND SCHOOL**

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Board Members Present: Kathryn Hallen-Chair; Anne Harrigan -Vice Chair; Anthony Perugini-Secretary; Adam Grippo; Richard Gusenburg; Marléna Soble; Neeta Vatti

Board Members Absent: None.

Administrators Present: Jeffrey F. Solan, Superintendent of Schools, Marlene Silano Assistant Superintendent of Schools; Vincent Masciana, Chief Operating Officer; Tracy Hussey, Director, Pupil Personnel Services; Maureen Reed, Assistant Principal-Cheshire High School; Kristin Pelz, Assistant Principal-Cheshire High School; Daniel Tartarelli, Assistant Principal-Cheshire High School; Steven Trifone, Athletic Director-Cheshire High School, John Perosino, Assistant Principal-Dodd Middle School; Diana Burns, Principal-Chapman Elementary School; Ann Donnery, Principal-Darcey School; Russell Hinckley, Principal-Doolittle Elementary School; Kelly Grillo, Principal-Norton Elementary School; Kristin Lopa, Assistant Principal-Doolittle and Norton Schools; Scott Jeffrey, Principal-Highland Elementary School; Erica Bordonaro-Assistant Principal-Highland Elementary School; Marlene Silano, Curriculum Coordinator K-8; Robin-Anne Carey, Supervisor of Elementary Special Education; Marie Broadway, Supervisor of Secondary Special Education; Kelly Lenz, Coordinator-School/Community Relations

**1. CALL TO ORDER – 7:30 P.M.**

- A. Roll for Quorum. The roll was called and a quorum was determined.
- B. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.  
Ms. Hallen led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**2. ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SHOWCASE**

Board Chair Hallen welcomed all to this Elementary Showcase and asked Ms. Silano to introduce the program. Ms. Silano introduced Robin-Anne Carey, Elementary Supervisor of Special Education who introduced her staff and explained the continuum of services to our students at the elementary level.

Special Education teachers from Doolittle reported on the Bridges program at Doolittle School. The program was developed to support students with social, emotional and behavioral skill deficits that markedly impact their ability to be successful without additional support and instruction. Students within the Bridges Program have Individualized Education Plans and as such, each of their programs is individualized to meet their specific areas of strength and concern. While created as a self-contained program, Bridges now operates as a resource room with pull out and push in services as appropriate for each student. The goal for the students in this program is that they

develop the coping skills necessary to independently self-regulate in order to be successful.

Next, Highland School Special Education Teachers reported on the Intensive Education Program at their school. The Intensive Education Program is a self-contained special education classroom that provides individualized instruction to students with severe cognitive, functional, social/emotional and communication deficits. The staff servicing these classrooms have training and expertise in the areas of Autism Spectrum Disorders, Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA) and Discrete Trial Instruction (DTI). The goal for the students is to become independent learners and participating members of the community with little to no adult support.

Board members thanked the staff for their informative presentation.

3. **ADJOURNMENT**

On a motion by Ms. Soble, and seconded by Mr. Grippo, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Kathryn Hallen, Board Chair

Attest:

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Carol K. Jesensky, Board of Education Clerk

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