

**MINUTES OF CHESHIRE BOARD OF EDUCATION BUSINESS MEETING  
HELD IN TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON FERUARY 19, 2026 AT 7:30 PM**

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Board Members Present: Anne Harrigan, Vice Chair; Tim White, Secretary; Matthew Colehour, Anne Marie Cullinan; Mark Ecke; Heather Fitzgerald

Board Members Absent: Samantha Rosenberg, Chair

Administrators Present: Jeffrey F. Solan, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools; Marlene Silano, Assistant Superintendent of Schools; Emily Taylor, Chief Operating Officer; Vincent Masciana, Chief Project Officer; Kevin Hanlon, Principal, Cheshire High School; Ryan Murphy, Assistant Principal, Dodd Middle School; Kimberly Dessert, Principal, Darcey School; Scott Jeffrey, Principal, Highland Elementary School; Christina Sherwood, Supervisor of Elementary Special Education;

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**1. CALL TO ORDER – 7:30 P.M.**

- A. Roll for Quorum. The roll was called and a quorum determined.
- B. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.  
In Ms. Rosenberg’s absence, Dr. Harrigan led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.
- C. Student Representatives. Matalyn Tabor and Connor Rayball, student representatives for the 2025/2026 school year, reported on recent events at Cheshire High School. The students reported on the Rams Care Event, National Honor Society Matchmaker Survey, Peer Health activities and upcoming events including a Supermarket Challenge and Self Defense class. The reps gave an update on winter sports and also the upcoming spring Musical, Pippin. Board members thanked the reps for their report.

**2. PRESENTATIONS**

**A. School Partnership Award – Darcey School**

Dr. Harrigan introduced Tara Jackson, the School Partnership Award recipient for Darcey School. She said that Tara is being recognized for her outstanding dedication to the Darcey community. She exemplifies the true spirit of a school /community partnership. Even after her children moved on from Darcey School, she chose to remain an active and dedicated member of the PTA Board, continuing to give her time, energy, and heart to our community. Tara has played an integral role in creating meaningful opportunities for families to connect through events such as Family Pizza Night, the Family Ice Cream Social, and Family Bear Night. She has also led and supported important fundraisers, including the Book Fair. She has gone above and beyond to celebrate and support our teachers, helping them feel valued and appreciated. Her selfless service and unwavering dedication have strengthened connections between families, staff, and our school, making our school a better place for all.

This award recognizes not only her time and hard work, but also the lasting impact of her generosity, leadership, and unwavering support. Darcey is truly

grateful for her continued partnership and the positive example she sets for their entire community. The Board of Education thanked Tara for going above and beyond for the students of Cheshire.

**B. Spirit of Inclusion Award – Highland School**

Dr. Solan introduced Barbara Horn, a member of the Unified staff for CIAC and Special Olympics. Ms. Horn said she is pleased to be here tonight to shine a light on Highland Elementary. Each year, Special Olympics Connecticut honors those that make a difference from around the state at their annual Hall of Fame dinner. Highland Elementary School is one of only three Connecticut schools chosen to receive the 2026 CIAC Special Olympics, Connecticut, Spirit of Inclusion Award. The Spirit of Inclusion is part of the fabric of the school climate and school spirit at Highland, with their Unified Sports Program at its core. Through Unified Sports, students are able to develop fundamental sports skills, friendships and increased understanding of those with different challenges. Tonight, the Board is recognizing Alison Ranciato, Special Education Teacher and Stephanie Dechele, School Psychologist from Highland School for their contributions to the program. Each year, Special Olympics Connecticut honors difference-makers from around the state at their annual Hall of Fame dinner. Highland has distinguished themselves with efforts and activities that promote inclusion in their school and communities. This year, Highland Elementary will be recognized as one of the three distinguished schools to be honored.

**C. Student Recognition – Suchita Srinivasan**

Dr. Solan asked Michelle Piccerillo, the Director of Youth Services to introduce Suchita Srinivasan. Ms. Piccerillo said she first met Suchita last year upon the recommendation of her Youth Program Supervisor to assist with a project for our Youth Services Division. Having previously volunteered to lead programming workshops and teach coding concepts to students, Suchita brought a high level of expertise to their department. When presented with a project idea, she enthusiastically embraced the challenge and insisted on volunteering her time to see it through. She ultimately developed an online database and website for the Cheshire Department of Human Services, an achievement that replaced a six-month manual data collection process with a sophisticated automated system. By utilizing tools such as Firebase, JavaScript, Zapier, and Wix, she enabled 27,000 residents to easily access and view data from approximately 100 local mental and behavioral health service providers. The quality of her work is truly exceptional. Mr. Hanlon, Cheshire High School Principal added that this is not a singular accomplishment for Suchita, she has been recognized and will likely continue to be recognized for academic and school achievements, her authentic research and inventions, her musicianship, leadership and award winning business acumen, to name a few. But this project is a fine example of how our students can and do collaborate with others to find solutions to real world issues with grace and a human touch.

3. **AUDIENCE**

Benjamin Belancik, 1280 Peck Lane. Mr. Belancik said the Unified Sports program is one of the best things his kids have been involved in. They love the interaction. His oldest learned a lot of valuable skills, and she's very excited to have this opportunity.

4. **REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES**

A. **FINANCE**

I. **Finance Report**

Ms. Taylor reported that as of January 31, the district has expended and encumbered \$81,055,631, representing 87% of the total budget, an increase from 83.9% reported last month.

She said they are monitoring Tuition outplacements that are currently at 117% expended, pupil transportation (including general education and out-of-district transportation) which is at 111%, and textbooks and software, a smaller account totaling approximately \$299,000, which is at 114% expended. While they are being closely monitored, they are not currently a cause for concern.

She reported on the Town Council's Insurance Advisory Study Group, which has met twice to review the district's medical insurance program. The group is analyzing recent and projected plan costs, vendor performance, and key drivers of medical inflation. At the most recent meeting, representatives from Acrisure, the district's property and liability insurance broker, reviewed current programs and addressed questions related to deductibles and coverage. The next meeting will include USI, the district's medical insurance broker, to review fee structures, services provided, plan performance, claims trends, and renewal timelines. The district is also exploring potential stop-loss insurance providers for the upcoming year. The advisory group is expected to provide recommendations to the Town Council by April.

Preparations are underway for the district's Capital Expenditures Plan. Due to an adjusted timeline from the Town Council, the full plan will likely be reviewed in April, with the Planning Committee scheduled to meet in March.

The district anticipates receiving approximately \$180,000 in funding through the District Repair and Improvement Project (DRIP) Grant, which may be used for facility improvements such as HVAC systems. While allocations are expected to be confirmed by March 1, there remains some uncertainty regarding whether the funds can be applied to current or next fiscal year expenditures. Grants are expected to be issued by June 30.

Finally, the district is preparing to release a Request for Proposals (RFP) for custodial cleaning services. The current contract with SMG totals \$859,000 annually. Beginning next year, the district's usable square footage will increase from 765,000 to 837,000 square feet, a 9.4% increase, which will likely impact service costs. During the previous bidding process, proposals varied significantly, with the two highest bids exceeding \$2.5 million and the six lowest averaging approximately \$790,000. The Director of Facilities has developed a detailed RFP to better define the scope of services. Site walkthroughs for prospective vendors are scheduled for March, with a new contract expected to take effect July 1.

## II. **Medical Benefits Update**

The beginning balance (as of 7/1/25) for the Reserve Fund was \$2,822,465. As of January 31, 2026, the Medical Benefits Reserve Fund balance is in a decent position with a balance of \$2,231,006. In January 2026, claims totaled \$1,265,421. The Medical Benefits Fund remains in a stable position, with 1.75 claim months in reserve as of January 31, 2026 slightly below the target of two months, and significantly up from the 1.54 claim months in January 2025. While we are seeing variable claim expenditures compared to the previous year, the increased contributions budgeted for 2025-26 have allowed us to maintain the overall reserve stability.

Mr. Colehour asked if the outcomes from the Insurance Advisory Group may impact the budget discussions that the Town Council will be having. Ms. Taylor answered that previous discussions with Acrisure focused primarily on property and liability coverage, where workers' compensation remains the most significant cost driver. The district has taken steps in recent years to address workers' compensation costs. The goal of the Insurance Advisory Study Group is to develop an informed recommendation that could potentially be implemented next fiscal year. While the timeline—from an April recommendation to a possible July 1 implementation—is tight, it certain changes may be more feasible within that timeframe, such as adjustments to stop-loss coverage, rather than implementing a full change to the district's medical insurance plan.

Mr. White asked for clarification regarding the district's stop-loss insurance. It was noted that the district currently pays claims up to \$175,000 per individual, after which the stop-loss insurer reimburses additional costs and asked if that remains the appropriate level.

Ms. Taylor clarified that the current review is focused primarily on evaluating stop-loss vendors, including whether to continue with the current provider, CT Prime, or consider alternatives such as Cigna. It was

noted that analyses of different attachment point levels have been conducted previously, and \$175,000 has historically been identified as the most cost-effective level for the district. Stop-loss coverage is not legally required for self-insured plans, but it is a common risk-management practice among municipalities and school districts.

Ms. Fitzgerald asked if the advisory group has considered the State Plan. Ms. Taylor responded that she has not heard that discussed in the group, but they are looking into the cost of the State Partnership Plan. She said it is easy to connect with them and get quotes. There's some additional information needed and she is waiting for our benefits department to run the numbers for both because they do dental and medical, but they are able to provide a quote and it's something that we can evaluate.

**B. PERSONNEL**

**I. Report on Meeting Held February 18, 2026.**

The committee met virtually on February 18<sup>th</sup> in Executive Session to interview Christina Sherwood for the position of Director of Pupil Personnel.

**II. Appointment of Director of Pupil Personnel.**

Ms. Cullinan reported that tonight they will be recommending the appointment of a Director of Pupil Personnel. Dr. Solan is recommending the appointment of Christina Sherwood as Director of Pupil Personnel Services, effective July 1, 2026.

**MOTION** by Ms. Cullinan, seconded by Ms. Fitzgerald.

***MOVED** that the Cheshire Board of Education appoint Christina Sherwood as Director of Pupil Personnel Services, effective July 1, 2026, to be compensated based upon the collective bargaining agreement between the Cheshire Board of Education and the Cheshire Administrative Personnel.*

Discussion: Dr. Solan said he is recommending the Board appoint Ms. Sherwood as the next Director of Pupil Personnel Services, following the upcoming retirement of Ms. Robin Carey, who has served in the role since 2020. He thanked Ms. Carey for her outstanding leadership and service to the district, particularly for guiding the department through the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic and the ongoing changes in special education. The district expressed deep appreciation for her dedication and contributions to Cheshire Public Schools.

Ms. Sherwood has served the Cheshire Public Schools community for the past 10 years. She joined the district in December 2015 as a special

education teacher and has since held several leadership roles, most recently serving as the Elementary Special Education Supervisor since 2021. Prior to joining Cheshire Public Schools, she worked in Ansonia Public Schools in a variety of roles, including substitute teacher, paraeducator, instructional assistant, and special education teacher. Ms. Sherwood holds degrees from Western Connecticut State University and Southern Connecticut State University and is certified in elementary education, special education, and educational administration. Throughout her career, she has demonstrated a strong commitment to supporting students and families and ensuring access to high-quality educational opportunities.

A selection committee composed of Board of Education representatives, parents, teachers, and administrators interviewed Ms. Sherwood and expressed strong confidence in her leadership abilities, collaborative approach, and vision for student support services. Administration recommended her appointment, noting that she is well prepared to continue building upon the strong foundation established within the district's Pupil Personnel Services Department while keeping students at the center of decision-making.

Several Board members expressed support for the recommendation to appoint Ms. Sherwood as Director of Pupil Personnel Services.

Ms. Cullinan noted that she had the opportunity to serve on the interview committee and was very impressed with Ms. Sherwood's professional background and career progression within the field of special education. Beginning her career as a paraprofessional and advancing through roles as a teacher and supervisor, Ms. Sherwood has demonstrated dedication and leadership.

Mr. White shared that during the interview process, Ms. Sherwood emphasized the importance of listening to parents, which resonated with the committee.

**VOTE:** The Motion passed unanimously 6-0.

Ms. Sherwood addressed the Board saying she is truly honored and very grateful for the opportunity to serve as the PPS director for Cheshire Public Schools. She thanked Dr. Solan and the Board of Education for having faith in her to continue the tremendous tradition of providing incredible service to all students to meet their needs. In her tenure serving in the district, she has been afforded incredible opportunities that have shaped her as a professional and as a person.

C. **PLANNING**

**MOTION** by Mr. Ecke, seconded by Mr. Colehour.

**MOVED** to add Agenda Item CII. Approval of Preliminary Design Services for Track and Field Project.

**VOTE:** The Motion passed unanimously.

I. **Report on Meeting Held February 18, 2026.**

Mr. Ecke reported the committee discussed several capital budget items. Last year, a proposal to replace the turf field at Cheshire High School was brought forward for referendum without firm cost estimates by the Town Council. The committee agreed that a more thorough study and accurate cost projections are needed to better understand the scope of the project before potentially resubmitting. The committee also discussed the roof replacement project at Highland School. Initial estimates for the project were approximately \$1.5 million; however, updated projections indicate the cost could be closer to \$4 million. Additional information and clarification were requested to better understand the revised estimate.

Ms. Taylor added that The Highland School roof replacement was originally budgeted at approximately \$1.5 million in the district's Capital Plan, with \$750,000 allocated in both the 2028–29 and 2029–30 school years. However, after completing a design study with Silver/Petrucci, the updated project estimate is approximately \$4 million. While the project is eligible for a 50% state school construction reimbursement, reducing the district's share to about \$2 million, the cost remains significantly higher than originally planned. The Planning Committee will discuss potential adjustments to the timeline and funding years at an upcoming meeting.

An update was also provided on the Cheshire High School weight room renovation. An anonymous donor has committed to providing new flooring and equipment for the space; however, HVAC improvements are required before those upgrades can occur. Design services for the HVAC work are underway, and a bid package is expected by the end of March, with bids anticipated in early April. The HVAC installation is projected to occur between June 8 and August 21. This work will be funded through a previously approved capital project and does not require additional funding.

II. **Approval of Preliminary Design Services for Track and Field Project**

Ms. Taylor explained that at the December Planning Committee meeting, members requested updated information regarding possible track and field projects. Several years ago, the district had engaged SLR to review

multiple scenarios for improvements to the athletic fields at Cheshire High School, ranging from a turf and track replacement to broader renovations of the athletic complex, with estimated costs ranging from approximately \$1.5 million to \$7 million. Following the December committee meeting, the district solicited proposals from several consulting firms for preliminary design and project management services. Proposals were received from SLR, Benesch, and LORE. The proposals included services from initial design through construction management for potential turf and track replacement. It was noted that the previously proposed turf replacement project, which had been advanced by the Town Council and placed in Year One of the Capital Plan, ultimately went to referendum but did not pass. That proposal did not include replacement of the track. The existing track dates back to the 1990s and requires upgrades, including improvements to the long jump area and fencing that currently sits too close to the running lanes.

Mr. Ecke emphasized the importance of continuing to plan for turf replacement, noting that the field will reach approximately 15 years of use this November, which is beyond the typical lifespan for synthetic turf. There is concern that if the field fails safety or impact testing, the district could lose access to the facility for high school and community youth athletics.

**MOTION** by Mr. Ecke, seconded by Ms. Cullinan.

**MOVED** *that the Cheshire Board of Education approve the expenditure of \$7,500 for SLR to complete preliminary design services for the Track & Field project.*

Discussion:

Board members discussed the importance and support for moving forward for the turf replacement but emphasized the importance of improving communication with the community throughout the process. It was also noted that it is a safety issue now.

Mr. White said he strongly believe that the Town Council should take ownership of the fact that they put this forward to the community without the Board's input. The Board did not ask for the project to be on the referendum list. He recommends an amended Motion with the hope that this approach would prompt a broader public discussion and help ensure the Council is fully engaged before the project moves forward.

**AMENDED MOTION** by Mr. White, seconded by Mr. Colehour.

**MOVED** that request that the Board of Education seek a \$7,500 special appropriation from the Town Council to fund the preliminary design services.

Discussion:

There was continued discussion on the process that led to the failed referendum and how to move forward successfully in the future. Ideas included stronger advocacy and communication and “road shows” similar to what was done for the new schools’ proposals. It was suggested that there be dialogue between the Board and the Town Council.

Dr. Solan clarified that the Board of Education had approved a multi-year capital budget plan and submitted it to the town. During the town’s review, community members advocated for an item originally scheduled for the second year of the plan to be moved into the first year. The Town Council acted on that feedback and advanced the project into Year One. However, the speaker noted that the window for advocacy and public education closed quickly, limiting the Board’s ability to explain the need for the project before it progressed. As a result, some community members may not have fully understood the need, particularly since a turf field had recently been built nearby, leading to questions about the project. While the situation was not necessarily the fault of the Board, it also was not the fault of the students or the community that the track is in its current condition.

Mr. Ecke said he doesn’t think we should ask the Council to apologize for doing what they thought was best for our students. If it had gone the other way and the turf passed, we would be happy. Mr. White said he will not be supporting the original motion. He believes the project needs to be done, but feels the Council leadership needs to address the issue before it moves forward.

**VOTE:** The AMENDED MOTION failed 2-4 (Cullinan, Harrigan, Ecke, Fitzgerald opposed).

The Board resumed their conversation regarding the original Motion.

**VOTE:** The motion passed 5-1 (White opposed).

**D. POLICY**

**I. Policy Report**

Mr. Ecke reported the committee met and reviewed a number of polices for first, second and third readings.

**II. First Reading and Possible Approval of Policy**

6142.101 Student Wellness. The Superintendent reported that the district was notified by the state shortly before the Policy Committee meeting that an updated wellness policy must be adopted by March 1. This revised policy significantly expands the district's existing 3-page policy to approximately fifteen pages, largely reiterating current practices and providing greater detail to meet federal and state requirements. The Superintendent noted that the policy does not introduce new practices but instead formalizes procedures already in place, such as ensuring access to free potable water in school cafeterias, which is required under USDA regulations. Although the Board typically avoids fast-tracking policies, the update is necessary to ensure compliance with state timelines.

**MOTION** by Mr. Ecke, seconded by Mr. White.

***MOVED** that the Cheshire Board of Education waive the second and third readings for Policy #6142.101 and direct the Superintendent to put said policy into immediate effect.*

**VOTE:** The Motion passed unanimously, 6-0.

**III. First Reading of Policy**

5111.3 Undocumented Students. The policy committee reported that it has been reviewing a potential policy regarding undocumented students. The issue was first discussed in the fall and had previously been reviewed last year before being tabled in the spring, as the proposed policy largely reflected existing law. After renewed interest in revisiting the topic, the committee reconsidered the policy, discussed the advantages and disadvantages of formally adopting it, and made minor language revisions. The committee conducted a first reading and brought the policy back to the full Board for review and consideration.

**IV. Second Reading of Policies/Bylaws:**

Mr. Ecke said these policies are up for a second reading. There were no significant changes since the first reading.

1312.4/6161.13 Library Collection Development & Maintenance and  
1312.5/6161.14 Library Display and Program Policy

Dr. Solan noted that the district already has policies governing the library collection and the process by which community members may question or

challenge materials in school libraries. The current discussion is largely an overview required by state law, which mandates that districts formally include this language in policy. While some nuances exist—such as references to library displays and programs—the district already maintains a process allowing individuals to challenge books or other resources through established procedures outlined in board policy. It was noted that this legislation appears to acknowledge both the professional expertise of certified school staff responsible for selecting age-appropriate materials and the importance of maintaining a clear process for reviewing concerns.

5141.5 Suicide Prevention and Intervention. This policy is being updated in conjunction with legal counsel, as the current policy has not been updated since 1996.

9040 Board Related Responsibilities. Changes to this bylaw resulted from discussions during the board's summer retreat regarding how retreats are organized and facilitated.

9400 Monitoring Products and Processes. This Bylaw relates to the board's self-evaluation process and emerged from the summer retreat discussions.

**V. Third Reading and Approval of Policies**

Mr. Ecke policies for a third reading and approval:

5114 Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process, 6171 Special Education, 6159 Individualized Education Program (IEP), 5118.1 Educational Opportunities for Military Children

**MOTION** by Mr. Ecke, seconded by Mr. Colehour.

***MOVED** that the Cheshire Board of Education give a third and final reading to policies 5114 Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process; 6171 Special Education; 6159 Individualized Education Program (IEP); and 5118.1 Educational Opportunities for Military Children, and direct the Superintendent to put said policies into immediate effect.*

**VOTE:** The Motion passed unanimously, 6-0.

**E. CALENDAR COMMITTEE**

**I. Report on Meeting Held February 2, 2026**

Dr. Harrigan asked Superintendent Solan to report on the Calendar Committee meeting held on February 2, 2026. Dr. Solan said the Calendar Committee, composed of board members, representatives from various bargaining units, parents, and other stakeholders as prescribed by Board policy, reviewed the 2026–2027 school calendar draft. Due to the late start of the school year, driven by school openings and transitions such as the demolition at Norton, the committee considered ways to avoid extending the school year too far into June. Originally scheduled to end on June 17, the calendar was adjusted by removing the Columbus Day/Indigenous Peoples/Italian American holiday, helping to prevent the year from extending too late, especially if snow days occur. Families and staff were notified via email and no negative feedback was received; some even suggested removing one of the February break days, though that day is contractually required for 12-month employees.

Mr. Colehour noted receiving emails from community members highlighting the importance of consistent school weeks, emphasizing that such data was compelling in understanding the community perspective. Superintendent Solan responded that the district is working toward greater continuity, though the finalized calendar must still accommodate professional development, historical and music trips, open houses, and other scheduling requirements. He noted that while other districts, such as West Hartford, maintain a consistent half-day every Wednesday, the district is exploring ways to balance continuity for families with the educational value of staff time, recognizing that multiple factors contribute to student performance.

Mr. Colehour asked about the inclusion of the October holiday in the proposed draft calendar. Dr. Solan indicated openness to removing the holiday, potentially leaving only Yom Kippur, which falls on the same date that year, as a recognized day off, to provide clarity for families and staff. Mr. Colehour agreed, suggesting this adjustment would allow the community to understand the schedule for the next two years and noted that future changes could be revisited as needed.

Ms. Cullinan said she understood the concern from the community about the continuity of school weeks. Dr. Solan said once calendar dates are adopted, Ms. Silano will work to coordinate PD Days around major student activities such as historical trips, Nature’s Classroom, YMCA trips, music adjudications, open houses, and other events. He mentioned West Hartford’s model, where every Wednesday is a half day, providing

consistency and continuity, and it was suggested that there may be value in exploring a more predictable model while still preserving the benefits educators gain from staff time. The Superintendent acknowledged both the difficulty this can create for parents and the professional value it provides to staff, emphasizing that finding a better balance remains an important goal. He acknowledged that Cheshire does have less 5-day weeks than many other districts. There was a consensus among Board members that we should strive for more 5-day weeks.

**II. Approval of 2026/27 School Calendar**

**MOTION** by Ms. Cullinan, seconded by Mr. Colehour.

**MOVED** *that the Cheshire Board of Education adopts the 2026/27 School Calendar as presented.*

**VOTE:** The Motion passed unanimously, 6-0.

**III. Approval of Proposed Draft 2027/28 School Calendar**

**MOTION** by Ms. Cullinan, seconded by Mr. Colehour.

**MOVED** *that the Cheshire Board of Education adopts the 2027/28 Proposed Draft School Calendar with the exception of dropping the October 11 Indigenous People/Italian American Day.*

**VOTE:** The Motion passed unanimously, 6-0.

**5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION** by Ms. Cullinan, seconded by Mr. Colehour.

**MOVED** *that the Cheshire Board of Education approve the minutes from the meeting held on January 22, 2026.*

**VOTE:** The Motion passed unanimously, 6-0.

**6. CORRESPONDENCE**

There was no correspondence.

**7. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Dr. Solan reported that Cheshire Public Schools would be participating in the upcoming Polar Plunge on Saturday to support the YMCA and its camp scholarship program, highlighting the district's strong partnership with the organization. Board members would

be given the opportunity either to participate in the plunge or to contribute through donations.

He also thanked Tecton and O&G for serving as Marquee sponsors for the Cheshire Education Foundation's Trivia Night on March 21 at Cheshire Academy, recognizing their significant financial support. The event was described as a fun community gathering, and attendees were encouraged to register teams through the foundation's website.

In addition, the superintendent informed the Board that he had begun attending PTO meetings across the district to keep families informed about the current budget situation and the process ahead. He explained that he has been sharing a handout to help provide context around budget pressures, including growing enrollment, the addition of staff to maintain class-size ratios, and the board's efforts to preserve staffing while making reductions elsewhere. He emphasized that the budget is already extremely lean and noted that the handout also includes the upcoming schedule for Town Council presentations, including a presentation by him and Emily on March 11.

Finally, the superintendent reported on his recent attendance at the National Conference on Education, a national conference for superintendents, which he described as a valuable professional experience. He shared that he presented alongside colleagues from Meriden Public Schools on the topic of social media applications for district leadership.

8. **OLD BUSINESS**

None.

9. **NEW BUSINESS**

A. **Chairperson's Update**

There was no update this evening as Ms. Rosenberg was absent.

10. **ADJOURNMENT**

On a motion by Mr. Ecke, and seconded by Mr. White, the meeting was adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dr. Anne Harrigan, Board Vice Chair

Attest:

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Carol K. Jesensky, Board of Education Clerk

Filed at the Town Clerk's Office, Town Hall, Cheshire: \_\_\_\_\_.