

**TOWN OF EAST HAVEN, CT
EAST HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
35 WHEELBARROW LANE, EAST HAVEN, CT 06513
TUESDAY, JANUARY 13, 2026
7:00 P.M.**

RECEIVED FOR FILING
East Haven
DATE 01/15/2026
TIME 01:25 PM
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE
EAST HAVEN, CONNECTICUT
Lisa Balter, CCTC
TOWN CLERK

1. CALL TO ORDER

Dr. DeLucia called the board meeting to order at **7:16 P.M.**

- Pledge of Allegiance

Dr. DeLucia requested everyone stand for the Pledge of Allegiance

2. ROLL CALL ATTENDANCE

Dr. DeLucia initiated roll call attendance

Ms. DePalma	Present ▾
Ms. DiLungo	Present ▾
Mr. Hennessey	Absent ▾
Ms. Johnson	Absent ▾
Ms. Putney	Present ▾
Ms. Santiago	Absent ▾
Mr. Stacey	Present ▾
Ms. Torello	Present ▾
Dr. DeLucia	Present ▾

ALSO PRESENT:

Mr. Adam Swinney, Interim Superintendent ▾

Ms. Lisa Veleas, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum & Instruction ▾

Mr. Richard Caponera, Chief of Operations and Fiscal Oversight ▾

3. REPORTS

- Chair Report: As I was not in attendance at the last meeting, I would like to begin by wishing everyone a Happy New Year. I hope you all had a wonderful and restful holiday.
 - **Policy:** None
 - **Personnel:** None
 - **Athletics:** Congratulations to our boy's hockey team who have already qualified for state. They are standing at 8 and 0 and they were ranked fifth in the state this week in the register's poll. They're doing really well! Also, congratulations to Mallory Boney who set the school's indoor triple jump record with a jump of 34 feet and 2.25 in. Mallory's a phenomenal athlete. Middle school sports are doing very well. Looking forward to their best season in quite some time. Mallory Boney and Liam Gilson have been recognized as East Haven's winter scholar athletes. Both are members of the indoor track team and will even go on with the dance teams and cheer teams. They're looking very strong for their post season competition. We are expecting great things from both teams and also like to wish the girl's basketball team good luck because they are at Wilbur Cross tonight. Congratulations and good luck to them all.
 - **Arts:** None
- Correspondence: A letter to the Board Chair was submitted from Charlene Russell-Tucker the Commissioner of Education with the purpose to approve the appointment of Mr. Adam Swinney as Interim Superintendent of Schools for East Haven Public Schools, effective September 15, 2025. The Bureau of Educator Standards and Certification Records confirmed that Mr. Swinney holds an initial educator certificate endorsed for superintendent of schools which is valid from September 2, 2025 through September 1, 2035. Mr. Swinney may assume all duties of Superintendent on an interim basis until a permanent appointment is made.
- Superintendent's Report: The Superintendent expressed gratitude to the district leadership team, faculty, and staff for their collaboration and trust in developing the budget proposal presented at the workshop. The process reflected strong advocacy for student needs, thoughtful engagement across all levels of the district, and a meaningful data-driven approach to identifying the true drivers of teaching and learning.

The Superintendent also highlighted a recent Channel 8 "What's Right with Schools" feature that showcased the district's Transition Program. The segment

emphasized the strengths and assets that students with exceptionalities bring to both the school community and the broader community, as well as the importance of providing authentic, real-world learning experiences. Recognition was given to Kristen Adanti Pederson, Christina DeCrescenzo, and the entire Transition staff inclusive of the tremendous paraeducators for their exceptional work and teamwork in supporting students and representing the district with excellence.

Additionally, the Superintendent announced the launch of a new afterschool enrichment pilot program in partnership with East Haven Youth Services. The program responds to feedback from the Panorama family survey and aims to expand enrichment opportunities for elementary students. The three-week sessions will rotate through all five elementary schools, beginning this Thursday at the Academy, and will offer STEM activities, creative baking, and adventure team sports. Appreciation was extended to Andrea Kenney and her team for their leadership in establishing this partnership. The program exemplifies a strong collaboration that enhances opportunities for students while supporting families and schools.

- Assistant's Report: The Assistant Superintendent reported that the district will host a College and Career Readiness Expo at the high school on Thursday the 22nd at 5:30 p.m. The event will expand upon prior efforts by highlighting Naviance, career preparation pathways, CTE programs, and dual credit opportunities available to students. Representatives from Connecticut universities are expected to participate, along with teachers and a student panel to share the benefits of dual credit coursework. Eighth grade families are also invited to encourage early awareness and planning. The event supports the Commissioner's priorities and reflects strong collaboration among administrators, instructional leaders, counselors, and staff to strengthen partnerships, expand course offerings, and align middle and high school guidance as course selection approaches in February.
- COFO Report: The COFO explained that the charge on page 28 is for the district's required triennial asbestos inspection, mandated by the State of Connecticut every three years for all school buildings. Testing has been completed, reports are being finalized, and the payment covers all district facilities. December's health insurance expenses were approximately \$540,000, the lowest month this fiscal year, reflecting the start of stop-loss reimbursements. The district has already received a \$5,000 reimbursement from Anthem, with hopefully more expected. The cafeteria program is operating as projected and meeting budget expectations. Although currently in a loss position, the district is guaranteed a refund of management fees if a loss occurs. Operations have improved year over year and are performing well.

4. ACCEPTANCE OF MEETING MINUTES

- Dec 9, 2025 - Regular Meeting Minutes were **Accepted ▾**

5. AUDIENCE OF CITIZENS

- None.

6. DISCUSSION CONCERNING FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Next Meetings:
 - Budget Workshop on Jan 20, 2026 *at 6 p.m. to review any questions relating to the Superintendent's budget proposal*
 - Regular BOE Meeting on Jan 27, 2026

The meeting was adjourned at **7:35 P.M.**

Respectfully submitted,

Michele DeLucia/mna

MICHELE DELUCIA, BOARD CHAIR