

**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 27, 2026
7:00 P.M.**

RECEIVED FOR FILING
East Haven
DATE 01/29/2026 TIME 02:52
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 **7:00 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	Absent ▾
Ms. DiLungo	Present ▾
Mr. Hennessey	Absent ▾
Ms. Johnson	Present ▾
Ms. Putney	Present ▾
Ms. Santiago	Present ▾
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 ▾

Mr. Robert Swan, Director of Pupil Services ▾

Ms. Jennifer Piercey, Human Resource Manager ▾

3. REPORTS

- **Chair Report:** There was no formal report this evening, other than to extend appreciation to all involved for their time and effort in reviewing the budget.
 - **Policy:** The committee continues to review existing policies and consider new policy development. There are no policy items to report this evening.
 - **Personnel:** None.
 - **Athletics:** The girls' basketball team has recorded three wins so far this season, marking a strong improvement from last year when the team did not secure any wins. This represents a very positive start to the season. Both the boys' and girls' basketball teams are scheduled to play at Eli Whitney Technical High School tomorrow. Additionally, Middle School Basketball Night is scheduled for February 4th, when both the middle school boys' and girls' teams will compete at East Haven High School.
 - **Arts:** None.
- **Correspondence:** The Board received several email correspondences from Momauguin PTO members, families, and staff expressing their request for funding to support a new playground at Momauguin School. As the submissions did not include mailing addresses, individual names were not read. The correspondences also included photographs of playgrounds at each school. It was noted that the current Momauguin School playground was purchased approximately seven years ago.
- **Assistant's Report:** The Assistant Superintendent reported on the College and Career Readiness presentation attended by approximately 30–35 families, including eighth-grade families, which was designed to support informed decision-making about high school enrollment and course selection. The presentation emphasized that rigorous coursework looks different for each student and should reflect an appropriate level of challenge aligned with individual goals.

Families were informed about opportunities to earn college credit through academic courses, CTE programs, fine arts, and other pathways, highlighting benefits such as increased college readiness, confidence, financial savings, and development of skills aligned with the Vision of the Graduate. Updated handouts outlined current college credit offerings and CTE pathways, as well as additional career exploration courses including engineering, drone technology, aviation, and the teacher assistant program.

Naviance Student and Naviance Family were introduced as tools to support career exploration, self-discovery, and academic planning. Students use Naviance to complete interest surveys, explore career pathways, document progress toward the Vision of the Graduate, and build digital portfolios. A key feature noted was the ability to generate an instant resume using students' accomplishments, activities, and transferable skills. Families were encouraged to access the platform following a recent ParentSquare communication.

- **Superintendent's Report:** Last week, we hosted a College and Career Readiness event, which showcased our district's innovative approach to student pathways. Families, student leaders, teachers, and administrators engaged in discussions about designing rigorous, flexible coursework that supports both college and career readiness. Representatives from UConn and Connecticut State attended, and a student panel shared insights on AP courses and skill development.

We also held our first TEAM Symposium, bringing together six early-career staff members to share learning in a collaborative, reflective format. The symposium format is a new opportunity developed by TEAM Facilitators Jen Bauer and Joseph Marangell, in coordination with Lisa Veleas. It provides an alternative to the traditional essay format used to clear credentials in the first years of teaching. Participants' reflections surfaced their learning in relation to the role of teachers as facilitators of learning, bolstering student agency without compromising rigor, and supporting conditions for student-initiated revision. Staff left energized, seeing the process as authentic professional growth rather than a compliance task and feeling as though it built community within and across schools. Our next symposium is scheduled for May. Additionally, staff interest in our Science of Reading modules exceeded expectations, demonstrating a strong commitment to deepening instructional knowledge.

Finally, I want to acknowledge the extraordinary collaboration between our custodial and maintenance teams and Public Works in ensuring schools opened safely on a two-hour delay during last week's storm.

- **COFO Report:** In response to a question from the board regarding the expenditure to Synology, the funds were used to support an ongoing technology project to enhance the district's infrastructure and expand system capacity. Similar upgrades are planned for all of our elementary schools and the high school, over a period of time.

4. ACCEPTANCE OF MEETING MINUTES

- Jan 13, 2026 - Regular Meeting Minutes were Accepted ▾

5. AUDIENCE OF CITIZENS

- None.

6. NEW BUSINESS

6.1 Discussion and possible action on approval of the Superintendent's 2026-2027 Proposed Budget

Mr. Stacey ▾ made a motion to approve the Superintendent's 2026-2027 Proposed Budget.

Ms. Putney ▾ seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was taken:

Ms. DePalma	Ab... ▾
Ms. DiLungo	Yes ▾
Mr. Hennessey	Ab... ▾
Ms. Johnson	Yes ▾
Ms. Putney	Yes ▾
Ms. Santiago	Yes ▾
Mr. Stacey	Yes ▾
Ms. Torello	Yes ▾
Dr. DeLucia	Yes ▾

7 ▾ in favor, 0 ▾ opposed, 0 ▾ abstain, Motion **Passes** ▾

6.2 Discussion and possible action on approval of the Occupational Therapist Contract

Ms. Torello ▾ made a motion to approve the Occupational Therapist Contract.

Ms. Santiago ▾ seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was taken:

Ms. DePalma	Ab... ▾
Ms. DiLungo	Yes ▾
Mr. Hennessey	Ab... ▾
Ms. Johnson	Yes ▾
Ms. Putney	Yes ▾
Ms. Santiago	Yes ▾
Mr. Stacey	Yes ▾
Ms. Torello	Yes ▾
Dr. DeLucia	Yes ▾

7 ▾ in favor, 0 ▾ opposed, 0 ▾ abstain, Motion Passes ▾

7. DISCUSSION CONCERNING FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Next Meeting: Regular Meeting on Feb 10, 2026

The meeting was adjourned at **7:27 P.M.**

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle DeLucia/mna

MICHELE DELUCIA, BOARD CHAIR

Momauguin Elementary

K-5 Approx. 308 Students



Tuttle Elementary

K-5 Approx. 279 Students



Deer Run Elementary

PK-2 Approx. 221 Students



Ferrara Elementary

3-5 Approx. 178 Students



East Haven Academy

1-5 Approx. 178 Students
(elementary aged)



East Haven Board of Education
35 Wheelbarrow Lane
East Haven, CT 06513

Subject: Request for Funding for a New School Playground at Momauguin Elementary

Dear Members of the Board of Education,

On behalf of the Momauguin school Parent Teacher Organization (PTO), We are writing to formally request the Board's support in purchasing a new playground for our students.

Our current playground equipment is not suitable and is in disrepair. We are requesting a new, appropriate playground to ensure our students have a safe and engaging space for physical activity and social development during recess.

The current playground equipment is a source of concern for both parents, teachers and community members.

- The swings have been removed multiple times for safety concerns for the past 2 years and eventually deemed unrepairable
- The current playground does not include a variety of accessibility, does not support the physical number of students during recess and is not rated for the range and abilities of the student population.

Proposed Project and PTO Contribution:

The PTO has funded our previous playground in its entirety 10+ years ago. We have researched potential equipment and have a preliminary estimate.

We are requesting the Board of Education to allocate the \$200,000.00 to cover the cost of the new playground and installation. We are happy to obtain a detailed list of proposed equipment and installation costs for your review.

We are confident that a new playground would be a valuable asset to our students and our town community.

We would welcome the opportunity to present our proposal in more detail at an upcoming board meeting.

Thank you for your time, consideration, and continued support of Momauguin Elementary.


Signer	Affiliation
Deena Nicol-Blifford	My child attends Momauguin Elementary School, I'm a local community member
Alexander Blifford	My child attends Momauguin Elementary School
Danielle Blackstone	My child attends Momauguin Elementary School
Cherie Bicknell	My child attends Momauguin Elementary School
Judy Dotson	My child attends Momauguin Elementary School
Kimberly Tappen	My child attends Momauguin Elementary School
Amber, Audet	My child attends Momauguin Elementary School

Erica Flanagan	Previous employee of Momauguin
Alexis crisanti	My child attends Momauguin Elementary School
Bill Schlotterhausen	My child attends Momauguin Elementary School
Josephine Bicknell	Grandmother of student and com member
Diana ek	My child attends Momauguin Elementary School
Thomas Slocum	I'm a local community member
Crissy Morro	Employee of Momauguin
Guillermo Schlotterhausen	My child attends Momauguin Elementary School
Jenny Casey	My child attends Momauguin Elementary School
Alyse Spero-Geremia	Para Educator
Karli LoRicco	My child attends Momauguin Elementary School
Stacy Gambardella	Para
Margarita Martinez Orns	My child attends Momauguin Elementary School, I'm a local community member
Coree Limoncelli	Grandchildren attend this school
Stacy Gutierrez	My child attends Momauguin Elementary School
Pat Linley	I work in the kitchen at momauguin
Kristin vocatura	Para
Moore, Donna	I'm a local community member, relative of a student attending Momauguin Elementary
Kim Marcell	My child attends Momauguin Elementary School
Tanya Pappacoda	My child attends Momauguin Elementary School
Lesley Fraenza	My child attends Momauguin Elementary School
Briana Gennette	My child attends Momauguin Elementary School
Theresa Pizzorusso	Ex employee
John Fraenza	My child attends Momauguin Elementary School
Lesley Fraenza	My child attends Momauguin Elementary School
Nancy Vargas	My child attends Momauguin Elementary School
Tara Delvecchio	Grandparent
Steve DeLucia	I'm a local community member
Kevin Whyte	My child attends Momauguin Elementary School
Donald White	My grandson goes to that school
AL SERETNY	I'm a local community member
Lisa Macdonald	I'm a local community member
Kenny Macdonald	I'm a local community member
Heather Heidtman	Teacher at Momauguin
Michelle rivera	I'm a local community member
Francisco ortiz	I'm a local community member
Jessica Viscuso	My child attends Momauguin Elementary School
Meagan Freeman	I'm a local community member

Ienore berrios	I'm a local community member
Robert Bicknell	My Grandchild attends this elementary school
Brittany Pesapane	I'm a local community member
Dainalys Santiago	Live in the community
Kerry Martens	I'm a local community member
Samantha Berrios	I'm a local community member
Tracy Carrero	I'm a local community member, EHA student, momauguin district. (Playground was one of the factors we picked the different school!)
Dianne White	Grandson
Gabriela Villalta	I'm a local community member
Liene Virse	I'm a local community member, Will attend next year
Gints Putenis	I'm a local community member, Will attend next year
Joanne Wright	My child attends Momauguin Elementary School
Julie Hurley	Paraprofessional
Julissa arminio	I'm a local community member
Susan Tsois	My child attends Momauguin Elementary School
Jessica darnstaedt	I'm a local community member
Dana Bristol	My child attends Momauguin Elementary School
Jennifer Obuhanick	My child attends Momauguin Elementary School
Erica Borzillo	I'm a local community member
Maria Palumbo	I'm a local community member
Kristie Violano	My child attends Momauguin Elementary School
Tracy Whyte-Davis	My child attends Momauguin Elementary School
Elizabeth Goulet	My child attends Momauguin Elementary School
Justin Goulet	My child attends Momauguin Elementary School
Angela Martinez	I'm a local community member
Jose Martinez	I'm a local community member
Dalteas, Boomer	I'm a local community member
Sharon Dixon	Substitute teacher
Jennifer Zeiss	I'm a local community member
Candace Fazio	I'm a local community member, All 3 of my kids attended
Robin Incerto	I'm a local community member
Denise huelsman	I'm a local community member
Alexia Gagliardi	I'm a local community member
Finessa	I'm a local community member
Christina Franco	My child attends Momauguin Elementary School
Rose Charboneau	I'm a local community member
Carol Scofield	My son Vincent Borzillo Sr. is the amazing custodian there, and will do what it takes to help these children get what they deserve! Not to mention they should have had one YEARS AGO!
Abbie Paprocki Smith	I'm a local community member

Anna Borisovs	Past employee
Paulina Usky	I'm a local community member
Keron Williams	I'm a local community member
Marybeth Little	I'm a east haven Bus driver
Julie Gordon	Staff
Valenti, Mary	My child attends Momauguin Elementary School
Marlowe Ioine	I own property in town and have a vested interest in the good of the town
Jessica Landisio	I'm a local community member
Jessica Avila	My child attends Momauguin Elementary School
Alissa McNulty	My child attends Momauguin Elementary School
Frank silva	I'm a local community member
Ricky signor	I'm a local community member
Robin Notarino	I'm a local community member
Jacqueline Cuadrado	My child attends Momauguin Elementary School
David Cuadrado	My child attends Momauguin Elementary School
Anne Bornhorst	I'm a local community member
Jamie Rubet	I'm a local community member
Jennine Rivera	Employee
Kelly delucia	I'm the library aide here
Morgan Blackstone	My child attends Momauguin Elementary School
Melissa Clark	I have family that attends the school
Bridget	Teacher at Momauguin Elementary School
Davia Burke	Teacher
Kimberlee Andrulat	I'm a local community member, EHPS employee (students previously attended & one will in a few years)
Donald Moffett	I'm a local community member, Students previously attended and another one will in a few years
Savannah Moffett	I'm a local community member, Attended momauguin
Joshua Moffett	I'm a local community member, Attended momauguin
Kristen D'Amico	I'm a local community member
Thomas Caruthers	Momauguin Para
Sally Travaglino	Aunt of student
Elizabeth Buddington	I'm a local community member
Debra Murray	staff at Momauguin School
Paul Murray	Grew up and attended Momauguin School
OBrien	Momauguin Teacher
Scott Esposito	Kindergarten teacher
Donald Cronk	My child attends Momauguin Elementary School
Donna Burrows	I'm a local community member
Katherine	Momauguin paraprofessional

Gambacini	
Michael Reyes	My grandchildren attend Momauguin Elementary School
Maddison Travaglino	My cousin attends this school!
Susan Page	I'm a local community member
Kenneth Scofield	I'm a local community member
Mia marchitto	My child attends Momauguin Elementary School
Cole Brown	I'm a local community member
Corinne Ouellette	School Social Worker
Kathy Ardito	Happy Aunt
Tiffany Townsend	My child attends Momauguin Elementary School
Deborah Petruzzelli	I'm a local community member,
Kelly Squeglia	My child attends Momauguin Elementary School
Warren Gould	I'm a local community member
Gianna Corso	I'm a local community member
Paige Mino	My child attends Momauguin Elementary School
Alesandra Sicuranza	Teacher
Isa bolotin	My child attends Momauguin Elementary School
Melissa Ackerman	My child attends Momauguin Elementary School, I'm a local community member
Gina Macholl	My child attends Momauguin Elementary School
Lisa Simmons	I'm a local community member
Arleen Marrero	I'm a local community member
Rachel Brenner	teacher
Kristine White	I'm an aunt of a momauguin student
Anthony D'Alessio	I'm a local community member
Maria Pappacoda	My granddaughter attends Momauguin Elementary School
Samantha Rodriguez	My child attends Momauguin Elementary School



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Sincerely,



Elizabeth Goulet

11/12/25

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Sincerely,

Vincent Borzillo

We currently have no swings as they are unsafe and a small playscape that the company who handles our install and repairs said is only meant for 10-12 kids and we have 2-3 classes out there at one time, multiple times a day. All the other schools received new playscapes to accommodate the correct amount of students. We NEED one as well.