



**MINUTES OF THE APRIL 28th, 2026 BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING
IN-PERSON AND ZOOM**

Roll Call of Board Members:

Michael Morrill – Putnam
Nelson King – Killingly
Kathleen Sposato – Pomfret
Shana Boland – Stafford
Katherine Paulhus – Mansfield
Lindsay Spielman – Sprague
Maryellen Donnelly – Hampton
Amy Blank – zoom – Union
Justin Phaiah – Brooklyn

EASTCONN STAFF PRESENT:

Eric Protulis, Carol Klemyk, Brian Greenleaf, Melanie Marcaccio, Dona Prindle, Kristin Hempel, Diane Gozemba, Kim Mansfield, Laura Lybarger, Ravit Stein, Andy DePalma – zoom, Shawn Brodeur - zoom

The meeting was called to order at 5:32 pm by Board Vice Chair, Maryellen Donnelly

Pledge of Allegiance

Audience with Citizens – None

Additions to the Agenda –None

Update and Review of the Audit from FY2025

Approve the Minutes from the February 2026 and the March 2026 Board of Directors' Meeting:

MOTION:

Maryellen Donnelly motioned to approve the Minutes as presented

SECOND:	Michael Morrill
VOTE:	Unanimous
ABSTENTIONS:	None

Committee Reports:

Policy Committee: Updates from Melanie Marcaccio, Katherine Paulhus and Maryellen Donnelly

Presentation of First Read of Policies - no vote needed for first read

5024.1.2 Student Dress

5032.1.1 Use of Private Technology Devices by Students

5043.1.1 Restorative Practices Response Policy

Postpone the Use of Private Technology Devices as this is on the state agenda

Facilities Committee: Updates from Eric Protulis and Shawn Brodeur

Update on Westcott Road purchase and the CIF application

Renting Adult Ed space at Westcott

Partnership with Day Kimball being explored

Commerce Drive remains for sale

Finance Committee: Updates from Brian Greenleaf and Eric Protulis

Reviewed the updated financials for this year

Reviewed the general fund operating surplus

FY26 – continuing to make progress on the revenue side – ERC money is not represented in the budget document

Updated the freeze on the budget

Transportation is a driver in seeing reductions on revenue

Head Start Updates:

Updates on the ERSEA Training

Hired a Parent Educator/Home Visitor

Reviewed the overall budget

Discussed Enrollment Counts

Updated monthly meal counts

How are families doing compared to last year?

EASTCONN's "WOW" (comments from families):

Positive outcomes are related to the "high quality of staff"

The program makes better parents and advocates for the children
Helpful resources and information
Appreciate the fact that EASTCONN is inclusive and diverse
The prioritization of education and emotional development of students and families
Perceived Stress Scale
Targets for Family Goals

Enrollment Report

Stable Counts at all sites
Focus is on bringing new students in for summer schools

Division Directors' Report and Executive Director Summary Sheet:

New hires – reflection of growth that is happening with the Office of Early Childhood
Birth to Three is working with other RESCs
Legislative Advocacy continues
Northeast project for child development – survey communities to find out childcare needs in the communities
Digital campaigns – GEER work
Positive results from magnet school recruitment efforts
Solar Panel Project: target is be up and running by the summer

Human Resources Report:

Staff counts are remaining steady
Ongoing recruitment – very active recruitment efforts
Will see changes in numbers over the next few months

GRANT EXCEL DOCUMENT:

Grant for updating the kitchen at EASTCONN's Columbia facility and increasing our ability to buy locally sourced foods

MISCELLANEOUS:

Whirlwind of legislative effort – at LOB twice a week – counting down to May 7th
Updates on RESC Alliance Advocacy Group Statewide
Providing a unified voice on items to present to Legislators
Stabilization money – support for EASTCONN

Review of the proposed schedule for all meetings for 2026-2027 – will vote on this item at the May Annual Board Meeting

Consent Agenda:

MOTION:	Katherine Paulhus motioned to approve the full Consent Agenda as presented
SECOND:	Maryellen Donnelly
VOTE:	Unanimous
ABSTENTIONS:	None

Executive Session:

MOTION:	Maryellen motioned to enter into Executive Session and invite Eric Protulis and Brian Greenleaf to discuss the legal opinion at 6:55 pm
SECOND:	Katherine Paulhus
VOTE:	Unanimous
ABSTENTIONS:	None

Exited Executive Session at 7:12pm

MOTION to Adjourn:	Maryellen motioned to adjourn at 7:15 pm
SECOND:	Katherine Paulhus
VOTE:	Unanimous
ABSTENTIONS:	None

Respectfully Submitted,
Carol Klemyk
Executive Assistant