

EAST GREENWICH SCHOOL COMMITTEE**MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 4, 2005 SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING****1. Call to Order**

The first School Committee meeting for October was held on Tuesday, October 4, 2005 at the Hanaford School. The meeting was called to order by Chair Vincent Bradley at 7:00 p.m. Other members present were: Merrill Friedemann, Paul Martin, Steve Gregson, Dr. Al Ross, William Day, and Sue Cienki, as well as Superintendent Charles Meyers, and Director of Administration Maryanne Crawford.

4. Reports to the School Committee**4.1 Budget Report**

Mr. Meyers stated that the school budget was reduced by \$400,000 and the reductions were achieved by eliminating an administrative position, reductions in retirement contributions, hiring teachers at lower salaries, consolidating finances, and cutting equipment and materials. He stated that the School Committee would ask the Town Council to give them \$400,000 in escrow. The Town Council wants a three year expense projection and a discussion of the 2007 plan. Mr. Gregson said that hard decisions need to be made on Cole and the playing fields at the high school. Mr. Day noted that Bill Sequino wants to have a separate referendum for the fields. Mr. Meyers stated that if the money is not given to the School Committee, the budget would have to be frozen and extracurricular activities cut for the

spring. Mrs. Friedemann stated that the Committee should be more solution oriented before getting into hysteria about cutting sports.

5. Public Comments for Items not on the Agenda

Mr. Robert Vespia asked if the board in the central office could be updated.

6. Approval of Minutes

These minutes were tabled until changes could be made.

a. June 21, 2005 Executive Session

b. August 16, 2005 School Committee Meeting

7. New Business

7.1 Vote to approve special education paraprofessional positions at Frenchtown and Hanaford

Schools. Mrs. Friedemann made a motion which was seconded by Mr. Day to approve hiring a paraprofessional at Frenchtown and Hanaford School. The motion passed unanimously.

7.2 Appointments

Mr. Gregson made a motion which was seconded by Mrs. Friedemann to approve the following appointments: The motion passed unanimously.

7.2.1 Maria Portugali, 0.9 Science Teacher at East Greenwich High School, for one year only,

effective August 30, 2005

7.2.2 Debra McMullen, Intramural Field Hockey Advisor at Cole Middle School.

7.2.3 Lara Parish, co-advisor for the class of 2009.

7.2.4 Andrew Perrin, co-advisor for the class of 2009.

7.2.5 Melissa Tiscione, detention supervisor for East Greenwich High School

7.3 Parental Leave

Mr. Martin made a motion which was seconded by Mr. Gregson to approve the following parental leave.

7.3.1 Heather Kohlhase, parental leave from November 14, 2005 until the end of the 05-06

school year. The motion passed unanimously.

7.4 Disposal of Obsolete Equipment

Mr. Gregson made a motion which was seconded by Mr. Day to approve the disposal of the

following obsolete equipment. Old textbooks, and broken and obsolete equipment from high school library. The motion passed unanimously.

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8. School Committee Concerns

Mr. Gregson spoke about a bus situation for sports after school. Mr. Meyers stated that the bus company is doubling up on athletic trips, and they need to plan better.

Mr. Day asked about the schedule for the trainer for games.

Mr. Bradley stated that the School Committee is waiting for chairs and tables in order to have their meetings at the high school. He also noted that the town is assisting him in obtaining a bid for audio equipment to be used at the high school.

Mrs. Friedemann asked for a monthly budget report.

9. Public Comments for Items on the Agenda

Mrs. Connie McCormack asked when the teachers would be trained on the new purchase order

process. Mr. Meyers responded that once the budget is put in, teachers would be able to see their balances. Mrs. Crawford stated that Mr. Mattos would be training people on the purchase order process. She also noted that any purchase orders she has received have been signed and sent over to the town.

Mr. Vespia asked why furniture is being purchased for School Committee meetings at the high school. Mr. Meyers responded that the furniture will be used by others at the high school.

10. Executive Session, R.I.G.L. 42-46-5 (a) (1) (2) Personnel Issues, Contract Negotiations (Custodians), Unfair Labor Practice #5763 (Payroll Data Handled by Secretaries)

On a motion made by Mr. Gregson and seconded by Mrs. Friedemann, the Committee, being polled individually, voted unanimously to go into Executive session at 7:40 p.m. for the items listed above.

Respectfully submitted,

Virginia Giuliani

Secretary