

**EAST GREENWICH SCHOOL COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES OF THE April 24, 2007 SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING**

**EAST GREENWICH HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM**

**ANY ITEMS CONSIDERED BY SCHOOL COMMITTEE MAY BE SUBJECT TO A VOTE**

**1. Pledge of Allegiance**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Sue Cienki at 7:00p.m. The following members were present: William Day, Merrill Friedemann, Mary Ellen Winters, Susan Records, JeanAnn Guliano, and Anne Palumbo as well as Superintendent Charles Meyers, Maryanne Crawford, and Robert Wilmarth.

**2. Public Comments -None**

**3. Approval of Minutes -None**

**4. Recognitions**

The following students were recognized for their achievements:

**4.1 Jeff Winters, 1st team all-state in the 100 fly and 50 freestyle swim events**

**Susan O'Connell, 2nd team all-state in the 600m indoor track event**

**Victoria Ahrens, 1st team all-state girls' basketball**

**Alexa Monti, 2nd team all-state girls' basketball**

**Hillary Noble, academic all-state girls' basketball**

**Hayley Sullivan, academic all-state girls' indoor track**

**4.2 Girls' basketball team-Sportsmanship Award, RIIL Board of Girls' Basketball Officials**

**4.3 Cast and Crew of Cinderella: Tim Kenney and Rob Petrucci Directors. Caroline Bateson, Molly Behrends, Jamie Martin, Jennifer Scanlon, Racheal Reale, Molly Pritchard, Meredith Thurston, Marshall Ross, Devon Annicelli, Rachael O'Donnelly, Erin Pyne, Jeff Rusack, Will Pett, Rebecca Donald, Jonathan Ordog, Tom Pritchard, John Kane, Dan Costello, Ryann Brady, Vicky Rose, Liz Wong, Katrina Traficante, Kate Richman, Claire Thompson Mia Cooper, Michelle Doll, Laura Scanlon, Noelle Patnaude, Lauren Kistler, Molly Burman, John Kane, Andrew Schaller, Win Platt, Sevan Donoian, Casey O'Malley, Claire Fallon, Dan Costello, Jon Kane, Rachel Devine, Melissa Lorenzo, Esther Sanchez, Kelly Estes, Sarah Corr, Courtney Howell, Andrew Kagan, Neil Roubachard, Brannigan Duguay, Diana Schaller, and Corey DeLisle**

## **5. New Business**

### **5.1 Appointments**

**5.1.1 On a motion made by Mr. Day and seconded by Mrs. Records, the Committee voted unanimously to approve the appointment of Peter Fitzpatrick, Boys' Head Tennis Coach, at EGHS**

**5.1.2 Michael Podraza, Assistant Principal, EGHS-This appointment was tabled.**

### **5.2 Parental Leaves**

**On a motion made by Mrs. Guliano and seconded by Mr. Day, the Committee voted 5 to 2 to approve the following parental leaves:**

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**5.2.1 Diane Paolino, CPT Teacher at Hanaford School, for**

**07-08 5.2.2 Aneta Kostrzewa, grade 6 at Eldredge School, for 07-08**

**6. Approve appointment of Architect**

**Mr. Jay Gowell, Chair of the Facilities Committee, gave an overview of the firm, SMMA. He noted that four firms were interviewed with rigorous assessment criteria. Mr. Jonathan Winikur from SBS, stated that he approves the selection of SMMA but he is still reviewing the terms. The fees for the design are \$100,000 and 6.9% of the project budget. He also stated that he has been in communication with the Department of Education regarding pre-referendum and post referendum services. He also noted that RIDE is closely scrutinizing project approvals on pressure from the legislature, and they want our referendum date slowed down by a few months. He noted that authorization for reimbursement will be in place before referendum. Mrs. Cienki stated that the presentation to the Town Council is to show them the \$61 million project.**

**Mrs. Palumbo made a motion that the School Committee approve \$100,000 for pre referendum services and 6.9% of the budget for post-referendum services (a total of \$3.1 million in fees), subject to the agreement of the contract terms, pending approval of the contract. This was seconded by Mrs. Winters. Mr. Meyers stated that the Town Council and our lawyers will view the contract. Mrs. Guliano is concerned with approving this tonight because of the uncertainty of the status of the submission to the State. Mr. Gowell feels that the architect needs to be on board now since a design is needed in order to have the cost. On the motion made by Mrs. Palumbo, Mrs. Cienki, Mr. Day, Mrs. Palumbo, Mrs. Winters voted yes.**

**Mrs. Friedemann and Mrs. Guliano voted no. The motion passed. It was noted that the applications to RIDE for reimbursement must now be submitted under the new regs in two stages.**

**7. Presentation on Performance Based Graduation Requirement Partnership with Providence College and University of Rhode Island**

**Mrs. Pat Page stated that East Greenwich has selected the senior project as a graduation requirement. Providence College graduation students will be the primary readers for the writing component along with the high school faculty. Dr. Sally Thibodeau, Director of Secondary Education at PC stated that Providence College has been involved in authentic assessment and our students will be well served.**

**8. First Reading of Graduation by Proficiency Policy**

**Mr. Meyers stated that it is State Law to have this policy and it provides all the information we need to deal with multi-handicapped students. It will help us when we go for the Commissioner's Review, and enhance our position with the New England Association of Schools and Colleges.**

**9. Approval of Visit of Salvadoran Student/Athletes from the Institute for International Sport**

**Craig MacKenzie, Foreign Language teacher at the high school is requesting that twenty students from El Salvador come here at the beginning of the winter sports season to participate in classes and sports at the high school for one week. There is no cost to East Greenwich and he will use his Service Learning Grant. Mrs. Records made a motion which was seconded by Mr. Day to approve the visit**

by students from El Salvador. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **10. Wellness Committee Update**

Dr. Paul Agatiello summarized the events of this committee over the past month. He noted that the policy was passed unanimously by the Wellness Committee, and almost the entire policy has to do with State Law. The first reading of this policy

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will be held at the School Committee meeting on May 15 and there will be time for discussion then. Dr. Agatiello noted that the mental health component will be split off from the Wellness Policy.

#### **11. Discussion of House Bill 5637**

This bill is to amend legislation passed last June closing school on primary day. SORICO is proposing this legislation to keep schools open on primary day.

#### **12. Feedback on Proposed SORICO Strategic Plan**

Mrs. Records will attend SORICO's next meeting to obtain the information.

#### **13. Award bid for recruitment system to School Spring in the amount of \$4,822**

Mrs. Crawford stated that this is a bid for an automated recruitment system so we don't have to advertise in the paper. It allows a national search and principals and interviewing committees will be able to view the applications on line. She noted that School Spring attends Job Fairs and they are connected to the colleges. Mrs. Day made a motion which was seconded by Mrs. Palumbo to approve the bid. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **14. Award bid for Bleachers and Dugouts**

**Mr. Wilmarth noted that this is to improve the fields at all schools. Mr. Day made a motion which was seconded by Mrs. Palumbo to award the bid was awarded to DWD, Inc. in the amount of \$152,500. The motion passed unanimously.**

**15. On a motion made by Mrs. Records and seconded by Mrs. Palumbo, the Committee voted unanimously to approve the out-of-state field trip to Boston on May 15, 2007 to the Freedom Trail for Eldredge School. Mrs. Crawford stated that as long as the field trips are recommended by the School Committee, they are covered under our insurance.**

**16. On a motion made by Mrs. Friedemann and seconded by Mrs. Palumbo, the Committee voted unanimously to approve the out-of-state field trip for East Greenwich Boys' Cross Country Team to attend the Excel-erate Distance Running Camp from August 13 to 17 in NH**

**17. Zoar Outdoor Whitewater Rafting trip to Charlemont, MA on Saturday, June 16 for Cole students. Mr. Day made a motion which was seconded by Mrs. Records to approve the trip to Charlemont, MA for June 16. The motion passed with Mrs. Friedemann voting no.**

#### **18. School Facilities Improvement Plan**

**Mr. Meyers stated that this plan will be presented to the Town Council on April 26, 2007.**

#### **19. School Committee Concerns**

**Mrs. Guliano asked about the lock down at the high school. Mrs.**

**Cienki stated that there is a company that will give phone or email notification to parents in case of an emergency.**

**It was noted that the Town manager is recommending a \$125,000 reduction in the school budget.**

**Mrs. Friedemann is concerned with money issues since the School Committee hasn't said no to any new spending in the past few months.**

**Mr. Day asked about bus problems for sports teams during April vacation.**

## **20. Adjournment**

**On a motion made by Mr. Day and seconded by Mrs. Records, the Committee voted unanimously to adjourn at 10:25p.m.**

**Respectfully submitted,**