

August 14, 2007 School Committee Meeting

The August meeting of the East Greenwich School Committee was held at the Town Hall at 7:00p.m. The following members were present: Sue Cienki, Chair, Skip Day, Vice-Chair, Merrill Friedemann, Anne Palumbo, MaryEllen Winters, Susan Records and JeanAnn Guliano, as well as Superintendent Charles Meyers, Assistant Superintendent, Helen O'Hara, Director of Administration, Maryanne Crawford, and Facilities Director Robert Wilmarth. The meeting commenced with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Mr. Day made a motion which was seconded by Mrs. Winters to go into Executive Session at 7:05p.m. under R.I.G.L. 42-46-5(a) (1) for the purpose of teacher contract negotiations. Attorney Ackerman gave an update. At 7:40 p.m. Mrs. Guliano made a motion which was seconded by Mr. Day to go out of Executive Session and into regular session.

2. Public Comments

Mrs. Christine Mattos, 62 Phillips Road, stated that if a school committee member is participating in contract negotiations and is a member of a PTG that would be a conflict of interest. She also would like to have budget actual salaries and benefit costs for new hires versus last year and what was budgeted.

She also noted that there will be a meeting at the Fire Station concerning the recent issue with hazardous materials at the high school and middle school. She feels that senior administration and

School Committee should be present. Mrs. Mattos stated that the Fire Department has filed a request for records. Mr. Meyers stated that he will be at the meeting and feels that the school department can amend the previous problems and move forward.

Tricia Colgan, Red Barn Lane, spoke to the Committee to express her concerns with the new starting times. She noted that it is difficult for after school events. Mr. Meyers stated that he has looked into this but to go to a two tier system would mean having to add more buses and that is too expensive.

Amy Jo Ryan who has a son at Eldredge, stated that her son attended summer camp at the high school through Parks and Recreation and is concerned with the chemicals in the cistern. She wonders if kids need to be tested. Mr. Meyers stated that he was assured by environmental consultants that it doesn't pose any danger. He also noted that there are no lead paint issues at Eldredge.

3. Approval of Minutes

On a motion made by Mr. Day and seconded by Mrs. Winters, the Committee voted unanimously to approve the following minutes with minor changes to the June 5 Executive Session minutes.

June 5 Executive Sessions

June 19 School Committee Meeting

July 18 School Committee and Executive Session Meetings

4. Report from Jon Winikur of SBS

Mr. Winikur stated that option three is the best fit for the site of a new middle school. He noted that the new construction fits best with three floors. Mr. Winikur outlined the process, stating that numbers

will be given to the Facilities Committee on August 30, options will be developed to get figures within the budget, and schematics completed the end of September, and then have the application sent to the Finance

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Committee at the State to get approved. He noted that the School Committee will vote once more schematic drawings are done and the cost is given. Mr. Winikur stated that cost estimates are done at every stage of design.

5. Report from Superintendent on the Strategic Plan

Mr. Meyers stated that the first meeting to develop this plan was in August 2006, then again in February and June 2007. He will speak to the teachers about this plan at their Orientation Day.

6. New Business

6.1 LAYOFFS - Paraprofessionals

Layoffs for paraprofessionals are tabled.

6.2 Appointments

On a motion made by Mr. Records and seconded by Mr. Day, the Committee voted unanimously to approve the following appointments 6.2.2 through 6.2.11: Mr. Meyers stated that he is also hiring a per diem former retired counselor at approximately \$350/day to help students go through the college application process.

TEACHERS

6.2.2 Galen Largay, 0.7 Guidance Counselor at East Greenwich High School, effective August 30, 2007

6.2.3 Lori Patnaude, Paula Dillon, and Kimberly Morgan, Freshmen

Class co-advisors

6.2.4 Amy Manchester, Speech/Language Pathologist for the East Greenwich Public Schools, for one year only, effective August 30, 2007

6.2.5 Brendan Carniaux, 0.2 Music/Composition Teacher at East Greenwich High School, for the 2007-2008 school year effective August 30, 2007

6.2.6 Keith Doucette, 0.2 Technical for the 2007-2008 school year effective August 30, 2007

6.2.7 John George, 0.1 Science Teacher at East Greenwich High School for the 2007-2008 school year effective August 30, 2007

6.2.8 Ashley Ross, English teacher at Cole Middle School, effective August 30, 2007

6.2.9 Peter Tausek, English Teacher at Cole Middle School, effective August 30, 2007

6.2.10 Ramona McGillivray, Science Teacher at Cole Middle School, effective August 30, 2007

6.2.11 Elissa Berger, Social Studies Teacher at Cole Middle School, effective August 30, 2007

6.3 SUPPORT STAFF:

Mrs. Guliano made a motion which was seconded by Mrs. Records to approve the following support staff:

6.3.12 Tamara Walsh, Bookkeeper at Central Office, effective 8-7-07

6.3.13 Joan Loppi, Special Education Clerk, Central Office, effective 8-14-07

Mrs. Crawford stated that these positions are needed to centralize our

payroll and to automate the special education paperwork. Our auditor in the fiscal office may be phased out. Mr. Meyers stated that these positions are really needed and one reason is that Joy Lonardo bid into an opening as Secretary at Meadowbrook School because she didn't want to work during the summer, and that left an opening.

Mrs. Crawford stated that we need to centralize the accounts payable and payable functions. Mrs. Friedemann asked why we have so many consultants. Mr.

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Meyers also stated that we have to provide certain administrative functions. Mrs. Crawford stated that the new bookkeeper will work on human resources, accounts payable and payroll. The motion to hire the two central office support staff people passed with Mr. Day and Mrs. Friedemann voting no.

COACHES:

On a motion made by Mr. Day and seconded by Mrs. Guliano, the Committee voted unanimously to approve the following coaching appointments:

6.3.14 Massamba Sow, Head Boys' Soccer Coach at Cole

Scott Reslow, Head Girls' Volleyball Coach at EGHS

Stephanie Gloria, head girls' soccer coach at Cole Middle School

6.4 Resignations:

On a motion made by Mrs. Guliano and seconded by Mr. Day, the Committee voted unanimously to accept the following resignations:

6.4.15 Nina Mackta, fifty percent of her position as the Director of the School Mentoring Program

**6.4.16 Stephanie Pavone, English Teacher at Cole Middle School,
effective 7-18-07**

**6.4.17 Caroline Stabile, Science Teacher at Cole Middle School,
effective 8-30-07**

6.5 Leave of Absence:

**On a motion made by Mr. Day and seconded by Mrs. Records, the
Committee voted unanimously to accept the following leave of
absence:**

**6.5.18 Claudia Smith, Paraprofessional at Meadowbrook Farms
School,**

7. Home School Request

**On a motion made by Mrs. Records and seconded by Mr. Day, the
Committee voted unanimously to approve the following home school
request:**

**7.1 David Weekers, kindergarten student, for the 2007-2008 school
year**

**8. On a motion made by Mr. Day and seconded by Mrs. Winters the
Committee voted unanimously to approve the out-of-state high
school boys' and girls' Cross Country meet on October 6 in Thetford,
Vermont.**

9. Wellness Policy Review

**Mr. Day made a motion which was seconded by Mrs. Records to
table this review. The motion passed unanimously.**

10. First Reading of new Bullying Policy

**Mrs. Friedemann asked about parents being brought in and
educated. She noted that there needs to be consequences for**

students' actions.

11. Building Committee Charge

Mr. Day made a motion which was seconded by Mrs. Guliano to approve the Building Committee charge. Mr. Meyers read the charge and noted that it is similar to the Facilities Committee charge. The motion passed with Mrs. Friedemann voting no.

12. Bids for Frenchtown School freezer and High School boiler valves

Mrs. Guliano made a motion which was seconded by Mrs. Records to approve the bid for the Frenchtown School freezer. The motion passed unanimously. The bid for the high school boiler valves was not ready.

13. Mrs. Records made a motion which was seconded by Mr. Day to adjourn at 9:50p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,