

**EAST GREENWICH SCHOOL COMMITTEE MINUTES**

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2007**

**Hanaford School Gymnasium**

**200 Middle Road**

**East Greenwich, RI 02818**

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

**VOTE**

**The School Committee meeting was called to order at 7:00p.m. in the Hanaford School Gymnasium. Members present were: Sue Cienki, Chair, Merrill Friedemann, Anne Palumbo, Mary Ellen Winters, JeanAnn Guliano, and Susan Records, as well as Charles Meyers, Maryanne Crawford, Helen O'Hara, and Robert Wilmarth. The meeting commenced with the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. Mr. Day was absent.**

**2. Public Comments – There were no public comments.**

**3. Approval of Minutes**

**On a motion made by Mrs. Palumbo and seconded by Mrs. Guliano, the Committee voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the November 6 Regular and Executive Sessions.**

**4. New Business**

**4.1 Retirement**

**4.1.1 On a motion made by Mrs. Palumbo and seconded by Mrs. Guliano, the Committee voted unanimously to accept the retirement of Donna Correia, Administrative Assistant, effective December 28,**

**2007, after 22 years of service.**

## **4.2 Appointments**

**On a motion made by Mrs. Palumbo and seconded by Mrs. Guliano, the Committee voted to approve the following appointments with Mrs. Friedemann voting no, and Mrs. Guliano abstaining.**

**4.2.1 Kelsey Galliot, Cheerleading Advisor at Cole**

**4.2.2 Elaine Balkcom, Intramural Coordinator at Cole**

### **Middle School**

**4.2.3 Cheryl Augaitis-Gilkenson, Data Processing Clerk at the central office, effective Monday, December 3, 2007**

**Mrs. Friedemann stated that we should look at whether this clerk's position can absorb Mrs. Correira's job. Mrs. O'Hara stated that the data processing clerk's position includes two jobs and one of them is working for Jerry Nettik, the Director of Technology. She also stated that there are only 2.6 support people in the special education office and they are all service providers. Mr. Meyers stated that no one else can absorb this position and there is a lot of work to do in central office. Mrs. Friedemann stated that since there is no money she needs justification for the people who are hired.**

## **5. High School Principal Search**

**Mr. Meyers noted that this position will be advertised in Education Week and will run for two weeks, with applications due the end of January. He also noted that he and Helen will be on the screening committee along with teachers, parents, and two School Committee members. Mrs. Guliano stated that we should look at a salary range, which is an average of the entire state, prior to interviewing. Mrs.**

**Records stated that we shouldn't hire anyone at the high end since they need to grow.**

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**Mrs. Friedemann stated that according to an article in the Providence Journal, Providence has 26,000 students and their superintendent's salary is in the \$165,000 to \$185,000 range.**

#### **6. Budget Priorities/Budget Workshop to be held on December 8**

**Mr. Meyers stated that the School Committee will be involved in a budget workshop on Saturday. He noted that principals are putting their budgets together for a December 14 meeting. He noted that it has been a difficult year and we have tough decisions ahead of us. He also stated that 1.4 million dollars is the maximum allowable budget we can present. Mrs. Crawford stated that we need to take a hard look at budget priorities and need to decide on programs and policies. She also noted that the deficit for the last fiscal year will be between \$148,000 and \$175,000. Mrs. Cienki noted that the Town Council intends to cut our budget by \$500,000. Mrs. Friedemann would like an accounting of what we spent by accounts because she needs to know where the money was spent. Mrs. Crawford stated that once we have the final audited figures we'll know where we overspent or underspent.**

#### **7. Update on Building Project and Fields**

**Mrs. Guliano stated that meetings have begun and a meeting was recently held with Cole neighbors who had legitimate concerns that will be addressed with SMMA. She noted that meetings will be held**

with senior citizens and the Chamber of Commerce. It was noted that Ed Frenette from SMMA will put the virtual tour on our website. Mr. Meyers thanked Mrs. Guliano for putting together the informational packets for the meetings.

#### **8. Girls' Basketball out-of-state trip**

Mrs. Palumbo made a motion which was seconded by Mrs. Guliano to approve the girls' basketball trip. The motion passed unanimously.

9. On a motion made by Mrs. Guliano and seconded by Mrs. Palumbo, the Committee voted to go into Executive Session under RIGL 42-46-5 (a) (2) for Contract negotiations (teachers, custodians, paraprofessionals/secretaries, and Superintendent). Mrs. Friedemann stated that she asked that an email be sent to the School Committee about the nature of what was going to be discussed in executive session. She wanted to advise the Committee that if they discuss a person who is not part of a union it violates the Open Meetings Act. The discussion needs to be held in public. It was decided that the discussion in question will be moved to the next meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Virginia Giuliani

Secretary