

**MINUTES OF THE EAST GREENWICH SCHOOL COMMITTEE  
MEETING**

**TUESDAY, JULY 15, 2008**

**East Greenwich Town Council Chambers**

**125 Main Street**

**East Greenwich, RI 02818**

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

**VOTE**

**7:00p.m.**

**Call to Order**

**The July School Committee meeting was called to order at 7:15p.m. in the Town Hall. Members present were: Sue Cienki, Chair, Skip Day, Vice-Chair, Merrill Friedemann, JeanAnn Guliano, Mary Ellen Winters, Anne Palumbo, and Susan Records as well as Special Education Director, Paula Dillon, and Director of Administration, Maryanne Crawford.**

**2. Public Comments**

**Suzanne Greene, Friendly Road, hopes that the current and future students receive the same education she received. She noted that it wasn't the building that educated her. She noted that more people would have been at this meeting if it had been advertised correctly in the Providence Journal. The Journal advertised the meeting at Hanaford School. She also noted that many neighbors like Option 15 for the new middle school.**

### **3. Approval of Minutes of June 24, 2008 meeting**

**Mrs. Guliano made a motion which was seconded by Mrs. Palumbo to approve the minutes of the June 24 School Committee meeting with some changes. The motion passed unanimously.**

### **4. New Business**

#### **4.1 Resignations**

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

**4.1.1 Diane Paolino, Creative and Productive Thinking Teacher for Eldredge and Hanaford, effective June 23, 2008**

**4.1.2 Ryan Lynch, English Teacher at East Greenwich High School, effective August 26, 2008**

#### **4.2 Parental Leave**

**On a motion made by Mrs. Palumbo and seconded by Mrs. Guliano, the Committee voted unanimously to approve the following parental leave:**

**4.2.1 Erin Osman, Art teacher at Hanaford and Eldredge, from August 26, 2008 to January 26, 2009**

#### **4.3 Appointments**

**On a motion made by Mrs. Records and seconded by Mrs. Guliano, the Committee voted unanimously to approve the following appointments: It was noted that new teachers' certifications may be held up because of a backlog at the Department of Education certification office. They will let school systems know that teachers are certifiable.**

**4.3.1 Raquel Casanova, Special Education Alternative Learning Program Teacher at East Greenwich High School, effective August 26, 2008**

**4.3.2 Karen Ricci, 0.5 PreSchool Special Educator at Meadowbrook Farms School, effective August 26, 2008**

**4.3.3 Ashlee Barton, School Psychologist for Cole Middle and East Greenwich High Schools, effective August 26, 2008**

**4.3.4 Kimberly Ragosta, Grade 6 Teacher at Eldredge School, effective August 26, 2008, for one year only**

**4.3.5 Monica Jennings, Grade 6 Teacher at Eldredge School, effective August 26, 2008, for one year only**

**4.3.6 Jillian Bagley, Resource Teacher at the Hanaford School, effective August 26, 2008**

**4.3.7 Brandy O'Donnell, Special Education Teacher at Archie Cole Middle School, effective August 26, 2008, for one year only**

**4.3.8 Jennifer Murgo, Special Educator at East Greenwich High School, effective August 26, 2008**

**4.3.9 Benjamin Revkin, 0.4 Latin Teacher at Archie Cole Middle School, effective August 26, for one year only**

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**4.3.10 Melissa O'Neill, Science Teacher at Archie Cole Middle School, effective August 26, for one year only.**

**4.3.11 Kristine Macleod, Intensive Resource Teacher at Frenchtown School, effective August 26, 2008**

**FALL COACHING APPOINTMENTS FOR EAST GREENWICH HIGH**

## **SCHOOL**

**On a motion made by Mrs. Palumbo and seconded by Mrs. Records, the Committee voted unanimously to approve the fall coaches as follows: It was noted that all coaches are required to take the coaches education course. Mr. Varrecchione follows up to see that all coaches have the proper certification.**

**4.3.12 Bob Corr, Head Football, Vincent Ucci, Assistant Football, Joseph Ucci, Assistant Football, Andrew Sweeney, Freshman Football, Deborah McMullen, Head Girls' Field Hockey, and Peter Dion, Head Boys' Cross Country**

**4.3.13 Fall Coaches pending completion of the Coaches Education Course required by the RIIL and current CPR/FA certification:**

**Erin Newman, Head Girls' Cross Country, Renee Gannon, Assistant Girls' Field Hockey, Patrick McGuirl, Head Boys' Soccer, Robert Larocco, Assistant Boys' Soccer, and David Petrucci, Head Girls' Soccer**

**5. Approval of Placement of the Proposed New Middle School on Cole Property**

**Mr. Meyers noted that a series of meetings was held with parents and teachers asking for different alternatives. Mr. Ed Frenette, the project architect, stated that the building targets maximum space and view for all neighbors. They will place the high point of the building as close to the center of the property as possible. The new building will be moved south 100ft. and east 100ft. It was noted that there was a good turnout at the meeting with neighbors. People recognized that it was a better option. Mrs. Guliano made a motion which was**

seconded by Mrs. Winters to accept the placement of the new middle school. It was noted that it can still be revised. The motion passed with Mrs. Friedemann voting no.

#### **6. Request for Special Referendum on School Facilities**

Mr. Meyers noted that the construction plans were approved by the Board of Regents on April 23, 2008. The referendum should be held six months after the approval, but November 4 exceeds the six months by 11 days. He wrote to the Department of Education for a waiver but to date we have not had a response. Our request was sent to their legal department. It is unlikely we will be on the agenda for the August 6 Board of Regents meeting, therefore we will need a special election on October 7. The deadline for filing is August 18. Mrs. Friedemann stated that she spoke to the Board of Regents and they don't know anything about this. Mr. Meyers responded that the decision is probably in their legal department. Mrs. Friedemann will call the Commissioner's Office. The approximate cost to hold a special election is \$2500.

#### **7. Request for Sabbatical Leave**

Kathleen Hook, Spanish Teacher at Cole Middle School, spoke to the Committee about her request for the 2009-2010 school year. She stated that Costa Rica is an ideal country for anyone interested in the sciences. She noted that she is pursuing a Master's degree in ESL, and during the last week of school she served as an interpreter. She stated that this experience will enhance all her language skills. She noted that she will apply for a grant from the NEA for pod casting, and the editor of the Pendulum has agreed to allow her to write a

series of articles. She will also apply for an award to bring Monarch butterflies into the classroom. Mrs. Records appreciated Mrs. Hook's enthusiasm but asked to have the salary situation explained. Mr. Meyers responded that she would be paid half of her salary but she has to work for the school department for seven years. Mrs. Hook would like a decision by October in order to plan the trip. Mr. Meyers noted that they will give it full consideration.

#### **8. First Reading of Revisions to the Transportation Policy**

Mr. Meyers stated that we will certainly provide transportation to and from a child's home to school and back, but we should not be too detailed about where the stops will be. It was noted that drivers can't create additional stops, and a traffic expert from the police department always looks at all stops. Mrs. Friedemann stated that we should put it in the policy if we are not going to transport to licensed day cares. The Committee recommended that transportation be provided to and from a child's home to school..

#### **9. Award bid for Owner's Representative for School Athletics Project to ICM Corporation**

ICM and Gilbane were the only bidders. Gilbane had no fees attached. Mr. Meyers stated that we need someone to look after our interests and to finalize the design for the fields. He added that we have a history of working with Ernie DiSaia. Mr. Meyers noted that there is a \$50,000 cap for the Owner's Representative and we have money in the field's budget. Mrs. Friedemann made a motion which was seconded by Mrs. Records to approve the bid for ICM Corporation. The motion passed unanimously.

## 10. School Committee Concerns

A letter should be sent to the Summer's End Committee stating that we need to be covered for any damage to the sprinkler system at Eldredge.

A vote should be taken at the next meeting on the memorandum for snow-plowing and grass cutting. Mr. Meyers noted that Mrs. Cienki, Mr. Sequino and Mr. Isaacs also looked at this memorandum. He added that it outlines what we are going to do, but it is not a contract.

Jerry Nettik, Bill Sequino and Wendy Schmidle will sit down to talk about technology job efficiency savings. Mr. Meyers stated that he spoke to the Acting Superintendent in North Kingstown, Phil Thornton, about cost efficiency sharing such as Advanced Placement courses and bus transportation.

11. On a motion made by Mrs. Friedemann and seconded by Mrs. Records, the Committee, being polled individually, voted unanimously to go into Executive Session at 8:25p.m. under R.I.G.L. 42-46-5 (a) (2) for Custodian and Secretary/Paraprofessional Contract Negotiations, and a Union Grievance concerning Delta Dental Buyback.

Respectfully submitted,

**Virginia Giuliani**  
**Secretary**