

**East Greenwich School Committee**

**Tuesday, April 27, 2010**

**Hanaford School Cafeteria**

**200 Middle Road**

**East Greenwich, RI 02818**

**ANY ITEMS ON THE AGENDA MAY BE SUBJECT TO A VOTE**

**6:00p.m. Executive Session, RIGL 42-46-5 (a) (2) Collective Bargaining Issues Re: Teacher's Contract, Collective Bargaining Custodial Contract**

**7:00p.m. Regular Meeting**

**I. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag**

**II. Public Comments**

**Mr. Adam Scott thanked the School Committee for the opportunity to speak. He noted that this is his first year back at Cole Middle School after a three year loan to Gems Net at URI. They provided all K-8 science kit training and support. He also noted that he presented at the NSTA for the second year and is continuing his work on that. He stated that he was recently named to the Board of Directors for Rhode Island Middle Level Educators. (RIMLE)**

**Mr. Garrett Neaves , 170 Grandview Road, stated that he cares deeply about the quality of education in East Greenwich and in general. He feels the quality is much less than it should be. He stated that the teacher's union contract is the vehicle for power of the union leadership. He noted he has tried to have the contract be publicly available as he wants people to have awareness of what the contract says. He noted that in the interest of transparency people should be**

given the tools to see what has changed. He wants this issue to be on a future agenda for public discussion. Mr. Durant stated that as long as the Committee is putting out the old and new contracts everyone can read it. Mr. Durant also stated that he disagrees with some of Mr. Neaves' comments on union leadership.

**III. Recognitions. The Committee recognized the following people:**

**a. Cole Middle School Chess Team came in first place in the RI Interscholastic Chess League. The students are: Ben Markstone, Dylan DePriest, Rayaan Faizan, Harrison Timperley, Vincent DeCesaris, and Neil Fachon.**

**b. Samantha VanWinter, Cole student, received a National Gold Award in the Scholastic Art Awards for her sculpture, Blooming Flower.**

**c. Cole 8th grade robotics team won 1st place in the robotics competition at the Technology Fair: Antoine Emery, Will Karabots, Bennett Lallo, Chris Luo, Tom Nocera, and Jesse Zhan**

**d. Alex Deneault and Matt Santos won 1st place in the Bridge Building Competition at the Tech Fair; and Wei Li and Nikkol Blair and Logan Giroux won 1st, 2nd and 3rd places respectively in the Computer Aided and Drafting area.**

**e. Adam Scott, Science Teacher at Cole, NSTA National conference presenter**

**f. Brett Estes, Cole Middle School, placed 10th in the State for the Geography Contest at Rhode Island College.**

**IV. Approval of Minutes**

**a. On a motion made by Mr. Martin and seconded by Mrs. Winters,**

**the Committee voted unanimously to approve the following minutes:  
April 6, 2010 Regular and Executive Sessions and April 14, 2010  
Executive Session**

#### **V. Superintendent's Report**

**Dr. Mercurio stated that on May 6, 2010, the school and the town will meet for a second session at St. Luke's Church concerning the Family Youth Initiative. They are looking for community input during breakout sessions.**

#### **VI. Action Items**

##### **a. Resignation**

**1. Mrs. Palumbo made a motion which was seconded by Mr. Durant to accept the resignation of Heather Wardwell, Latin Teacher at EGHS, effective August 30, 2010. The motion passed unanimously.**

##### **b. Appointments**

**Mrs. Winters made a motion which was seconded by Mr. Durant to approve the following two coaches: The motion passed unanimously.**

**1. Terri Jones, Head Coach for High School Boys' Volleyball Team for spring**

**2. Ryan Garno, Assistant Boys' Volleyball Coach for high school Boys' Volleyball Team**

##### **3. Reappointment of Spring Coaches for HS:**

**Mrs. Winters made a motion which seconded by Mr. Durant to approved the reappointed coaches with the exception of Matthew Records. The motion passed unanimously. Mr. Durant made a motion which was seconded by Mr. Martin to approve the**

reappointment of Matthew Records. The motion passed with Mrs. Records recusing herself.

Bob Downey-Head Coach Boys' Baseball; Marc Brocato-Head Coach HS Golf; Judy Davis-Head Coach HS Girls' Lacrosse; Brian Trapani-Head Coach HS Boys' Lacrosse; Dave Lemont-Volunteer Assistant Coach Boys' Lacrosse; Peter Dion-Head Coach HS Boys' Outdoor Track; Dave Kelaghan-Head Coach HS Boys' Tennis; Rob Petrucci-Head Coach HS Girls' Softball; Lisa Biswas (MacFarlane) -Assistant Coach HS Girls' Softball; Richard Glover-Head Coach Cole Girls' Softball; Patrick O'Connor-Assistant Varsity HS Boys' Track; John Burns-Head Coach HS JV Boys' Baseball; Erin Newman-Head Varsity HS Girls' Track; and Matthew Records-Head Coach Middle School Boys' Baseball.

c. Mrs. Winters made a motion which was seconded by Mr. Martin to approve the following Out-of-State Trip to Washington, D.C. from Sunday, May 2, 2010 to Wednesday, May 5, 2010 for 8th grade students to participate in the Close-Up Program. The motion passed unanimously.

d. Technology Plan Presentation

Dr. Mercurio gave a presentation on the new Technology Plan. He noted that because we are building a new state-of-the art facility, a group went to Bedford High School in Massachusetts to get a sense of where we are and where we are headed. Components of our plan include teaching and learning, communications, data management, emerging technology and a tech support system. He added that all are components of the state plan, and each component has plans

associated with it. Mr. Martin asked how Bedford compared to East Greenwich in size and budget. Dr. Mercurio responded that is it almost the same. He added that Cole Middle School presents an opportunity to roll out the new technology to our other schools. Mrs. Meyer noted that her School Improvement Team and staff members have been meeting with SMMA and SBS on the new technology classrooms. Mr. Durant stated that an entire plan is needed. Mrs. Gifford asked about the evidence that this technology leads to higher student achievement. Mrs. Records asked about the timeline. Dr. Mercurio responded it is the year after next. Mrs. Guliano stated the Technology Committee has done a tremendous amount of work. She would like to put this back on another agenda. Mr. Nettik stated that there were several meetings during the design phase and infrastructure will be built in to support this. The next step is to present this plan to the building committee.

**e. Period Waiver for East Greenwich Little League Facilities Use**

Mr. Jeff Santos noted that opening day is the weekend of May 1st and invited all Committee members. Mr. Durant stated that we had a deal and this is reaffirming that deal. The batting cage has value and this is a win/win situation for the town. Mr. Santos stated they have fundraisers every year and they try to give something back to the town. Mr. Durant made a motion which was seconded by Mrs. Winters to give the EG Little League a waiver for use of our facilities. The motion passed unanimously.

**f. Recommendation for Audio/Video Recordings at family meetings**

This will be sent to the policy subcommittee.

## **g. Approval of Operating Budget Relating to State Housing Aid into Capital Improvement Fund**

**Mrs. Crawford stated that all capital improvement paid by the school operating budget related to state housing aid should go into our capital improvement fund because now it goes to the town as revenue. Mr. Durant made a motion which was seconded by Mrs. Winters to approve the following statement made by Mrs. Crawford since all reimbursements should go into our capital and maintenance accounts. The motion passed unanimously.**

## **VII. Discussion Items**

### **a. RTTT 2nd round MOU**

**Mrs. Guliano stated that she attended the Race to the Top meeting today along with Dr. Mercurio and Donna Hayes. She noted that RIDE is working with districts at the state level on revisions to the grant. Applications are due May 15th. The memorandum of understanding is due on May 14th and is still in draft form. A copy will be here by the end of the week and it requires a follow-up. Mrs. Guliano stated that most School Committees, Superintendents and Unions wanted more clarification. Mrs. Dillon stated that there was a Special Education Directors meeting today concerning the CRP Grant. She stated we have a checklist on districts rating themselves on teacher evaluations.**

### **b. Outsourcing Technology Services**

**It was noted there are a lot of companies that provide these services. We need to look at everything with vendors. We'll put this on a future agenda.**

#### **c. Budget 2010**

#### **d. Budget 2011**

**We don't have any further information on the budget. Mrs. Guliano stated the supplemental budget has gone back to the House. Mr. Durant feels that school districts that have been fiscally responsible are being punished.**

#### **e. Fields Update**

**Caito is working in the punch list and once it is completed we can partially accept the fields. Mr. Christopher Whitney will be walking the fields to collect the punch list items.**

#### **f. Hiring Process Coach and Principal**

**Dr. Mercurio stated that he met with the Personnel Subcommittee. The principal posting closes on May 21st. He presented letters about the process for both positions. He noted that the second interviews will be conducted by a smaller committee. The posting is closed for coach. Mrs. Gifford stated that there needs to be clarification about having interviews in open or closed session. Mrs. Records noted that State Law says it is the choice of the candidate. Mrs. Gifford candidates picked based on qualifications. Mrs. Records will work on any changes to our policy.**

#### **VIII. School Committee Concerns**

**Mrs. Gifford would like a follow-up on the French Program and Mrs. Winters would like a follow-up on Latin and Spanish. Mrs. Gifford would also like to see the high school schedule for next year concerning the technology requirement. Mrs. Records would like to talk about the Superintendent Evaluation and Mrs. Gifford would like**

**to speak about coaching evaluations.**

**IX. On a motion made by Mr. Durant and seconded by Mrs. Winters, the Committee voted unanimously to adjourn at 9:45p.m. to continue the Executive Session held at the beginning of the meeting at 6:00p.m.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Virginia Giuliani**