

Minutes of the East Greenwich School Committee

Tuesday, September 6, 2011

Archie Cole Middle School Cafetorium

100 Cedar Avenue

East Greenwich, RI 02818

ANY ITEMS ON THE AGENDA MAY BE SUBJECT TO A VOTE

6:07p.m. Mr. Green made a motion which was seconded by Mrs. Winters to go into Executive Session under General Laws of Rhode Island 42-46-5 (a) (1) and (2) Discussion of request under Article 12.3 of the Custodian/Maintenance Association, Superintendent evaluation, Legal review and contract renewal. The motion carries (5-0).

On a motion by Mr. Durant, which was seconded by Mr. Green, the Committee voted unanimously (7-0) at 7:10p.m. to suspend executive session.

Meeting reconvened in Open Session at 7:12p.m.

The regular session of the East Greenwich School Committee was called to order in the Cafetorium of the Archie Cole Middle School at 7:12p.m. by Chair, Dr. Deidre Gifford. Those in attendance were: Mr. Robert Durant, Vice Chair; Mrs. Mary Ellen Winters; Mr. David Green;

Mr. Paul Martin; Mrs. Susan Records, and Mr. Jack Sommer. Superintendent Dr. Victor Mercurio, Director of Administration Mrs. Maryanne Crawford, and Director of Student Services Mrs. Paula Dillon were also in attendance.

7:00p.m. Regular Meeting

I. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

The meeting commenced with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Dr. Gifford announced there were two votes taken in Executive Session. The first vote was to table the Superintendent's evaluation (7-0). The second vote was to provide a pay differential for an employee who is out on worker's compensation (7-0).

II. Public Comments

Mrs. Kristin Wheeler, of 187 Maplewood Drive, questioned whether there is a decision on make-up days due to the hurricane. Dr. Mercurio stated the Commissioner of Education has not ruled yet. However, he thinks the days will need to be made up. One day may be made up before the end of the first semester. Mrs. Florence Clement, of 155 Cedar Avenue, addressed the Committee. She recommends the Cole library be named in honor of Lou Lepry who worked in the district for 39 years. Dr. Mercurio discussed the process for naming facilities and noted a subcommittee will be charged at the next School Committee meeting to address this request.

III. Approval of Minutes

On a motion by Mr. Durant, which was seconded by Mr. Sommer, the

Committee voted (5-0) to approve the Regular and Executive minutes for 8/16/11 and the Regular minutes for 8/25/11. Mr. Martin and Mrs. Records abstained.

IV. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Mercurio thanked principals and their staff for their work in opening school. An Alert Now message was sent out to Frenchtown, Meadowbrook, and Hanaford to make sure busses were matched with destinations. Bus lists were also discussed with Ocean State Transit today. Dr. Mercurio received an update from Mr. Winikur regarding the EGHS library renovation. A meeting is scheduled this week with the Fire Marshall. Correspondence was sent to the Committee regarding the possibility of Jamestown students attending the high school in 2012. The new district website is scheduled to go live in a week or so. Mr. Martin would like the school enrollment. Dr. Mercurio will provide enrollment and staff lists after the third day of school. There are about twenty additional teachers at Cole with the addition of grade six. Mr. Durant questioned the number of students per seat on each bus. Ocean State's goal is two students per seat. Dr. Mercurio said the schedule is still being adjusted. Back-up drivers are in place in case there are too many students for one bus. Mr. Sommer stated he has received many calls regarding the relocation of the EGHS library to the space above the gym. He asked if there is another space available. Dr. Mercurio stated there are no other options at this time. Mr. Sommer voiced concerns about the weight of the books and shelves and asked if the space is adequate. Dr. Mercurio will follow-up with Mr. Winikur. Dr.

Gifford asked if there is an update on the Burman bid. Dr. Mercurio has not received any information, but expects it by the end of the week.

V. School Committee Concerns

Mr. Martin requested a list of the various subcommittees. He also questioned the remnants from Cole- specifically the sign and bricks. He would like the Cole sign preserved to retain the history of the school district. Dr. Gifford stated that one pallet of bricks were saved.

The Building Committee has discussed using the bricks. Dr. Mercurio will locate the Cole sign. Mrs. Winters asked if there has been any discussion on the configuration of the Cole softball field. Dr. Mercurio has asked Sean Sullivan of SBS to investigate the cost of changing from grass to clay. Mrs. Records was contacted by many community members who did not receive the Alert Now messages. Dr. Mercurio said the messages may have gone into voicemail. He looks at the Alert Now reports after the message was sent to see how many people actually heard the message. In his message, he asked community members to pass on the information. Alert Now is processed through school registrations. There were some glitches with newly enrolled students.

VI. Action Items

a. Appointments

On a motion by Mr. Durant, which was seconded by Mr. Green, the Committee unanimously (7-0) approved the appointments (#a) and re-appointments (#b) listed below. All coaches were approved with the stipulation that they are fully certified. There was discussion

about the coaches' certification and the backlog of certifications at RIDE. Mr. Durant made a new motion to approve appointments #1-6 (teachers and paraprofessionals only). Mrs. Winters seconded the motion and the Committee voted unanimously (7-0) to approve appointments #1-6.

1. Preschool Paraprofessional .5 FTE-Meadowbrook- Lynn Martin
2. Paraprofessional .6 FTE-Meadowbrook-Allison Meier
3. Office Paraprofessional -18 hours-Cole-Lynn Sarazen
4. Kindergarten Teacher 1.0 FTE-Frenchtown- Emily Sanderson
5. Resource Teacher 1.0 FTE-EGHS-1 year only-Kerianne Fuller
6. Chorus Teacher .5 FTE- Cole & EGHS –Daniel George

b. Coaches Re-Appointments and Appointments

On a motion by Mr. Durant, which was seconded by Mrs. Winters, the Committee voted unanimously (7-0) to approve the re-appointments (#b1 and # b2) and the appointments

(#a7 and #a8) listed below on the stipulation that each coach is fully certified by September 20, 2011. If certification is not received, these items will be revisited. Mr. Cobain has assured Dr. Mercurio that the certifications are pending.

1. Cole Girls' Soccer Head Coach-Stephanie Gloria (re-appointment)
 2. Cole Co-ed Cross Country Head Coach-Stanley Johnson (re-appointment)
- a-7. EGHS Assistant Girls' Soccer Coach-Alyssa Integlia (new appointment)
- a-8. Cole Boys' Soccer Head Coach-Dan Gloria (new appointment)

Mr. Martin would like to know how many people applied for each position and how many were interviewed for the teaching positions. Dr. Gifford would like a standard packet for all appointments. Dr. Mercurio will recommend a proposal at the September 20th School Committee meeting. Dr. Gifford discussed the changes in the music program and suggested the Superintendent set up a welcome meeting for music and chorus teachers to discuss these changes along with the new evaluation system.

c. Second read and adoption of policies

On a motion by Mrs. Winters, which was seconded by Mr. Green, the Committee voted unanimously (7-0) to adopt the following policies:

- 1. Policy #6116 - Volunteers Assisting a Coach**
- 2. Policy #4111- Health Care Policy**

d. Revision of job description for Director of Technology

Dr. Mercurio gave the Committee a copy of the newly designed job description. Since Mr. Nettik retired in June, previous RINET employees were hired to compile RIDE reports and assist the schools. The Technology Advisory Committee gave their input for the new job description. The prior job description was ten years old. The new student data system is scheduled for roll-out in winter 2012. Going forward all systems (School Spring, AESOP, and Aspen) need to have the capability to interact and the ability to move data from one system to another. Support for end users is critical. Mrs. Records asked about the budgeting for the technology department and the software liaison. The Director of Technology will report to Dr. Mercurio and Mrs. Dillon. Mrs. Kristin Wheeler asked if the Director of

Technology will be teaching teachers. Dr. Mercurio said no, but that individual can facilitate support for teachers. Dr. Gifford would like the budgeting function included in the job description. She also noted the job description should include the wording, “experience in an educational environment is desirable.” Dr. Gifford also questioned if “leadership” and a minimum of three years’ experience should be added to the job description. Mrs. Records added there are many “hats” worn in this position. On a motion by Mr. Durant, which was seconded by Mrs. Records, the Committee voted unanimously (7-0) to approve the job description for the Director of Technology with the amended changes given by the Committee.

e. Charge for facility sub-committee

Dr. Mercurio would like to appoint an ad hoc committee with equal representation from the community and Building Committee to go through the formal process of naming facilities in the district. A charge will be presented at the September 20, 2011 meeting.

f. Contract for Assistant Superintendent - Teaching, Learning and Diverse Population

The Committee was previously given a list of responsibilities associated with the Director of Student Services Mrs. Paula Dillon. This new contract has a broader range of responsibilities and a change in job goals. The Assistant Superintendent will also work with the Director of Technology, as well as, continue working with diverse populations. The contract is for a 52- week work year. Mr. Green questioned the 160 day accumulation of sick days. Mrs. Crawford noted long term care kicks in after six months and is paid

by the employee. There is no cash value for sick days. Mrs. Crawford can clarify the language in the contract. On a motion by Mr. Martin, which was seconded by Mrs. Winters, the Committee voted unanimously to approve the contract for the Assistant Superintendent-Teaching, Learning, and Diverse Population. Mr. Martin congratulated the School Committee for approving this contract and noted the district needs an Assistant Superintendent.

VII. Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Durant, which was seconded by Mr. Martin, the Committee voted unanimously (7-0) to adjourn at 8:12p.m.

CHRISTINE DIMEGLIO

SECRETARY