

Minutes of the East Greenwich School Committee

Tuesday, May 1, 2012

Archie Cole Middle School Library

100 Cedar Avenue

East Greenwich, RI 02818

6:30p.m. Executive Session, Mr. Durant made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Green to go into executive session for discussion and/or action regarding those items of business exempt from open meetings under General Laws of Rhode Island 42-46-5 (a) (2) Ocean State Transit Contract Renewal, Discuss Teacher's contract. The vote was unanimous 5-0.

7:06p.m. Regular Meeting

Those in attendance were: Dr. Deidre Gifford, Chair, Mr. Robert Durant, Vice-Chair; Mr. David Green; Mrs. Mary Ellen Winters; Mr. Paul Martin; Mr. Jack Sommer, and Mrs. Susan Records. Dr. Victor Mercurio, Superintendent; Mrs. Maryanne Crawford, Director of Administration, and Attorney Matthew Oliverio were also present.

7:06p.m. Regular Meeting

Dr. Gifford announced there was a vote taken (6-0) in executive session.

I. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

The meeting commenced with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

II. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

III. Student Recognition – Julia Waicberg-EGHS

East Greenwich High School student Julia Waicberg was recognized for her “Just Blend” Smoothie program.

IV. Presentation-Adoption of EGHS Core Values about Learning-NEASC requirement

Mr. Podraza, Mr. Chace, and several EGHS students presented the EGHS Core Values about Learning. The Committee commended the students for their work and also commended Mrs. Page and her marketing class. Mr. Martin made a motion to adopt the proposed EGHS Core Values about Learning. Mr. Durant seconded the motion and it passed 7-0.

V. Superintendent’s Report

A screening committee will meet to discuss the Meadowbrook Principal candidates. Interviews will be held next week. Mrs. Crawford, Director of Administration, was named 2012 Rhode Island Business Official of the Year. She will be formally recognized at the RIASBO/RISSA meeting on May 11, 2012 at the Radisson. The School Committee will recognize Mrs. Crawford at the next meeting on May 15, 2012. Mrs. Crawford’s recognition results in a \$1,000 scholarship for an EGHS student.

VI. School Committee Concerns

Mr. Martin asked committee members how they feel about candidates

running for School Committee on a non-partisan basis. He thinks more people may run if they do not have to affiliate with a political party. He asked for this item to appear on a June agenda. Mr. Martin also voiced his concerns about finding a Meadowbrook principal.

VII. Action Items

a. Field Trip-Cole Middle School, Grade 8, Washington, DC May 20-23, 2012

On a motion by Mr. Durant, which was seconded by Mrs. Winters, the Committee voted 7-0 to approve the field trip. Mrs. Meyer said this is the twelfth year that Cole students will attend this trip.

b. Budget FY2013

Last night there was a budget discussion with the Town Council. Housing aid and tax rates were discussed. Mr. Sommer questioned whether the district would see an increase in the budget if the construction rate is increased from 35 to 40%. The Town Council is requesting that the school district take more money out of fund balance for capital improvements. Mr. Durant asked if the impending cuts should be discussed with the public so they can lobby the Town Council. The Committee discussed the fund balance in detail. The town needs to adopt the budget by May 15th and they have a scheduled meeting on May 14th. The School Committee would like to meet again with the Town Council on May 7th to discuss the budget. The cost of a resource officer would be approximately \$76,000 and will be split between the school and the town. This item, along with the grade configuration, was not

included in the proposed budget. The Committee asked Dr. Mercurio to get clarification from Mrs. Dillon on staffing requirements for the grade reconfiguration. The Committee discussed the grade configuration in detail and will plan to vote on it at the May 15th meeting. The sabbatical request will also be on this agenda. Dr. Gifford noted the town is going to replace the senior van. She would like to find out if the school district could purchase it. Mrs. Crawford will check on the insurance and license requirements. The van could be used for certain sports, chorus, and band. Dr. Mercurio will discuss this topic with Mr. Sequino.

VIII. Discussion Items

a. Aramark Update

Jessica Petrolia from Aramark was present to give an update on Aramark services. This is the first time Aramark has shown a positive return (\$11,000). Revenues per day are up about \$200 per day. The district shows an increase of over 50 meals per day. The new “Just Blend” smoothie program that was created by EGHS student Julia Waicberg has helped to increase sales at the high school. Overall, it has been a great year. Aramark will work with elementary principals’ to support the “Power of Green” initiative.

b. Quarterly Financial Statement

Mrs. Crawford discussed the district revenues and expenditures as of March 31, 2012. It is anticipated there will be a YTD projected revenue variance of \$45,590.04. It is anticipated that expenditures for health/dental will come in under budget at \$175,000. However, this is contingent on the trends staying as is. Out of district tuitions

are expected to be overspent by \$160,000. Purchase of services related to special education is anticipated to come in lower than expected. Supplies, which include utilities, may end the year with a \$50,000 surplus.

IX. Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Durant, which was seconded by Mr. Green, the Committee voted 7-0 to go out of open session and resume executive session at 8:16p.m.

**CHRISTINE DIMEGLIO
SECRETARY**