

Minutes of the East Greenwich School Committee

Tuesday, June 5, 2012

Archie Cole Middle School Library

100 Cedar Avenue

East Greenwich, RI 02818

6:08p.m. Executive Session, Mrs. Winters made a motion 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) (1) Interview Meadowbrook Farm Principal candidate. Mr. Durant seconded the motion and it passed unanimously

5-0.

7:00p.m. Regular Meeting

Those in attendance were Dr. Deidre Gifford, Chair; Mr. Robert Durant, Vice-Chair; Mr. David Green; Mrs. Mary Ellen Winters; Mr. Jack Sommer, and Mrs. Susan Records. Mr. Paul Martin was absent. Also present were Dr. Victor Mercurio, Superintendent; Mrs. Paula Dillon, Assistant Superintendent, and Mrs. Maryanne Crawford, Director of Administration.

7:05p.m. Regular Meeting

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Deidre Gifford, Chair. Dr.

Gifford announced there was a unanimous vote taken in executive session to accept Dr. Mercurio's recommendation for the Meadowbrook Principal.

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. Approval of Minutes

a. Regular for 5/15/12

On a motion by Mr. Durant, which was seconded by Mrs. Winters, the Committee voted 6-0 to approve the regular minutes for 5/15/12.

IV. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Mercurio thanked the faculty, staff, administrators, and the EGHS class of 2012 for a terrific commencement. Moving up ceremonies are as follows: Frenchtown- June 15 at 9:00am; Meadowbrook-June 15 at 2:00pm; Cole June 18 at 10:30am, and Hanaford at 8:00 am on June 18 and Eldredge at 8:30am on June 18. Dr. Mercurio, Mrs. Madden, and members of the Rhode Island Department of Health did a walk-through Meadowbrook School to discuss steps that need to be taken during the renovation process. The walk-through was positive and the district is taking the necessary steps with Meadowbrook and all of the other schools in the district to ensure safety. There will be a follow-up meeting this summer.

V. Recognitions

a. Retirements-Carol Alfano, Marianne Davis, Constance McCormack, Karen Murtha, Janet Snyder, Janet Volpe, Kathleen

Bennett, and Ann Caito

All retirees were recognized for their service and were presented with a certificate and gift.

b. National French Contest winners- Cole Middle School

Cole students were congratulated on their achievement.

c. RIASC Leadership Development Academy Graduates – Dr. Deidre Gifford and Mr. David Green, School Committee

Dr. Gifford and Mr. Green were presented with a plaque from The Rhode Island Association of School Committees.

VI. School Committee Concerns

Dr. Gifford congratulated Dr. Mercurio, Mrs. Dillon, Mr. Podraza, and the EGHS class of 2012 for a wonderful graduation. The graduation was longer than usual due to the amount of hugs given to the class advisors and the principal. This is a tribute to the faculty of East Greenwich High School.

VII. Action Items

a. Resignation-Sharon Ceresi, Meadowbrook Farms School

On a motion by Mr. Durant, which was seconded by Mrs. Winters, the Committee voted 6-0 to accept the resignation.

b. Approval of bid-Diesel Emergency Generator Set

The generator will be purchased using the fund balance. This purchase is part of the capital improvement plan. Mr. Wilmarth was asked if there was an opportunity for the school and town to jointly bid on a generator. Mr. Wilmarth and Dr. Mercurio explained the town only recently added a generator purchase to the end of their budget. The town is in the process of reviewing their needs and the

school district has specifically planned this purchase. Mr. Wilmarth explained the choice of diesel over gas due to the fact that diesel is non-interruptible. On a motion by Mr. Durant, which was seconded by Mrs. Winters, the Committee voted 6-0 to approve the bid for the Diesel Emergency Generator Set.

c. Approval of bid-Gym Floor Replacement

This item has been on the capital improvement plan. The existing floor has been there for fifteen years and is starting to bubble. The new floor will be installed during the summer. On a motion by Mr. Durant, which was seconded by Mrs. Winters, the Committee voted 6-0 to approve the bid for the Gym Floor Replacement.

d. Approval of home school request for 2012-2013

Mrs. Dillon spoke with the parent and is comfortable with their request. On a motion by Mr. Durant, which was seconded by Mrs. Winters, the Committee voted 6-0 to approve the home school request.

e. Building Committee Member Recommendation

Mr. David Osborne submitted a volunteer application to serve on the Building Committee as a Meadowbrook community member. Mr. Green recommended his appointment. On a motion by Mrs. Winters, which was seconded by Mr. Sommer, the Committee voted 6-0 to accept the recommendation.

f. Recalls-teachers

On a motion by Mr. Durant, which was seconded by Mrs. Winters, the Committee voted 6-0 to recall the teachers for the 2012-2013 school year.

g. Budget FY2013

Mrs. Crawford discussed housing aid and the possibility of receiving 40% reimbursement. If approved, the \$170,000 additional revenue from housing aid will go to the town. Mrs. Crawford also discussed the possibility of receiving \$139,000 which is one-time revenue. The issue is being discussed at the state house. The School Committee has a scheduled meeting next Tuesday, June 12, 2012 at 6:00pm before the Financial Town Meeting. The possibility of adding a resource officer will be discussed. Funding for a resource officer would be shared between the town and the school department. Mrs. Records would like to see the job description for the resource officer.

VIII. Presentation- Nina Mackta-Mentoring Program

Mrs. Mackta gave the Committee an informative overview of the Strategic Support Mentoring Program of East Greenwich.

IX. School Committee Reports

Reports and or updates from each committee will be a standing item on School Committee agendas.

a. Finance Committee

Mr. Durant is the Chair of the Finance Committee. The Finance Committee met throughout the budget season and worked with budget owners throughout the budgeting process. The Committee is in the process of scheduling their next meeting (tentatively June 23, 2012). Mrs. Fischer will present Finance Committee recommendations at a future meeting.

b. Building Committee

Mr. Green is the new Building Committee Chair. There has not been a

lot of activity since approval of the Meadowbrook renovation and EGHS library. A meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 7, 2012 at Meadowbrook to provide information to Meadowbrook parents and community members. A sub-page will be set up on the Meadowbrook website to provide information/updates to Meadowbrook parents/community. Right now the focus is on the Meadowbrook renovation. The list of potential Building Committee projects needs to be revisited with Bob Wilmarth.

c. Fields' Committee

Mrs. Winters is the Chair of the Fields' Committee. No meetings have been

scheduled yet. After the financial town meeting, the Committee will reconvene. Dr. Gifford noted there are still pending issues with the concession stand (sharing with the town).

d. Health and Wellness Committee

Mrs. Records is the Chair of the Wellness Committee. The Committee got off to a late start but has been meeting on a consistent basis. The major goal is to have

two elementary schools apply for the Healthier U.S. Challenge. The district will receive money if the schools win. Mrs. Records needs to follow-up with Aramark to make sure both schools apply. One more Health and Wellness meeting is scheduled for June. Mrs. Records would like to change the format of the meeting and hold meetings at each school and invite the administrator to the meeting.

e. Policy Committee -Dr. Gifford, Chair

Dr. Gifford is the chair of the Policy Committee. The Policy

Committee has been meeting on a regular basis. The transportation and fundraising policies are being reviewed for revision. The entire policy manual is on-line on the EGSD website and is up-to-date. The next meeting is scheduled for June 15, 2012.

f. Ad Hoc E-Boards Committee-Mr. Sommer, Chair

Mr. Sommer is the Ad Hoc-E Board Chair. A meeting will be set up for the committee within the next two weeks. The Committee will look at potential strategies to convert School Committee documents from paper to digital documents. Dr. Mercurio noted a webinar can be scheduled to review the software.

g. Personnel Committee

Mr. Green is the Chair of the Personnel Committee. The Committee has been working on administrative contracts including the Superintendent. The School Committee's evaluation of the Superintendent is underway. The Committee is

reviewing the form and content of all administrative contracts to harmonize the format. The Committee will meet on June 7th to look at the recommendations that Dr. Mercurio has in regards to consistency and attributes of the contract.

h. Technology Committee

Mrs. Records is the Chair of the Technology Committee. Dr. Mercurio and the Technology Committee have been working on the Technology Plan which will be presented to the School Committee on June 19, 2012. The School Committee will also receive a technology update of the high school at this meeting. A "wireless" engineer has been reviewing the technology at the EGHS.

Adjustments may be made to consolidate work within the district.

The goal is to make EGHS technology mirror Cole.

X. Discussion Items

Discussion items #a & b were not discussed due to Mr. Martin's absence.

a. Communication/Public Relation Subcommittee

b. Legal/Legislative Subcommittee

XI. Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Durant, which was seconded by Mrs. Winters, the Committee voted 6-0 to adjourn at 8:29pm.

CHRISTINE DIMEGLIO

SECRETARY