

Minutes of the East Greenwich School Committee

Tuesday, June 4, 2013

Archie R. Cole Middle School Library

100 Cedar Avenue

East Greenwich, RI 02818

5:44p.m. Executive Session, Mr. Green called the meeting to order. Dr. Gifford 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) (2) Interview Director of Student Services Candidate, Teacher Negotiations. Mrs. Winters seconded the motion, which passed 5-0.

Those in attendance were Mr. David Green, Chair; Dr. Deidre Gifford, Vice-Chair; Mrs. Mary Ellen Winters; Mr. Jack Sommer; Mr. Clark Smith; Ms. Carolyn Mark (arrived at 5:45p.m.), and Mrs. Susan Records (arrived at 6:00p.m.). Dr. Victor Mercurio, Superintendent; Mrs. Maryanne Crawford, Director of Administration, and Attorney Matthew Oliverio were also in attendance.

7:08p.m. Regular Meeting

I. Call to Order

The meeting was already in session. Mr. Green announced a vote was taken in executive session, which was 7-0 on the matter

regarding the Director of Student Services.

II. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

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

III. Public Comments

Ms. Bambi Lukens discussed the moisture level at Meadowbrook Farms School. The floor has been wet and dehumidifiers have been used. Ms. Lukens asked the School Committee to investigate this matter. Mr. Green said he visited Meadowbrook Farms last Friday afternoon after the initial onslaught of hot weather. The dehumidifiers were running and no mold was seen.

IV. Approval of Minutes

a. Regular and Executive for May 21, 2013

On a motion by Mrs. Winters, which was seconded by Mr. Sommer, the Committee voted 7-0 to approve the regular and executive minutes for May 21, 2013.

V. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Mercurio spoke with Mr. Sullivan (SBS) regarding the Meadowbrook moisture issues. Mr. Sullivan will investigate and report back. Commissioner Gist joined Dr. Mercurio, Dr. Auger, and Dr. Stringfellow for a conversation regarding a dual immersion language program. Dr. Stringfellow is going to Utah in the next three weeks to learn more about the program. More discussion will follow after Dr. Stringfellow's visit. Ivy Day is Friday, June 7, 2013 at 1:00p.m. and commencement takes place on Sunday, June 9, 2013 at 1:00p.m. at Veterans' Auditorium. Numerous student recognitions have been deferred until June 18th due to the various honor nights

and concerts that are taking place in the district. The Unified Volleyball team won their second national championship. The team will be recognized by Senator Hodgson championship again. Treasurer Raimondo will take part in a roundtable discussion to discuss financial empowerment tomorrow morning at the high school. All School Committee members are welcome to attend.

VI. School Committee Concerns

There were no concerns.

VII. Presentations

a. Retirement-Linda St. Ours

Principal Cauley and Dr. Mercurio spoke about Mrs. St. Ours' passion for teaching and dedication to the district. She was presented with a certificate and clock.

VIII. Action Items

a. Resignation- Desiree Brown, EGHS, .4FTE French Teacher and Class of 2016 Advisor

On a motion by Mrs. Winters, which was seconded by Mr. Sommer, the Committee voted 7-0 to accept the resignation.

b. Resignation-Larry Audet-Hanaford, Head Custodian

On a motion by Mrs. Winters, which was seconded by Mr. Sommer, the Committee voted 7-0 to accept the resignation.

c. Parental Leave-Galen Ryley-EGHS

On a motion by Mrs. Winters, which was seconded by Mr. Sommer, the Committee voted

7-0 to approve the parental leave.

d. Parental Leave-Jillian Meyer-Eldredge

On a motion by Mrs. Winters, which was seconded by Mr. Sommer, the Committee voted

7-0 to approve the parental leave.

e. Award bid- Dishwasher- Frenchtown School

Mrs. Crawford gave background details regarding this purchase noting funding is through the FY2014 budget. On a motion by Mrs. Winters, which was seconded by Ms. Mark, the Committee voted 7-0 to award the bid to Kittredge Equipment Company.

f. Appointments

1. Custodian .5FTE- Central Office- Robert Feuti Sr.

2. Custodian .5FTE –EGHS-John Harvey

Mrs. Winters made a motion to approve both appointments. Mr. Sommer seconded the motion. Discussion followed. The Committee had several questions regarding these two positions and why they are not combined to make one full-time position. Both positions are budgeted positions and are open due to internal movement in the district. The Committee asked Mrs. Crawford to explore the possibility of combining both half time positions into one full-time position. Mrs. Crawford will discuss this matter with Mr. Wilmarth. The vote on the motion was 1-6 (Mrs. Records voting for the motion). The motion was denied due to the manner in which it was being staffed. The position(s) will either come back for approval as (2) .5FTE positions or (1) 1.0FTE position.

g. Allocation of Fund Balance

Mrs. Crawford discussed the allocation of excess funds from FY2013.

The recommendation is for \$400,000 to be used for school improvement capital fund and \$100,000 for technology improvement fund. The Building Committee and Technology Committee will determine how the funds will be spent. Mrs. Winters made a motion to approve allocation of the excess fund balance FY2013 as specified and recommended by Mrs. Crawford. Mr. Sommer seconded the motion, which passed 7-0.

IX. Subcommittee Reports

a. Heath and Wellness Committee

Mrs. Records said the Health and Wellness Committee is working on the Health and Wellness Policy and the Mental Health Policy. Ms. Mark has reached out to several sources for guidance. The policies are on schedule for presentation at the next policy committee meeting. The last Health and Wellness Committee meeting took place at Meadowbrook Farms with Mr. Marcaccio and Mrs. Vaughn. Both principals' are willing to participate in district activities and will assign someone to participate on the committee. A community dinner is in the works to take place before a School Committee meeting in September. Jessica Patroliia of Aramark is working on a possible fundraiser.

X. Discussion

a. Strategic Planning Process

The facilitator that the district was going to use has scheduling issues. The School Committee will have their own workshop to discuss the process and the next steps. This workshop will be set

up as soon as possible.

b. Elementary School Schedules

Mr. Green discussed the concerns that have been raised regarding wellness time, recess time, and lunchtime. Dr. Mercurio discussed a sample elementary schedule which details sample times for each building. The wellness time is a structured activity that is supervised by a teacher. The instructional minutes do not include passing times. Dr. Mercurio was asked about the number of minutes for physical education and health. He said the secondary level requires one hundred minutes, which are a combination of physical education and health. He will check the regulations on elementary and report back. Mrs. Kate Goldman discussed the lunch schedule and the lack of time to eat a full lunch. Last year some schools reversed recess and lunch, having recess first then lunch. The Committee noted there are contractual minutes for lunch and recess. The district is now at boundaries with the contract. The district is currently in negotiations with the teachers' union.

c. Transportation Schedules

Dr. Mercurio discussed the proposed on-line registration system for bus transportation. This new system is in conjunction with the revised Transportation Policy that was adopted last year, which calls for one seat per student. Registrations will be forwarded to the bus company for scheduling. Paper copies will be available in school offices. Notification of the new process will be sent via list serv and noted on the district website.

XI. Adjournment

On a motion by Ms. Mark, which was seconded by Mrs. Winters, the Committee voted 7-0 to adjourn at 8:51p.m.

CHRISTINE DIMEGLIO

SECRETARY