

# **Minutes of the East Greenwich School Committee**

**Tuesday, September 17, 2013**

**Archie R. Cole Middle School Library**

**100 Cedar Avenue**

**East Greenwich, RI 02818**

**6:11p.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) (2) Teacher Negotiations; Superintendent Evaluation 2013-2014. Mr. Smith seconded the motion, which passed 4-0.**

**Those in attendance were Mr. David Green, Chair; Mrs. Mary Ellen Winters; Mr. Clark Smith, Ms. Carolyn Mark; Mrs. Susan Records (arrived at 6:15p.m.), and Mr. Jack Sommer (arrived at 6:19p.m.). Dr. Deidre Gifford was absent. Dr. Victor Mercurio, Superintendent; Mrs. Maryanne Crawford, Director of Administration, Mr. Bradley Wilson, Director of Student Services, and Attorney Matthew Oliverio were also in attendance.**

**7:02p.m. Regular Meeting**

**I. Call to Order**

**The meeting was already in session.**

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

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

### **III. Public Comments**

**Ms. Jennifer Madden, Meadowbrook parent and Indoor Air Quality Coordinator for Meadowbrook, discussed her concerns regarding the air quality at Meadowbrook. Ms. Madden discussed the HVAC system, broken vents, air circulation, slippery floors, and possible mold. Ms. Madden voiced her frustration with the lack of communication. She asked for updates to keep the Meadowbrook community and PTG apprised on the progress. Ms. Melanie Lally, a Meadowbrook parent, also discussed her safety concerns and asked the district to be proactive, not reactive to the situation. Mr. Sommer explained that he and Mr. Green did a Meadowbrook site visit before school started. Mr. Sommer explained the school requires 25% fresh air in the building even on humid days. The balancing needs to be addressed. Mr. Sommer will follow-up with SBS and will hold them accountable for balancing the levels.**

### **IV. Recognitions**

- a. William Sequino, Former East Greenwich Town Manager**
- b. Patricia Page, Rhode Island 2014 Teacher of The Year**

**The Superintendent and Committee recognized Mr. Sequino for his contributions and support to the district throughout his tenure. Mrs. Page was recognized and congratulated for receiving the 2014 Rhode Island Teacher of the Year award.**

### **V. Approval of Minutes**

- a. Regular and Executive for September 3, 2013**
- b. Strategic Planning Workshop for September 10, 2013**

**On a motion by Mrs. Records, which was seconded by Mr. Sommer, the Committee voted 6-0 to approve the minutes for September 3, 2013 and September 10, 2013.**

## **VI. Superintendent's Report**

**Dr. Mercurio noted the district has been selected to pilot the PARCC testing in the spring at Cole, Eldredge, Hanaford, and the high school. Paper testing and on-line testing will take place. The pilot will not involve the entire student body and will only include portions of the test.**

**Testing results will be available only to principals' to assist in evaluating the testing process. A technology advisory committee meeting is scheduled for September 27, 2013 at 7:30a.m. The agenda will include the wireless school bond and district/town technology projects. RIDE has a \$60,000 grant to support a co-teacher for Mrs. Page to enable her to fulfill her teacher of the year duties. The teacher will be funded through the R.I. Foundation. The first open house is tomorrow evening at Hanaford at 6:30p.m. Frenchtown is Thursday night at 6:30p.m. All open houses are listed on the district website. Mr. Green asked if the "2014 teacher of the year" award is for the**

**school year or calendar year. Dr. Mercurio will get clarification. Ms. Mark asked if district technology is ready to pilot the PARCC. Dr. Mercurio said the minimum qualifications have been met.**

## **VII. School Committee Concerns**

**There were no concerns.**

## **VIII. Action Items**

### **a. Appointments**

- 1. EGHS Acting 0.1FTE 1 year only-Rob Petrucci**
- 2. EGHS ALP Math 0.2FTE 1-year only-Mary Klein**
- 3. EGHS Yearbook Advisor-Paula Glodd**
- 4. EGHS Sophomore Class Co-Advisor-Benjamin Revkin**
- 5. EGHS Theatre for Children 0.1FTE, Semester 2, Period 7, 1 year**

**only**

**Tim Kenney**

- 6. EGHS Freshman Class Co-Advisor-Diana Dwane**
- 7. EGHS Freshman Class Co-Advisor-Aubrie Savickas**
- 8. Cole Head Custodian-John Daylor**

**On a motion by Mrs. Winters, which was seconded by Mr. Sommer, the Committee voted 6-0 to approve appointments #1-8.**

### **b. Resignation-Ashlee Barton, EGHS**

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

### **c. Parental leave- Amanda Pretto**

**On a motion by Mrs. Winters, which was seconded by Mr. Sommer, the Committee voted 6-0 to approve the parental leave.**

### **d. Home School Request – grade 12**

**On a motion by Mrs. Winters, which was seconded by Ms. Mark, the Committee voted 6-0 to approve the home school request. Mr. Sommer asked if the request was a continuation from last year and if so if documentation from last year was submitted. Dr. Mercurio said it is a continuation from last year and would check to see if the**

documentation was received.

**e. Approval- Strategic Planning Ad-Hoc Committee and Charge**

The Committee discussed the charge and the number of members necessary. Mr. Green said there is not a maximum number, but fifteen is probably manageable. Ms. Mark asked if the forums are open to the public. Mr. Green said the Ad-Hoc Committee would not conduct or set public forums. The Ad-Hoc Committee brings their recommendations to the School Committee for approval. The public will have input at that time. Dr. Mercurio will use the list serv, district website, and robo calls to recruit community members. On a motion by Mr. Sommer, which was seconded by Mrs. Winters, the Committee voted 6-0 to approve the Charge to the Ad Hoc District Committee for Strategic Planning.

**IX. Discussion**

**a. Collaborative Efforts Town/School**

**1. Human Resources**

The town and the school district are working collaboratively to address items that may not be done in the most efficient manner. Both parties are looking at payroll, pension, benefit administration, etc. All parties were asked to list transaction items, deficiencies, anything that could be done more efficiently.

**2. Technology**

The town and school district are also working on technology enhancements. Mr. Zambrano and Mrs. Schmidle are working on upgrading the phone system. This upgrade was included in the FY2014 budget. Mr. Green noted that this collaboration is the finest

**example of the town and school working together to save money and provide better service. The school and technology directors will give a presentation to the School Committee in October.**

**X. Adjournment**

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

**6-0 to adjourn at 7:47pm.**

**CHRISTINE DIMEGLIO**

**SECRETARY**