

Minutes of the East Greenwich School Committee

Tuesday, October 15, 2013

Archie R. Cole Middle School Library

100 Cedar Avenue

East Greenwich, RI 02818

6:04p.m. Executive Session, Mr. Sommer 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; Legal Services Agreement; Update on Pending Litigation. Dr. Gifford seconded the motion, which passed 4-0.

Those in attendance were Mr. David Green, Chair; Dr. Deidre Gifford, Vice-Chair; Mr. Jack Sommer; Mrs. Mary Ellen Winters; Ms. Carolyn Mark (arrived at 6:10p.m.); Mrs. Susan Records (arrived at 6:30p.m.), and Mr. Clark Smith (arrived at 6:53p.m.). 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.

7:00p.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

There were no public comments.

IV. Approval of Minutes

a. Regular for October 1, 2013

Dr. Gifford asked for edits regarding the need for a home-school check off list (VII c). On a motion by Mr. Sommer, which was seconded by Dr. Gifford, the Committee voted 7-0 to approve the minutes with the suggested edits.

V. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Mercurio reported that 282 students and 128 adults received the flu vaccine during the flu clinic held at Cole on October 8, 2013. The next clinic is scheduled for

October 29, 2013 at Cole. Mrs. Page, EGHS teacher and R.I. Teacher of the Year, will be holding a "financial football" event on Wednesday, October 23, 2013 at 10:30a.m. Rhode Island Jump Start Coalition sponsors this event and will be sending School Committee members' invitations. Mrs. Crawford was congratulated for receiving ASBO certification, which is an internationally recognized certification for school finance and operations. Mr. Green announced a unanimous vote (7-0) was taken in executive session regarding legal services.

VI. School Committee Concerns

There were no concerns.

VII. Action Items

a. Home School Request-grade 9

On a motion by Ms. Mark, which was seconded by Mrs. Winters, the Committee unanimously approved the request.

b. Parental leave extension-Monica Cardi

On a motion by Mrs. Winters, which was seconded by Dr. Gifford, the Committee unanimously approved the parental leave extension.

c. Consolidated Technology Project

Dr. Mercurio discussed the enormous amount of work done by Mr. Zambrano and Mrs. Schmidle. Dr. Mercurio discussed the rationale behind the project, consequences of not approving the project, cost analysis, future savings, funding sources, and the future of East Greenwich's infrastructure. Last week Dr. Mercurio met with Joe Dasilva at RIDE to discuss the project. Mr. Dasilva was very positive. Mrs. Schmidle discussed the benefits of the dark fiber and the necessity to build an informational highway to connect the town and schools. The Committee previously approved funding for upgrading the phone system. Mr. Zambrano said implementation could take six months to a year depending on the vendors and the weather. Dr. Mercurio discussed the benefits for end users including multimedia capability and speed. There are no issues connected with e-rate. Dr. Mercurio will send a letter to Mr. Dasilva outlining the project. Dr. Gifford discussed the need for a video surveillance policy based on this project. Mr. Sommer made a motion to approve the concept presented with the funds allocated as currently envisioned. Mrs. Winters seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

d. Strategic Planning Ad Hoc Committee

Dr. Mercurio recommended the names of four community members to

serve on the Strategic Planning Ad Hoc Committee. Dr. Mercurio also has a list of alternates. He is planning to schedule an initial meeting with the group on October 28, 2013 at 5:30pm (venue to be determined). Dr. Mercurio will reach out to these members and also send letters thanking other community members who expressed interest. On a motion by Mrs. Winters, which was seconded by Mr. Sommer, the Committee voted unanimously to approve: Kristin Lehoullier; David Osborne; Tara Wood, and Karyn Hill. Dr. Mercurio reminded the Committee that the Charge calls for a minimum of one School Committee member. The ad-hoc group will make recommendations to the School Committee for approval. Dr. Mercurio will solicit names from interested teachers, students, and PTG presidents. This internal process will not require School Committee approval.

e. Approval of new position-Cole 0.2 FTE Music Teacher

On a motion by Mrs. Winters, which was seconded by Dr. Gifford, the Committee voted unanimously to table this item pending additional information.

f. Approval of new position-Hanaford 1.0 FTE Special Education Paraprofessional

On a motion by Mrs. Winters, which was seconded by Dr. Gifford, the Committee voted 7-0 to approve this new position.

VIII. Sub Committee Updates

a. Technology Advisory Committee

Mrs. Records asked for a calendar invite or a reminder for future meetings.

IX. Adjournment

**On a motion by Ms. Mark, which was seconded by Mrs. Winters, the
Committee voted**

7-0 to adjourn at 8:10p.m.

CHRISTINE DIMEGLIO

SECRETARY