

Minutes of the East Greenwich School Committee

Tuesday, May 20, 2014

Archie R. Cole Middle School Library

100 Cedar Avenue

East Greenwich, RI 02818

6:46p.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 Rhode Island General Laws §42-46-5(a) (2) Paraprofessional Negotiations. Mrs. Winters seconded the motion, which passed 5-0.

Those in attendance were Mr. David Green, Chair; Mrs. Mary Ellen Winters; Mr. Jack Sommer; Mr. Clark Smith, Ms. Carolyn Mark (arrived at 6:48 p.m.) and Mrs. Susan Records. Dr. Deidre Gifford, Vice-Chair was absent. Dr. Victor Mercurio, Superintendent; Mrs. Maryanne Crawford, Director of Administration; and Mr. Bradley Wilson, Director of Student Services were also present.

7:00p.m. Regular Meeting

I. Call to Order

Mr. Green called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

II. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

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

III. Public Comments

Dr. Amy Snyder asked the Committee to consider delaying the start

time for middle and secondary students. She asked if this topic could be placed on a future agenda or if an ad hoc committee could be formed to study this topic. Ms. Ellen Shanos spoke about Honors Night at Cole and voiced her support for Mrs. Meyer and Mr. Seger. Ms. Nicole Hostetler also spoke about Honors Night and noted the night does represent an exclusive group of students.

IV. Recognition

a. Heather Shen, EGHS, 2014 U.S. Presidential Scholar

Ms. Heather Shen was recognized and congratulated for being named a 2014 U.S. Presidential Scholar.

V. Approval of Minutes

a. Regular and Executive for May 6, 2014

On a motion by Mr. Sommer, which was seconded by Ms. Mark, the Committee voted

6-0 to approve the regular and executive minutes.

VI. Superintendent's Report

Tomorrow Dr. Mercurio will participate in the last CLO (Collaborative Learning Outcome) as required by the Race to the Top Grant. Districts' will discuss their progress and sustainability. The first meeting of the ad hoc committee to study all day kindergarten is Tuesday, May 27th at 4:30 p.m. in the central office. Dr. Mercurio will report back after the first meeting. Dr. Mercurio will attend a technology summit on May 29, 2014 sponsored by the Governor's office and the Manufacturer's Workforce. This meeting will bring together school districts and business leaders to discuss their needs.

Commissioner Gist will be in attendance. Dr. Mercurio voiced his

support for the Cole administration and will forward the date/time of Honors night when available. \$15,000 has been aside for a leadership position for the visual/performing arts department. A meeting with teachers' has been scheduled for May 27, 2014.

VII. School Committee Concerns

There were no concerns.

VIII. Action Items

a. Resignation- Laurie Costello, Paraprofessional, Meadowbrook

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

b. Home School Approval-Grade 8

The request is for a grade 7 student. On a motion by Mrs. Winters, which was seconded by Ms. Mark, the Committee voted 6-0 to approve the home school request.

c. Approval of Charge for Ad-Hoc Committee to study 2015-2016 school calendar

The membership was revised changing three parents to four, adding one additional student so a middle and high school student can participate, feedback from students will be added, "in the state" will be eliminated, and the group will be asked to report back no later than August 31, 2014. Dr. Richard Millman, spoke about the process of changing to an early start. He said that an early start only works if bedtime doesn't change and that parents, coaches, and teachers "buy-in." He explained that if students stay up later due to the later start and continue to come to school early for activities (band, sports), the later time will not work. On a motion by Mrs. Winters,

which was seconded by Mr. Sommer, the Committee voted 6-0 to approve the Charge with the revisions.

d. Second Read/Adoption of Policies

1. #10-110 Acceptable Use policy for Network Resources and Digital Devices Policy

Language associated with search/monitor provisions were reviewed by counsel and deemed accurate and consistent with state statute. The confidential information procedure will be linked to this policy. On a motion by Mrs. Winters, which was seconded by Mrs. Records, the Committee voted 6-0 to adopt policy #10-110.

2. #8245 Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment Policy

On a motion by Mrs. Winters, which was seconded by Ms. Mark, the Committee voted 6-0 to adopt policy #8245.

e. Two-tiered bus schedule proposal

Dr. Mercurio reviewed a two-tiered transportation system proposal noting current and proposed start/dismissal times, proposed school bus support, and significant changes necessary to support a two-tier system. This proposal was drafted with Ocean State Transit. This proposal is not budget neutral; a special education bus would need to be added at a cost of \$70,200. Significant changes were discussed including the bus stop change for Frenchtown bus 3, which affects Cartier Ct, Cavalier Drive, and Adirondack. Students in this area would be moved to one stop at Monroe Drive/Adirondack Drive requiring all students' (except mid-day kindergarten) to walk four tenths of a mile. The information presented was to raise the level of awareness as to the changes needed to move to a two-tier system.

Since this proposal is not budget neutral, no changes will be made at this time. Tonight's PowerPoint will be available on the Superintendent's

May 23, 2014 Field Memo.

IX. Sub Committee Update

a. Policy Committee

This item was tabled.

X. Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Sommer, which was seconded by Mrs. Winters, the Committee voted 6-0 to adjourn at 8:38 p.m.

CHRISTINE DIMEGLIO

SECRETARY