

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

**Tuesday, August 12, 2014**

**Archie R. Cole Middle School Library**

**100 Cedar Avenue**

**East Greenwich, RI 02818**

**6:04 p.m. Executive Session, 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 Rhode Island General Laws §42-46-5 (a) (8) Student hearing/determination. Mr. Sommer 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, and Mr. Clark Smith. Mrs. Susan Records and Ms. Carolyn Mark were absent. Dr. Victor Mercurio, Superintendent; Mrs. Maryanne Crawford, Director of Administration; Mr. Bradley Wilson, Director of Student Services; Attorney Matthew Oliverio, and Attorney Peter Spencer were also present.**

**7:00 p.m. Regular Meeting**

**I. Call to Order**

**Mr. Green called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. and announced a vote was taken in executive session pertaining to a student hearing.**

**The vote was 5-0.**

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

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

## **III. Public Comments**

**Nicole Hofstetler asked questions regarding the number of students in grade five and questioned the number of students per class. Dr. Mercurio offered to meet with her this week.**

## **IV. Approval of Minutes**

### **a. Regular and Executive Minutes for July 15, 2014**

**On a motion by Mrs. Winters, which was seconded by Mr. Sommer, the Committee approved the minutes 5-0.**

### **b. Special Meeting on July 22, 2014**

**On a motion by Mrs. Winters, which was seconded by Mr. Sommer, the Committee voted 4-0 to approve the minutes. Mr. Smith abstained.**

## **V. Superintendent's Report**

**The Ad Hoc Committee for All Day Kindergarten met this morning to discuss the survey results. SBS will conduct a study on space needs, which will be funded by the RIDE grant. The Ad Hoc Committee to study the academic calendar has an approved Charge, but needs student representation and one more teacher. Chromebooks for the high school are scheduled for delivery on August 28, 2014. The high school is planning to distribute them to students during the first full week of school. This gives administration time to distribute/review newly developed policies surrounding devices and assign user accounts/passwords. The**

district has moved forward with the interview process for the Technology Integration Specialist. The Chromebook vendor has been asked for temporary assistance for the start of school. Network preparations have been ongoing and revisited. Controllers are in place to balance system traffic. The system is significantly faster than prior years. The district has partnered with a third party vendor to offer professional development in the area of apps for education. Professional development will take place on August 25th and again on September 9th using dollars from federal funds. Dr. Gifford questioned the timing of the Chromebook rollout due to the vacancy of a Director of Technology and other many other moving pieces. She asked if the 1:1 initiative could be discussed at the next meeting.

She shared concerns regarding possible tech issues and loss of instructional time. Mr. Sommer noted he addressed these concerns with the Superintendent and is satisfied steps have been taken with the third party vendor. Mr. Green agreed the 1:1 initiative should be discussed at an upcoming meeting to check on rollout, support, etc.

## **VI. School Committee Concerns**

There were no concerns.

## **VII. Action Items**

### **a. Resignations**

#### **1. Dori Bathgate, Spanish Teacher, EGHS**

On a motion by Mrs. Winters, which was seconded by Mr. Sommer, the Committee voted 5-0 to approve the resignation.

#### **2. Lisa Gemma, Speech-Language Pathologist, Eldredge**

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

**the Committee voted 5-0 to approve the resignation.**

**b. Appointments**

- 1. Julie Oh, Head Coach, Cross Country, Cole**
- 2. Adam Scott, Head Coach, Girls' Soccer, Cole**
- 3. Ryan Garno, Head Coach, Girls' Volleyball, EGHS**

**On a motion by Mrs. Winters, which was seconded by Mr. Sommer, the Committee voted 5-0 to approve appointments #1 and #3. On a motion by Dr. Gifford, which was seconded by Mrs. Winters, the Committee voted 5-0 to approve appointment #2 pending the receipt of appropriate certification.**

**4. Katherine Mangano, 1.0 FTE Physical Education/Health Teacher, EGHS**

**5. Lisa Wilson, .8FTE Guidance Counselor, EGHS**

**6. Paula Glod, Yearbook Advisor, One Year Only, EGHS**

**7. Jody Fallon, 1.0 FTE Severe/Profound Special Education Teacher, Cole**

**8. Jenna Evans, 1.0 FTE Occupational Therapist, Frenchtown, Meadowbrook Pre-K**

**9. Lisa Melmed, .6FTE Art Teacher, Frenchtown and Meadowbrook**

**10. Kristen Pontarelli, Department Chair, World Languages, EGHS**

**13. Amanda Meredith, 1.0 FTE Spanish Teacher, EGHS**

**On a motion by Mrs. Winters, which was seconded by Mr. Sommer, the Committee voted 5-0 to approve appointments #4-10 & #13.**

**11. Stephanie Russo, Senior Accountant, Central Office (effective 9/2/14)** On a motion by Mr. Sommer, which was seconded by Dr. Gifford, the Committee voted 5-0 to approve the appointment, effective 9/2/14.

**12. Thomas Driscoll III, Technology Integration Specialist, EGHS**

This item was tabled.

**c. Home School Approval-Grade 11**

On a motion by Mrs. Winters, which was seconded by Mr. Sommer, the Committee voted 5-0 to approve the home school request.

**d. Approval of new position-1:1 Paraprofessional**

On a motion by Mr. Sommer, which was seconded by Mrs. Winters, the Committee voted 5-0 to approve the new position.

**e. Approval of Ad Hoc Committee to Study School Start Times**

Language will be added in the first paragraph to note the reason for the committee. Two School Committee members, the Athletic Director, and the notation of teachers and parents from each grade level (where possible) will be added to the members listed on the Charge. Mr. Sommer made a motion to approve the Charge as written with the additional revisions as stated. Mrs. Winters seconded the motion, which passed 5-0.

**f. Position proposals for District Visual Arts Coordinator and District Music Coordinator**

There was discussion regarding making this position a department chair since \$15,000 has been put aside for a position. Mr. Sommer made a motion to approve the Superintendent's recommendation for

a District Visual Arts Coordinator (K-12) and a Performing Arts Coordinator (K-12), each with a stipend of \$2,000 per school year. The balance of the \$15,000 will be held to fund visual/performing items at the discretion of the Superintendent. Mrs. Winters seconded the motion, which passed 5-0.

#### **VIII. Sub Committee Update**

##### **a. Building Committee**

Mr. Sommer noted the Building Committee met a few weeks ago to discuss bond money leftover for projects that have not been completed. The costs of the projects will be determined and a priority list drafted.

#### **IX. Adjournment**

Mr. Sommer made a motion to adjourn at 8:16 p.m. Mrs. Winters seconded the motion, which passed 5-0.

**CHRISTINE DIMEGLIO**

**SECRETARY**