

Minutes of the East Greenwich School Committee

Monday, November 3, 2014

Archie R. Cole Middle School Library

100 Cedar Avenue

East Greenwich, RI 02818

Those in attendance were Mr. David Green, Chair; Mrs. Mary Ellen Winters; Mr. Jack Sommer; Ms. Carolyn Mark; Mr. Clark Smith, and Mrs. Susan Records. Dr. Deidre Gifford, Vice-Chair was absent. Dr. Victor Mercurio, Superintendent of Schools; Mrs. Gail Wilcox, Director of Administration, and Mr. Brad 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

There were no comments.

IV. Approval of Minutes

a. Regular and Executive Minutes for October 21, 2014

Mr. Green asked for one revision on the executive minutes in regards to changing .06 FTE to .6 FTE. On a motion by Mrs. Winters, which

was seconded by Ms. Mark, the Committee voted 5-0 to approve the minutes with Mr. Smith abstaining.

V. Superintendent's Report

The first quarter ends Wednesday, November 5, 2014. The second quarter begins November 6, 2014 and ends January 23, 2015. Dr. Mercurio thanked the faculty, staff, and administration for a successful parent conference and professional development day today. Dr. Mercurio and Mr. Green recognized and welcomed the new Director of Technology Mr. Victor Babson.

VI. School Committee Concerns

There were no concerns.

VII. Action Items

a. Appointments

On a motion by Mrs. Winters, which was seconded by Mr. Sommer, the Committee voted 6-0 to approve appointments #1-3.

- 1. Freshman Class Co-Advisor-EGHS-Katherine Mangano**
- 2. Freshman Class Co-Advisor-EGHS-Donna Carter**
- 3. Sophomore Class Advisor-EGHS-Kate Thoreson-O'Rourke**

On a motion by Mrs. Winters, which was seconded by Mr. Sommer, the Committee voted 6-0 to approve appointments #4-7.

- 4. Boys' Basketball Coach-Cole-Joe Szymkowicz**
- 5. Girls' Basketball Coach-Cole-Gary Faragalli**
- 6. Fall Competition Cheerleading Coach-EGHS-Stacey Munzert**
- 7. Winter Competition Cheerleading Coach-EGHS-Stacey Munzert**

On a motion by Mrs. Winters, which was seconded by Mr. Sommer, the Committee voted 6-0 to approve appointments #8-10. The

Committee asked that the positions be called “advisors” rather than “teachers.” These positions are all Appendix B positions which were included in the FY2015 budget.

- 8. Elementary Choral Advisor-Hanaford-Leslie Lee**
 - 9. Elementary Choral Advisor-Eldredge-Mary Smith**
 - 10. Cole and EGHS Choral Advisor-Mary Larsen**
- b. Home School Approval-grade 4**

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

VIII. EG Strategic Support Mentoring Program End of year report-Nina Mackta

Nina Mackta gave a summary and highlights of the mentoring program FY2014. The program is currently in need of male mentors. The website and list serv will be used to solicit volunteers.

IX. EGHS 1:1 Presentation

Mr. Podraza, EGHS Principal; EGHS teachers Ms. Skelton, Mrs. Columbo, Mr. Penza; and student representative Charlotte Palmer were present to discuss the use of Chromebooks at the high school. Productivity, differentiation, engagement, and challenges were discussed. Mr. Podraza also discussed the results of the staff survey.

X. Discussion

a. School Committee Meeting Calendar

Mr. Green noted the town’s swearing-in ceremony would either take

place on November 24, 2014 or December 1, 2014 depending on when the results are certified by the state. The next School Committee meeting is scheduled for November 18, 2014. This will be the last meeting with the current School Committee. The meeting on December 2, 2014 will include new members.

XI. Updates

a. Ad Hoc Committees

1. Study Start Times

The Committee met last week to review scenarios and implications of flattening the bus schedule. This group is scheduled to meet again Thursday,

November 6, 2014.

2. Academic Calendar

The survey went out last Friday and so far over 1000 responses have been recorded. It is still open and will be announced again on the district list serv. Ms. Mark asked if it could be noted that this is a newly generated survey. This group is scheduled to meet on Monday, November 10, 2014.

3. All Day Kindergarten

A meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 6, 2014 prior to the Ad Hoc Start Time meeting. Staffing implications for each school, along with student services will be discussed. Strategic Business Solutions will attend the Building Committee meeting on Friday, November 7, 2014 to discuss the implications for Frenchtown and Meadowbrook. It is anticipated a facilities report will be provided.

XII. Subcommittee Updates

a. Technology Advisory Committee

The first technology meeting of this school year took place last week.

An overview of 1:1 was provided, along with an overview of the wireless initiative for Cole and the four elementary schools. The project is about 98% complete and post project documentation is due to RIDE. The district's technology plan, required by RIDE, is up in June 2015. The technology committee was given a copy of the current plan and asked to provide feedback. The new plan will be presented to the School Committee for approval in late spring 2015. Mrs. Records discussed the necessity of a methodology in rolling out new systems/technology.

b. Health and Wellness Committee

The Health and Wellness Committee met on October 28, 2014. The Mental Health Subcommittee met on October 2 and October 31, 2014.

The Health and Wellness Committee is focusing on goals to support policy implementation, identify/promote best practices for health and wellness, and utilization of the district website and list serv to educate the community and support stakeholders in regards to the new policy.

XIII. Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Sommer, which was seconded by Mrs. Winters, the Committee voted 6-0 to adjourn at 8:28 p.m.

CHRISTINE DIMEGLIO

SECRETARY