

Minutes of the East Greenwich School Committee

Tuesday, August 11, 2015

Archie R. Cole Middle School Library

100 Cedar Avenue

East Greenwich, RI 02818

Those in attendance were Ms. Carolyn Mark, Chair; Mr. Clark Smith; Dr. Yan Sun; Mr. David Osborne; and Mr. Michael Fain. Dr. Deidre Gifford, Vice-Chair and Mrs. Mary Ellen Winters were absent. Dr. Victor Mercurio, Superintendent; Mrs. Gail Wilcox, Director of Administration; Mr. Bradley Wilson, Director of Student Services; and Attorney Matthew Oliverio were also present.

7:00 p.m. Regular Meeting

I. Call to Order

Ms. Mark 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 for July 14, 2015

On a motion by Mr. Osborne, which was seconded by Mr. Fain, the Committee voted 5-0 to approve the regular and executive minutes.

V. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Mercurio has invited the new Commissioner Dr. Wagner to a

future School Committee meeting on either September 15, 2015 or October 6, 2015. The Town Council will also be invited. This meeting will be a meet/greet and an opportunity to discuss district initiatives.

VI. School Committee Concerns

There were no concerns.

VII. Action Items

a. Appointments

- 1. Special Education Teacher Severe/Profound-Cole-Amy Still**
- 2. Theater for Children Teacher-EGHS- .1 FTE Semester 1-One Year Only- Tim Kenney**
- 3. Reading Specialist-EGHS-One Year Only-Caitlin Laboissonniere**
- 4. French Teacher-EGHS- .4 FTE-Marie-France Nothnagle**
- 5. Special Education Teacher-EGHS-Maura Cotoia**
- 6. Speech/Language Pathologist-District-wide-.5 FTE- Patricia Garrahy**

On a motion by Mr. Fain, which was seconded by Mr. Smith, the Committee voted 5-0 to approve appointments #1,2,4,5,6. Appointment #3 was withdrawn as the candidate withdrew. All appointments are contingent on candidates holding current certificates.

- 7. Head Coach Girls' Soccer-EGHS-Scott Douglas**
 - 8. Head Coach Boys' Soccer-EGHS-Pat McGuirl**
 - 9. Asst Coach Boys' Soccer-EGHS-Matthew White**
 - 10. Head Coach Girls' Tennis-EGHS-Marc Brocato**
 - 11. Head Coach Girls' Field Hockey-EGHS- Deb McMullen**
 - 12. Asst Coach Girls' Field Hockey-EGHS-Margaret Naughton**

- 13. Head Coach Girls' Volleyball-EGHS-Ryan Garno**
- 14. Head Coach Football Cheerleaders-EGHS-Stacey Munzert**
- 15. Head Coach Football-EGHS-John George**
- 16. Asst Coach Football-EGHS-George Dolan**
- 17. Asst Coach Football-EGHS-Kyle Mushaweh**
- 18. Asst Coach Football-EGHS-Andy Butler**
- 19. Head Coach Boys' Soccer-Cole-Dan Gloria**
- 20. Head Coach Girls' Soccer-Cole-Adam Scott**

On a motion by Mr. Osborne, which was seconded by Mr. Fain, the Committee voted 5-0 to approve reappointments #7, 8, 10-20. On a motion by Mr. Fain, which was seconded by Mr. Osborne, the Committee voted 5-0 to approve new appointment #9.

21. Head Custodian-Central Office-part time-Jason Allard

22. Head Custodian-Frenchtown-Clinton Golding

On a motion by Dr. Sun, which was seconded by Mr. Osborne, the Committee voted 5-0 to approve appointments #21 and #22.

b. Parental leave-Jillian Meyer-Special Education Teacher-Eldredge

On a motion by Mr. Osborne, which was seconded by Mr. Fain, the Committee voted 5-0 to approve the parental leave.

c. Home School Request-Grade 10

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

d. Home School Request-Grade 12

On a motion by Mr. Osborne, which was seconded by Dr. Sun, the Committee voted 5-0 to deny the request as recommended by the superintendent. Dr. Mercurio said this request does not meet the

criteria of the School Committee Policy. Correspondence was previously sent to the parent requesting additional information. A denial letter will be sent noting the requested information can be forwarded for approval at the

September 1, 2015 meeting or the parent may appeal to RIDE.

e. Invoice-Facilities Rental-EGBA

On a motion by Mr. Fain, which was seconded by Mr. Osborne, the Committee voted 5-0 to table this item until the September 1, 2015 meeting.

f. Discussion/Publication of Fiscal Impact Statement for New Three (3) Year Custodian/Maintenance Contract

Attorney Oliverio gave background details on the previous contract and the mediated resolution in 2009 that resulted in new hires starting at \$12.00 per hour. The tentative three-year agreement proposes a 4%, 3%, and 3% wage increase for the lower tier employees. This would affect approximately eight employees. These employees are currently at \$12.73. Their hourly wage would increase yearly to \$13.24, 13.64, and \$14.05 in the final year. All other employees will receive a 2%, 2%, and 2% increase each year of the contract. This will result in hourly increases to \$18.55 per hour; \$18.92, and \$19.30 for each year of the contract. Head custodian stipends will be a fixed amount, rather than an amount based on the school location. Mrs. Wilcox presented the financial impact of the three-year custodian/maintenance contract noting the yearly impacts. FY2015-2016 net fiscal impact is \$33,505; FY2016-2017 is \$34,107; and FY2017-2018 is \$35,520. Mrs. Wilcox said the projected fiscal impact

falls within the budgeted dollars for the FY2016 school year.

g. Discussion/Vote of New Three (3) Year Custodian/Maintenance Contract

Attorney Oliverio thanked members of both negotiating teams (management and union) for their time and assistance. Attorney Oliverio reviewed all proposed changes with the Committee. He noted the union previously stated they are amenable to changing work hours if school times change during the term of the contract. NEARI/NEA representative, Mr. Chris Cobleigh, has signed the three-year tentative agreement. Dr. Sun made a motion to approve the negotiated three-year agreement between the East Greenwich School Committee and the East Greenwich Custodians/Maintenance Association/NEARI/NEA. Mr. Fain seconded the motion, which passed 5-0. Ms. Mark thanked the district negotiating team, the union negotiating team, and Attorney Oliverio.

h. Superintendent Goals 2015-2016

Dr. Mercurio reviewed his proposed goals for the 2015-2016 school year. The Committee weighed in on suggested revisions. Mr. Osborne asked that “and any other contractors” be added under the fourth bullet point on the all-day kindergarten goal. Mr. Osborne also asked if oversight of the instructional program and a human capital piece could be added to the all-day kindergarten goal. The rollout/development of the implementation plan will be added to the goal related to the strategic plan. Dr. Mercurio discussed concerns related to showing evidence of communication and asked for clarification. Language regarding regular process reports will also be

added. The proposed timing for the goal related to school start times will be changed from August 2015-June 2016 to August 2015-August 2016. Dr. Mercurio discussed concerns with funding cuts, which could affect this goal.

Dr. Mercurio will revise the goals and present a new draft at the September 1, 2015 meeting.

VIII. Policy- First Read #8720 Dual Enrollment Policy

Mr. Osborne presented the draft policy. Clarification from RIDE is needed to determine whether middle school students can take college courses and if credit can count towards high school. "Prior committee approval" needs to be added to #2.9. Additional language regarding "appeal" needs to be added to #5.4. Mr. Fain asked for an outline of how the GPA is calculated. This first draft will be sent out on the district list serv and listed on the Superintendent's Field Memo to garner feedback from the public.

IX. Discussion

a. Strategic Planning

Ms. Mark noted two meetings have taken place. One was a half-day retreat with the administrative council and the other meeting took place earlier this evening. Tonight the ad-hoc committee reviewed the work of the administrative council and will provide feedback.

b. Briefing on Educator Exchange Visit – Finland Public School System

Mrs. Pat Page presented a briefing on her educator exchange visit to Finland. Mrs. Page was part of a cohort of teachers across the United States visiting Finland.

c. All Day Kindergarten Update

Dr. Mercurio explained that kindergarten enrollment is still low at Frenchtown School. A special education teacher will be hired for Frenchtown, rather than another kindergarten teacher.

d. 2015-2016 Enrollment Update

Enrollment is up at all schools with a total projection of 2,464 students for FY2016. Dr. Mercurio discussed the number of students in grade 5 on a waiting list to attend their home school. There are numerous students who wish to stay at their non-home school. In this case, parents' are being asked to transport their children. Parents' are questioning why they have to transport since bus transportation is already in their neighborhood. Dr. Mercurio spoke with Deb Murphy of Ocean State Transit regarding this issue.

Transportation is built for school feeder patterns as listed on the school website. While a switch in transportation may work for a few students, it could possibly overfill busloads and increase the run times. If transportation is done for one student, it needs to be done for all, which could require adding one additional bus. So far about forty parents received letters noting they will not receive transportation to their non-home school.

e. School Start Time Update

Dr. Mercurio met with Dr. Sharkey last week. She would like to conduct sleep research on middle and high school students prior to implementing new school start times. Dr. Sharkey will go through Brown University's review board. Administrative council members have been put on notice regarding their assistance. There is a

company that reviews transportation needs for districts. Dr. Mercurio will reach out for possible assistance.

X. Advisory/Subcommittee Updates

a. Building Committee

The Building Committee met on July 23, 2015 to discuss the needed renovations for all- day kindergarten. Joe Duarte has confirmed the town can complete the outside work. The inside work needs to go out to bid. Mr. Wilmarth will research what's needed and send the bid out early September/October with a review scheduled for November. The FY2015 capital maintenance list was reviewed. Numerous lighting is being replaced free of charge. The committee also reviewed the Cole temperature statistics. It was noted that the third floor temperature was similar to the first floor. Mr. Wilmarth is reviewing the HVAC system to see if it is working properly because many classrooms were not cooling down at night. The next Building Committee meeting is scheduled for

August 20, 2015. A representative from Community Green Energy will present a concept proposal for solar PV systems.

b. Finance Committee

The Finance Committee met on July 26, 2015. Six of the new seven members were present. Dr. Mercurio and Mrs. Wilcox gave presentations of the budget process and discussed the current initiatives including all-day kindergarten and school start times.

On August 26th, a joint meeting of the administrative council and finance committee will take place for members to get acquainted, discuss concerns, and discuss the budget process. The Finance

Committee plans to meet every 4-6 weeks.

XI. Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Osborne, which was seconded by Dr. Sun, the Committee voted 5-0 to adjourn at 9:49 p.m.

CHRISTINE DIMEGLIO

SECRETARY