

EAST PROVIDENCE SCHOOL DEPARTMENT

East Providence City Hall

145 Taunton Avenue

East Providence, Rhode Island 02914

School Committee Meeting

March 14, 2006

Open Session

Chairman Gouveia called the meeting to order at 6:30PM. All School Committee Members were present: Robert Faria, Eileen Lovett, David Medeiros, Mildred Morris and Antone Gouveia. A motion was made by Mrs. Morris to move to Executive Session in accordance with RI General Laws, Section 42-46-5 (a) (1) Personnel, (a) (2) Litigation, seconded by Mr. Medeiros. Vote 5-0.

Public session reconvened at 7:30PM. A motion was made by Mrs. Morris to return to open session, seconded by Mrs. Lovett. Vote 5-0. A motion was made by Mrs. Morris to seal the minutes of the executive session, seconded by Mrs. Lovett. Vote 5-0.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by Mr. Faria. A Moment of Silence was observed in memory of Zachary Dauphinee, a student at Whiteknact School, who passed away recently after a battle with cancer.

Record of Previous Meetings – A motion was made by Mrs. Morris to approve the minutes of previous meetings, seconded by Mr. Medeiros. Vote 5-0.

Chair’s Report - Mr. Gouveia read a statement related to his attendance at a recent City Council Meeting.

He wanted to clarify some of the information which had been presented at that meeting, which he felt was incorrect.

Student Recognition (Middle School Mediation Program) – Officer Alexyon thanked the School

Committee for the opportunity to recognize 24 students from Martin and Riverside Middle Schools who

were trained during February vacation and successfully completed the School Mediation Program. Judge

Piraglia introduced the students and presented them with certificates.

Student Recognition (Music Awards) – Mr. Vars, Director of Bands at East Providence High School

acknowledged students selected for RIMEA Senior and Junior Division All-State/Honors, band,

orchestra, jazz ensemble and chorus, and students selected for Southern New England Band.

Student Recognition – Spelling Bee Winner – Erin Butler of Riverside Middle School was recognized as the City-Wide Middle School Spelling Bee Champion for the 2005-06 school year.

Student Liaison, John Butler presented his report.

Hearings - None

Reading of Communications – Mr. Faria read a letter regarding good sportsmanship exhibited by the High School Hockey Team at a recent game away from home. Mr. Faria received information from RI Association of School Committees regarding approximately 30 house bills regarding school legislation related to transportation, special education and he asked for more involvement in this process.

Report of Superintendent and Staff

Showcase of Schools –Students from Orlo Avenue School and Waddington School performed.

Awarding of Bids – None

The Monthly Financial Statement reflects the budget given by the City Council without recommendations given by the auditors. Mr. Gouveia asked if all items were included. Motion to accept by Mrs. Morris, seconded by Mr. Medeiros. Vote 5-0. Mr. Vinhateiro advised that last week, he, Mr. Gouveia, and City officials met with the Auditor General to review the status of the School Department's budget along with the audit report from B & E Consulting. The Auditor General will be getting back to the School Department. Mr. Gouveia felt it was important for the public to understand that the Auditor General's office was very interested in the things East Providence is trying to do to reduce costs in transportation, special education and other areas. Mr. Vinhateiro has provided the Auditor General with further information which he requested.

Personnel Recommendations – Mrs. Rodericks presented the following personnel items:

Appointments

Gail Costa Secretary , Martin Middle School (Temporary)

Edna Souza Secretary, Francis School (Temporary)

Isabel Evans Secretary, Oldham School (Temporary)

Christopher Dante Boys' Tennis Coach

Motion: Mrs. Morris/Second: Mr. Medeiros. Vote 5-0.

Resignation

**Richard Silva Head Coach, Academic Decathlon – High School –
Effective at end of 05-06 School Year**

Motion: Mrs. Morris/Second: Mr. Medeiros. Vote 5-0.

Leave of Absence

**Alex Butler Asst. Coach Boys' Volleyball – High School
(One Year only)**

Motion: Mrs. Morris/Second: Mr. Medeiros. Vote 5-0.

Personal Leave of Absence

**Sophia Sotis Spanish Teacher High School
2006-07 School Year**

Motion: Mrs. Morris/Second: Mr. Medeiros. Vote 5-0.

**Facilities Report – Harry Mutter reported that a contract has been
signed with RISE for lights in the**

**Waddington School and Riverside Middle School gyms. Installation
will begin during April vacation at**

**Waddington. At Martin Middle School, the intercom system is in need
of repairs and they are currently**

working with a private telephone company to repair the interior phone

system. At the Administration Building, three stairwells are being painted. Information was also presented to the School Committee regarding electrical usage in all buildings.

Field Trip Requests – A motion was made by Mrs. Morris to approve a field trip request from the Career Center for students to attend the DECA ICDC National Competition in Dallas Texas beginning April 28 to May 3, 2006, seconded by Mr. Medeiros. Vote 5-0.

Requests for Home Schooling – Dr. Jacqueline Forbes recommended that the School Committee approve a request to home school a student. Motion was made by Mr. Medeiros to approve, seconded by Mrs. Lovett. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Faria, aye; Mrs. Lovett, aye; Mr. Medeiros, aye; Mrs. Morris, aye; Mr. Gouveia, aye. Vote 5-0.

School Calendar 2006-2007 – Mr. Vinhateiro recommended that the School Committee approve the calendar and corresponding payroll calendar as presented. School is scheduled to begin on September 6, 2006 and end on June 18, 2007. A motion was made by Mrs. Morris to accept the calendar, seconded by Mrs. Lovett. Vote 5-0.

Report of Sub-Committees - Mrs. Lovett reported on Family Involvement Committee activities. The next FIT meeting will be held on March 29, 2006. Activities are being planned for Earth Day on April 29, 2006. Mr. Medeiros advised that information will be sent out this week. A grant writing workshop will be held on March 27th at 6:30PM and all are invited to attend.

Unfinished Business – None

New Business

Mr. Vinhateiro advised that the East Bay Collaborative is in the process of purchasing property in Warren, which will save them considerable money. Mr. Vinhateiro asked the School Committee to support a resolution to give support to this purchase, as our assessment will decrease as a result of this purchase. Mr. Gouveia asked about the liability, either legal or financial. Mr. Silva, School Department attorney, will review all materials to ensure everything is in order and there is no financial liability. Mr. Vinhateiro advised that the state law has been amended to allow the educational collaboratives to own property. In response to Mrs. Morris question about where the money

will come from, Mr. Vinhateiro

said it is not our financial responsibility, but we will realize a reduction in our assessment for next year.

A motion was made by Mr. Medeiros to approve, seconded by Mrs. Morris. Roll Call Vote: Mr.

Faria, aye; Mrs. Lovett, aye; Mr. Medeiros, aye; Mrs. Morris, aye; Mr. Gouveia, aye. Vote 5-0.

Mr. Vinhateiro received a request from Mr. Amaral, Athletic Director, to form a Club LaCrosse Program

for boys and girls at East Providence High School. The proposal has been endorsed by the principal and

there is no cost to the School Department as this is paid for by volunteers and grants. Motion by Mrs.

Lovett to approve, seconded by Mr. Faria. Vote 5-0.

Payment of Bills

Warrant # 634 2/21/06 \$1,409,632.41

Motion: Morris/Second: Medeiros. Vote 5-0.

Warrant #635 2/22/06 \$ 194,621.78

Motion: Morris/Second: Medeiros. Vote 5-0.

Question and Answer Period - None

A motion was made by Mrs. Morris to adjourn at 9:30PM, seconded by Mr. Medeiros. Vote 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia A Iannelli, Executive Secretary

David A. Medeiros, Clerk of the Committee