

EAST LONGMEADOW SCHOOL COMMITTEE

MINUTES

DATE: December 19, 2016

TIME: 7:00 P.M.

WHERE: Superintendent's Conference Room

Meeting called to Order by: William Fonseca, Chair

Chair stated that this meeting is being both audio and video taped by ELCAT, is anyone else doing either.

Present: Richard Freccero, William Fonseca, Deirdre Mailloux, Gregory Thompson, Elizabeth Marsian-Boucher; Gordon Smith, Superintendent of School, Pamela Blair, Asst. Superintendent for Business, Student Rep; Kathy Celetti, Recording Secretary

Approval of Minutes

2.1 Approval of the December 5, 2016 regular session minutes.

Rich moved to approve the December 5, 2016 regular session meeting minutes, Deirdre seconded the motion.

Chair: Any further discussion?

Greg, on 7.4 School Committee discussions, sentence: "the committee agreed to a certain amount". We didn't agree to a certain amount, it was a conversation. We didn't vote. Take out that whole sentence. Strike that sentence as a whole. Unless it's a vote, we shouldn't use the word agree.

Greg moved that we amend the minutes to strike that sentence. Beth seconded the motion.

Chair: Any further discussion on the amendment?

All those in favor of the amendment, please say aye (5 ayes), that unanimous

Chair: Going back to the approval of the minutes

Any further discussion? Hearing none, all those in favor please say aye (5 ayes), that's unanimous.

Committee/Sub-committee Communications

Student Rep: Friday and Saturday the drama club had a production called "Helga" which was a parody of the play Hamlet. Went well, good turnout. Next week is winter break.

Deirdre: I went to Birchland Park Middle School Winter Concert last week. Great show! I enjoyed that. I had the opportunity to come into the school and par-take in the gingerbread contest that our culinary arts students put together. That was really fun. That was my first time being able to see this. The students do a great job. I think one of them is sitting in the office. We got to vote on each one and they pick a winner.

Mr. Smith: They also share the winners with the town library, which is pretty neat.

Rich: I also participated in the gingerbread house contest. The school superintendent told me what he voted for and persuaded me right off the bat. The Election Committee met again, we had called Colin Drury from here at the Rec Dept. which was excellent. We are going to meet again in April to assess our plans. It looks like as far as we are concern, we are going to keep the elections at Birchland Park. Compliments to Mr. Smith and the Collaborative Committee. We've taken the calendar and added some PD dates, it goes to the leadership team and then it will come back to us.

Beth: I didn't get a chance to attend the elementary concerts, I'm sure they were wonderful as always. I did attend the Birchland Park concert; all the kids did a wonderful job. The 7th and 8th grade orchestra blew me away. Considering how long we have been doing this, not even five years. Those children were really impressive. That being said, ELEEf is February 11th at Twin Hills. It's going to be more of a gala ball type theme. Everybody needs to go. They are kind of re-organizing, trying to get some new footing. It would be nice to get some new people there. I will sell you tickets, tickets are on sale. Information also on Facebook and their website. I think they will be sending messages at some point right after vacation. Stuff will be going out to the schools.

Mr. Smith: An idea was given to me by a school committee member, Ms. Mailloux, given that our orchestra is really doing quite well and ELEEf helped move that forward with their grants, we should invite them to "music in our schools". We can plan on inviting the board to showcase all our students with "music in our schools" in the spring.

Bill: I was a judge in the first round of Senior Projects. They did a great job. You can see the progression they have made over the past couple of years. It's entrenched as part of their curriculum now. Kids are doing a great job, really enjoyable.

Opportunity for visitors to Address the committee - No one wished to address the committee

Superintendent's Report: None

Assistant Superintendent for Business :

5.2.1 The Mountain View gift donation from the physical education fundraiser was presented by Ms. Blair. The physical education teacher at MV taught a unit using cup stacking to teach students to use both sides of their brains to improve hand/eye coordination. The parents had the opportunity to purchase the kits for their children, providing some money back to the school to purchase PE equipment. For each kit sold the company gave back \$5. MV received \$450.

Rich moved to approve the Mountain View gift donation from the PE fundraiser, Beth seconded the motion.

Chair: Any further discussion? Greg said that he was not fond of this fundraiser. The company is giving us no deals. You get 9 cups for \$40. We should re-focus on fundraising, review the policy. Mr. Smith will speak with the leadership team on fundraising; also see what other school districts are doing.

All those in favor please say aye (5 ayes) those opposed (0). That motion was unanimous.

Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction :

5.3.1 The Curriculum Renewal Budget for 2016-2017 was presented by Ms. Annear. Up for renewal this year is: Social Studies and Business Tech at BP and the HS. Total cost for this renewal is \$100,000 for 2016-2017. Next year will be K-12 ELA and K-12 P.E.

Old Business :

6.1 Prioritize Capital Projects was presented by Mr. Smith for discussion. Rich: what are the parameters? Maybe have some guidelines. Greg wanted to know if there might be a potential for bonding. What's the five year plan? Greg said our focus is with Town Council, come up with a plan. It was mentioned that maybe the school committee should meet with Town Council.

New Business:

7.1 The budget requests from each school were discussed.

Chair: The Chair thanked Mr. Maki (ELCAT) and our student rep.

Greg moved to adjourn at 8:35, Beth seconded the motion.

Chair: All those in favor (5 ayes), oppose (0). That motion is unanimous