

EAST LONGMEADOW SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES



District Mission

"Our mission in the East Longmeadow Public Schools is to promote achievement and accountability in all endeavors as we educate today for the challenges of tomorrow"

DATE: March 11, 2019
TIME: 6:00 P.M.
WHERE: Superintendent's Conference Room

Meeting called to Order by: Richard Freccero, Chair
Chair stated that this meeting is being both audio and video taped, and asked if anyone else was taping the meeting.
Roll Call: Jake Brady, Student Rep, William Fonseca, Sarah Truoiolo, Gregory Thompson, Richard Freccero, Gordon Smith, Superintendent of Schools, Elizabeth Marsian-Boucher, Pamela Blair, Asst. Superintendent for Business, Kathy Celetti, Recording Secretary

Approval of Minutes

2.1 Approval of the February 25, 2019 executive session meeting minutes.

William moved to approve the February 25, 2019 executive session meeting minutes, Sarah seconded the motion.
Chair: Any further discussion? All those in favor say aye (5), those oppose (0), unanimous (5-0)

2.2 Approval of the February 25, 2019 regular session meeting minutes

Sarah moved to approve the February 25, 2019 regular session meeting minutes, Gregory seconded the motion.
Chair: Any further discussion? All those in favor say aye (5), those oppose (0), unanimous (5-0)

Committee/Sub-committee Communications

Student Rep: Last Tuesday at the high school there was a variety of activities taking place. The 10th and 12th graders took the PNA survey, which gave every student an opportunity to voice their opinions and experiences regarding many important issues that they face, such as safety well-being. During that same time period, 9th and 11th graders attended an assembly which focused on the importance of staying away from drugs and demonstrating how negative choices now can impact you down the road. So overall, a powerful set of activities to keep students mindful about how things will affect them in the future. Also, last Friday and Saturday Spartanum took place. It was a phenomenal show; all of the acts were amazing. Students put in a lot of effort to make sure that the show was really good.

Mr. Smith: A lot of talent, really impressive.

William Fonseca: Next Tuesday, March 19th I will be attending a day-long program put on by Jeff Riley, Commissioner of Education called "Carry Oz" mapping our way forward in this program education stakeholders from across the Commonwealth will help shape an early blueprint of what education will look like going forward including making sure all students are included, so I will definitely bring back reports on that. Also, great job to the 125th Celebration Committee on the spaghetti supper that was held this past Friday night at St. Luke's. And to the catering, that was an excellent job.

Sarah Truoiolo: I attended the 125th kickoff celebration and it was wonderful, thanks to Beth and Rich for helping to facilitate that wonderful evening. It was very well attended.

Elizabeth Marsian-Boucher: I'll start with ELEEF, Ms. Blair you rec'd the check? Ms. Blair: Yes, thank you. The teachers can start getting the wonderful grants that they have been given. I also wanted to say, that I had too many things happening this weekend, and could not attend Spartanum this year. I actually made it into St. Michaels which was miraculous on itself. I have to say that Father Wayne went to see the show, could not say enough wonderful things, not just about the show, but about the students that were there. Just to let them know great stuff that's happening, talent that we have and I really think it said a lot. He really had wonderful things to say and I did try to make it the second night, but just had so much happening. Lastly, I would like to say Happy Birthday Richard.

Richard Freccero: I was enjoying myself at the 125th pasta dinner, in coalition with the committee, working with the catering and everything was going well. I was having this conversation with Sarah and this gentleman came up to me and said to me is this your daughter Mr. Freccero.

Opportunity for Visitors to Address the Committee: None

Superintendent's Report: None

Assistant Superintendent of Business Report :

5.2.1 The BP gift donation from the Benevity Community Impact Fund was presented by Ms. Blair. Ms. Blair as if the committee would table this item so that she could do a little more research on this choice.

William moved to table item 5.2.1, the BP gift donation from the Benevity Community Impact Fund, Elizabeth seconded the motion

Chair: Any further discussion? All those in favor say aye (5), those oppose (0), unanimous (5-0)

Old Business

6.1 Superintendent's Mid-cycle review was presented by the Chair.

Progress toward Student Learning

The Superintendent is cited for the following:

- Established a partnership with the Sandyhook Promise Organization.
- Built in the 2018- 2019 budget funds to expand social and emotional programs.
- Worked with the Director of Student Support Services to expand the partnership with Bay Path University.

Collaborated with the District Management Group and ELPS leadership team to research more about social and emotional education and support.

Progress toward Professional Practice

The Superintendent is cited for the following:

- The yearly book study with the ELPS leadership team.
- A productive working relationship with other department heads, the town manager, and Town Council.
- The continuation of working closely with the IT Director, EL Public Library, Chief of Police, Fire Chief, Open Space Committee, and Town Emergency Planning.

Instructional Leadership

The Superintendent is cited for the following:

- Working across the district to utilize the new format for SMART Goals.
- Working with the ELPS leadership team to pilot new ways to collect and review student achievement data.
- Working with the Director of Curriculum and Data Specialist to utilize Google Data Studio.

Management and Operations

The Superintendent is cited for the following:

- Negotiating four unit contracts and seven individual contracts.
- Revising the Statement of Interest for MSBA Core Program.
- Continuing to work closely with the ELPD, ELFD, and the Massachusetts State Police to maintain building safety and keeping the district and school safety plans current.
- Completing the MSBA Accelerated Repair Project for Meadow Brook.
- Expanding the use of Google Suite throughout ELPS

Family & Community Engagement

The Superintendent is cited for the following:

- Continuing to attend District and Town events.
- Partnering with the ELPS Nurse Leader to implement the Preventive Needs Assessment survey.
- Working closely with the IT Director to create a one to one program.
- Developing the ELPS Diversity and Equity Committee.
- Strengthening the EL Youth Safety Committee work.
- Involving interested parents and the community in the MSBA SOI process.

Professional Culture

The Superintendent is cited for the following:

- Attending the annual MASC - MASS conference and collaborating with other superintendents.
- Utilizing ELPS teachers to present for the two full-day professional development days.

Working with the Director of Curriculum to sustain an innovative culture with the ELPS Academic coaches

In all, the Superintendent is progressing in the proficient and exemplary area in the student learning goal, professional practice school, and the four standards of instructional leadership, management and operations, family and community engagement, and professional culture.

Gregory moved to accept the Superintendent's Mid-cycle review, William seconded the motion.

Chair: Any further discussion? All those in favor say aye (5), those oppose (0), unanimous (5-0)

6.2 Mr. Smith presented the FY2020 Budget update.

The first part of the chart identifies what we would consider level services budget. So it incorporates contractual obligations, and some fiscal challenges that we were aware of at the beginning of the year and working on. Things such as reduction of our state health grant, negotiations when the minimum wage was increased at the state level. From there, we have four new main items in the operational budget. You are looking at a Social Emotional teacher at Meadow Brook and at the high school; Instructional Tech Specialist at the elementary level for (MS/MV); increase in curriculum renewal. That would be a total of 3.46% increase to our current operational budget. Governor Baker's proposed budget for Chapter 70, increases our Chapter 70 aid by 7.36%. The last three years we are seeing significant increases in Chapter 70 aid that money flows directly into the town general fund even though it's dedicated to schools; it's going into the town fund.

Chair: I like the way it flows

Sarah: It speaks to the district's goals around supporting the whole child and at the same time addressing the need for a rigorous curriculum.

Chair: I'd like to do two steps, we vote on this first, accept this budget as presented by our Superintendent.

Gregory: Could we do a snap shot of FTE's on a certain day like the first day of school, over the past three years, is that available information?

Ms. Blair: Sure

Gregory: If we are going to present anything tomorrow, we could present something similar to this.

Ms. Blair: I have that ready; I have not shared that with anyone.

Gregory: I would go with the level services at 2.63% and then probably all the requests at 3.46%.

Chair: I would take out the Cost and Grant Total columns. I would give line one and lines 2-5 as one combined.

Gregory: Break out in three lines. Level services; 2-4 FTE's and Curriculum.

Ms. Blair: The other item to bring up is the school committee stipend. I would submit the same thing that I did last year, the same exact terminology.

Gregory moved to approve the ELPS FY2020 preliminary budget as presented, William seconded the motion

Chair: Any further discussion? All those in favor say aye (5), those oppose (0), unanimous (5-0)

New Business:

7.1 School Choice for the 2019-2020 school year was discussed.

Gregory moved to accept School Choice for the FY 2019-2020 school year, Elizabeth seconded the motion.

Chair: Any further discussion?

Roll Call Vote: William (No), Sarah (No), Gregory (No), Elizabeth (No), Richard (No)

Chair: Thank you Jake and Ms. Rooke

William moved to adjourn at 6:45 P.M., Elizabeth seconded the motion.

Chair: Any further discussion? All those in favor say yes (5), unanimous (5-0)

Minutes Recorded by: Kathy Celetti

Respectfully submitted by: Superintendent Smith

Signature