

**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 29, 2019
TIME: 11:00 A.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. Yes, Western MA News
Roll Call: Jake Brady, Student Rep, Sarah Truoiolo, Gregory Thompson, Richard Freccero, Gordon Smith, Superintendent of Schools, Elizabeth Marsian-Boucher, Pamela Blair, Asst. Superintendent for Business, Kathy Celetti, Recording Secretary
Absent: William Fonseca,
Introduction of Guest:
Treasurer Deborah Goldberg, MSBA
CEO, James MacDonald
Matt Donovan, Director of Administration and Operations
Maria Poppolo, Director of External Affairs
Steve Moore, Manager Strategic Projects
Legislators:
State Senator, Eric Lesser and his staff Mike Clark, Senior Advisor and Joel McAuliffe, District Director
State Representative, Brian Ashe
State Representative, Angelo Puppolo
Chair: Most of all I want thank our Town Council President, Kathy Hill for being here.
Dr. Flanagan, ELHS Principal

Superintendent's Report:

5.1.1 Massachusetts School Building Authority Process was presented
Treasurer Goldberg: The most important thing I want to say, it is not political in any way, shape, or form.
CEO, James MacDonald: So last year out of 80 core SOI, that were filed, the board ended up inviting 12. There are 54 projects currently active with MSBA, 15 CORE and 39 Accelerated Repair Projects. The process that happens is that we review them, we look at every single one and then go through and see who's a repeat customer, and has anything changed within their SOI. Who's applying at that time, the neediest based on independent evaluation, a senior site visit as well as the documentation. Then we go back and look at our student we did in 2016. All that is evaluated by the team at MSBA, and our outside consultant. They figure out who needs to have a site visit, what school that we have seen before, has pointed out something that has happened in the last 1 or 2 years. You saw this, but we have something new that's going on so please come out and take a look. You have to do what's in the best interest of your community and your school.
Treasurer Goldberg: We are governed by a statute that was written by our legislators.
CEO, James MacDonald: When you have applied 5 times, that's 3-5-7. Three (3) is accreditation; five (5) is replacement renovation, modernization of the heating system, electrical system; seven (7) is programmatically issues that you have, so we have after viewing the SOI, we narrow it down to (5) and (7). Three has been tossed and we look at (5) and (7). Those are the statutory requirements for us to consider a school.
Mr. Smith: Diane Sullivan, our liaison is incredible. Always very prompt in getting back to us. Great response to anything that I have asked her. She's fantastic.
Treasurer Goldberg: At my swearing in, in January, I stated we need more money for our schools. In my core team, we have both either asked our legislators and senators to file bills that would assist with that. There's a cap on what we can spend. We are asking the legislators to consider lifting our cap.
Chair: This is very helpful; we have a forum on April 4th. We have enthusiastic parents who think we should be snapping our fingers to make this happen. Parents feel this should have happened two years ago. What are you doing wrong, applying six times.
CEO, James MacDonald: It's important to maintain your building, even if somebody is invited in; it's five to seven years out. Direct the parents to our website. There is a lot of information on the site, very helpful.
Gregory: What do we do as a committee and as a community to get an opportunity to have a shot at a building?
CEO, James MacDonald: Continue to do what you are doing.
Gregory: At some point we need to look at a new roof, this school needs a roof. Will that hurt our chances of getting in if we replace it?
CEO, James MacDonald: No it shows that you are maintaining your building.
Mr. Smith: to your point, our partnership with DPW is just fantastic. We continue to make sure that our roof has fewer leaks, patching and so forth, and so thank you.

**Gregory moved to adjourn at 11:40 A.M., Sarah seconded the motion.
Chair: Any further discussion? All those in favor say yes (4), unanimous (4-0)**

Minutes Recorded by: Kathy Celetti
Respectfully submitted by: Superintendent Smith

Signature