

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: June 3, 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: 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
Recognition of Lori Pahl, Food Service Director:
Mr. Smith: Lori was recently named by the School Nutrition Association as Food Service Director or Director of the Year.
Lori Pahl: Thank you so much, thank you Pam for nominating me, I'm much honored.
Mr. Smith presented Lori with a certificate of recognition.

Approval of Minutes

2.1 Approval of the May 6, 2019 executive session meeting minutes.

William moved to approve the May 6, 2019 executive session meeting minutes, Elizabeth seconded the motion
Chair: Any further discussion? All those in favor say yes (5), we are unanimous (5-0)

2.2 Approval of the May 6, 2019 regular meeting minutes

Sarah moved to approve the May 6, 2019 regular meeting minutes, Gregory seconded the motion
Chair: Any further discussion? All those in favor say yes (5), we are unanimous (5-0)

Committee/Sub-committee Communications

Elizabeth: The 125th Birthday Committee had their summer kick-off. They feel it was a really good start; it was the Rec Dept. pushing it. They had a movie, some carnival games, and some food vendors. I guess it was a nice day.

Mr. Smith: I think they are running a mini-golf game.

Elizabeth: Yes, the last day of school for students. I think it's a two day event. You can go on the last day of school and that Saturday too. You come and go as a family. Each of the kids will get a little trophy if they participate.

Mr. Smith: And from what I hear, the administrators might get a little trophy too.

Gregory: Just a great day for graduation last week. I want to commend the student speakers and the staff for putting together a nice evening. I also want to commend the two folks next to me at the table for their speeches. All went well.

William: The fact that they got the band to play after both their speeches.

Sarah: I had the opportunity to visit MB school for their second grade chorus event which was very well done. It was actually the first time they separated out the second grade event from the larger event that typically took place at the high school. So it was nice to be able to recognize the second graders and not keep the little ones in the audience quiet so long. Really nice event. Meadow Brook also put on International Night, which was really well attended. It was not only put on by Meadow Brook students, but a variety of older students from Mapleshade and Mountain View in particular who attended the evening. Both of these events were very nicely done with administrators, members of the School Committee were present, as well as educators that came back.

William: On June 12th at 6pm there will be a Public Hearing for the Open Space Plan that Mr. Smith and I have been working on for the last year. We are required to have a Public Hearing; it will be at 6pm, like I said June 12th at the Council on Aging auditorium. I am also planning a Division 5 meeting for Wednesday, June 19th, up at the Collaborative for Education Services in Northampton. The topic is: the 2020 census and the importance of making sure everybody gets counted.

Richard: I attended the Mapleshade Invention Convention, once again, always exciting, very well done. Lacrosse is winning 6 to nothing, their first play-off game as we speak. I think tennis is tomorrow and baseball sometime this week. So those are all our play-off games.

Superintendent's Report:

5.1.1 Issuing a Notice of Intent to lowest bidder for the Meadow Brook Accelerated Repair Roof Project was presented by Mr. Smith
Mr. Smith: Just a quick update, this is the MB Roof repair project, which is through the MSBA Accelerated Repair Program. Originally, we were looking for bids to come in and open them on May 30th. However as of May 22nd we had only rec'd sub-contractor bids for plumbing and electrical. We had no sub-contractor bid for HVAC. So that forced our Project Manager to amend the bid document to say that the lead sub-contractor will now have to incorporate HVAC into their bid proposal. So we extended the bid opening from May 30th to June 6th. What the Notice of Intent, should the school committee approve that this evening is a recommendation from our Project Manager with Pinck & Co., Margaret Wood. She is recommending the school committee to possible vote to provide a Notice of Intent. If a vote this evening allows us to give a memo to that contractor indicating that intent, the language would be something similar to this. "This is a Notice of Intent for the Meadow Brook Elementary School partial roof replacement. The Town of East Longmeadow intends to execute a contract for the Meadow Brook roofing project with your company based on your bid submitted on June 6- 2019. The School Committee's official vote to confirm commitment will take place on June 17th and the contract will be executed no later than and we can put June 18th or 19th". We need to get an idea of how big the crew would be, and start the CORI and finger printing process. The hope would be demolition the week of the 17th.
Gregory: It's not only the lowest bidder; they have to meet the requirements.

Gregory moved to issue a Notice of Intent Memo to the lowest bidder who meets the bid requirements for the Meadow Brook Accelerated Repair Roof project, William seconded the motion.

Chair: Any further discussion?

Elizabeth: I'm going to abstain, my husband works for Pinck & Co., and it 's not like a regular thing that we are doing.

All those in favor say yes (4), Elizabeth abstained, (4-0-1 vote)

5.1.2 Mr. Smith, Superintendent presented his Self-evaluation for Summative Review. The Chair asked that the committee send their comments to him by Sunday so that he can compile a report for the next meeting on June 17th.

Assistant Superintendent of Business Report :

5.2.1 Ms. Blair presented her financial update as of the 3rd quarter dated March 31, 2019. There are a few salary line items that have a large balance remaining as of March 31st due to outstanding payments such as athletic coaches, hourly employees not encumbered and some Leave of Absences. The line item labeled

Medical Staff has a negative balance due to additional IEP services needed. These deficits will be covered by the Circuit Breaker. Also the Special Education Out-of-District account and Tuition to Collaborative is in the negative but will also be covered by the Circuit Breaker. I see no areas of concern.
Gregory: The athletic stadium account, we need to have more money in that account. Eventually we will need to replace the track and that is costly.

Elizabeth moved to accept the 3rd Quarter Fiscal Report, William seconded the motion.
Chair: Any further discussion? All those in favor say aye (5), those oppose (0), unanimous (5-0)

5.2.2 HS gift donation from Ohiopyle Prints from royalties on ELHS spirit wear was presented.

Gregory moved to accept the check donation from Ohiopyle Prints for East Longmeadow High School, Sarah seconded the motion.
Chair: Any further discussion? All those in favor say aye (5), those oppose (0), unanimous (5-0)

5.2.3 MV gift donation for Yanni Family Orthodontics was presented

Gregory moved to accept the MV gift donation from Yanni Family Orthodontics, William seconded the motion.
Chair: Any further discussion?
Gregory: This is for in recognition of Mr. Guay, a student put his name forward as outstanding teacher recognition.
Ms. Blair: Funds will be used in Mr. Guay's room.
Chair: Any further discussion? All those in favor say aye (5), those oppose (0), unanimous (5-0)

5.2.4 BP gift donation from a parent was presented

Gregory moved to accept the BP gift donation from a parent, Elizabeth seconded the motion.
Chair: Any further discussion?
Sarah: So is this connected back to the student who came,
Ms. Blair: yes it is
Sarah: I think my question is, if we move forward with air conditioning, what kind of cost is that going to bring on to the school department as far as electricity and maintenance.
Mr. Smith: We are working with DPW to analyze that. Generally on the second floor depending on individual health plans and IEP's, would we have say four or five of these window units, but they are not always in the same rooms. We move them according to schedules and plans. So we have to look at everything you just said, so we will be working with Joe Dunn the Facilities Manager and the middle school custodial staff to see is there electrical work that needs to be done to make sure that every room can handle this. The \$600 is precise, because we are thinking that we are going to stay with one type of air conditioner, it seems to work and has been fitted to the rooms so far.
Sarah: In the event that we can't sustain that, it was a very well thought out plan by the young man and his family. But just thinking about what is our communication plan with that family in the event we accept this donation and then somehow something on our end doesn't work.
Mr. Smith: We can always reimburse them. I think these were funds that were raised.
Sarah: Yes, I believe that is why they came forward.
Elizabeth: Do they anticipate their child is going to be in the classroom.
Mr. Smith: The original goal was to look at the second floor. So on the second floor; you already have a few air conditioned spaces with rooftop units. You have the media center, technology room, and an old technology room that is now their second makerspace. All of those have air conditioning, and their spaces, that we can utilize a few weeks at the end of the year and at the beginning of the year that we might have high heat. But we are not looking to run air conditioners during the month of September, nor the month of June, say like the weather we had today. I think this is in reaction that we started the school year and had three days in the middle 90's. So we are putting a plan together, we are not looking to purchase 25 air conditioners; we are probably looking at in the neighborhood of five to seven.
Sarah: That was a great idea, and they clearly executed on what they set up to accomplish. Just thinking ahead that if we start to set up a precedent, then how we are going to sustain that over time.
Mr. Smith: It would be challenging at the high school, as you don't have the electrical to handle that. Birchland happens to be our newest school.
Chair: Any further discussion? All those in favor say aye (5), those oppose (0), unanimous (5-0)

5.2.5 MV gift donation from Stop and Shop A+ Rewards Program was presented

Gregory moved to accept the MV gift donation of \$280.33 from Stop & Shop A+ Program, 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 The FY202 Budget update was presented by Mr. Smith

Chair: Town Council approved.

Mr. Smith: Yes Town Council approved our budget. It's something to celebrate, not only meeting us with our level services, but they did fund us one of the two social-emotional educators that we requested. So we are moving forward, hoping to continue to put a program in place that will eventually expand K-12.

Chair: We also got the 1:1

Mr. Smith: Yes, on the capital side originally there was \$200,000 put aside for the 1:1 programming, however, our estimate was closer to \$315,000 for investment next year to make that 1:1 program happen. By moving some of the projects off by a year, we were able to have the town increase the \$200,000 to \$300,000, which also gave them an opportunity to do a capital project which is going to help pave roadways. So now we have a great deal of work to do this summer to make sure that we get the 1:1 program.

Chair: That's going to be our number one priority.

New Business:

7.1 Hampden County Sheriff's Dept. use of Portable Repeaters on the ELHS press box on July 3rd was presented

William moved to approve the Hampden County Sheriff's Dept. request for Portable Repeaters on the ELHS press box on July 3rd Elizabeth seconded the motion.

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

7.2 MIAA Girls Lacrosse Tournament on June 10th and June 14, 2019 was presented by Mr. Smith.

MIAA has put in this request for the past few years. Right now it looks like there are two girls' lacrosse playoffs. MIAA is also requesting that we waive the rental fee, but they will cover all cost. We host the concessions with our booster clubs.

Gregory: Which booster club would do that?

Mr. Smith: Generally it would be whichever matches the sport.

Gregory moved that we approve the use of the stadium for MIAA Girls Lacrosse Tournament on June 10th and 14th, 2019 waiving the rental fee, Sarah seconded the motion.

Chair: Any further discussion? All those in favor say aye (4), those oppose (1), (4-1 vote)

7.3 BPMS Handbook Revisions for 2019-2020 was presented. **(TABLED UNTIL JUNE 17TH)**

Page 2, BP added the honor roll requirement, in our new standards-based grading in math. In our standard-based grading system, a 3 denotes "targeted content achieved" and 2.5 denotes "in addition to 2.0 performances, partial success at 3.0 content".

Page 3, BP added a paragraph describing a new 6th grade recess program. Going to recess for 6th graders will be optional. They can elect to stay in the cafeteria instead. We feel that providing access to some recess time will greatly benefit 6th grade students and help their transition into middle school.

Sarah: Who will be monitoring it?

Mr. Smith: He will have to rework his duty roster for lunch, and be ready to have people ready to monitor and supervise outside.

William: Where will this take place outside?

Mr. Smith: Most likely towards their own fields, but he is discussing with Mr. Fredette the possibility of utilizing the field at Mapleshade.

Page 4, BP changed the name of their library to the "Multicultural Media and Innovation Center". This space has been changing with the times over the last few years. It is home to Makerspace and is an innovation hub. It is also the hub of our school's focus on research. Finally, it has become a space focused on celebrating the growing diversity of our student body and will also be the home of our Diversity Club. At the same time, our book circulation numbers continue to grow. Therefore, we think the new name will be more aptly describe in that this space is our school community.

Elizabeth: Why Multicultural?

Mr. Smith: The new Librarian has established a Multicultural Club.

Gregory: So it implies that the library is the Multicultural Media Innovation Center, based on the location of the title, because the rest of the paragraph refers to it as a library.

Mr. Smith: Yes, they are going to have to revise that.

Sarah: I also noticed that when talking about report cards, at the bottom they are only referencing the letter grading.

Mr. Smith: Yes, they are going to have to make further revisions and bring it back to us.

Sarah: Going back to the math piece, all math standards typically aren't taught at one time correct? So when the language in the award system is saying on all math standards, they have a plan on their report card to bring out areas that are not going to be taught at that time.

Mr. Smith: They do, if they haven't taught that standard, they have not assessed this term. On the report card.

Sarah: Maybe that should also be specific, saying at least a 3.0 on all math standards. Currently taught, assessed, graded, because that could lead to confusion around honors.

Mr. Smith: Good point. I will ask for the paragraphs to be revised and Dr. Allen will be here on the 17th, so he will be able to address those.

7.4 Unit D Secretaries Contract - 2019-2022 was presented.

William moved to approve the Unit D Secretaries Contract from 2019-2022 as presented , Sarah seconded the motion

Roll-call Vote: William (Yes); Sarah (Yes); Gregory (Yes); Elizabeth (Abstain); Richard (No) - (3-1-1 vote)

Reminder: Staff Recognition on June 6th and Town Elections on June 4th.

Thank you Mr. Maki

William moved to adjourn at 6:55 P.M., Gregory 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