

EASTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
EASTON, MA

EASTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE WORKSHOP MINUTES
Friday, February 12, 2016

Minutes of School Committee Workshop Meeting, February 12, 2016, Upstairs Conference Room, 50 Oliver Street, convened at 8:35 a.m. Present: Fred Isleib, Laurie Han, Caroline O'Neill, Sean Mullen, Jackie Weisman, Dr. Keough and Dr. Cabral.

Call Meeting to Order:

Meeting was called to order by Chair Isleib at 8:35 a.m.

On a motion by Chair Isleib, seconded by Ms. O'Neill, with a 4-0 vote, the Committee approved to move the Athletic Report to the first order of business.

Athletic Report - Bill Matthews:

Bill Matthews, the Athletic Director discussed the athletics program within the district. Mr. Matthews said that last school year, they had 29 varsity teams, 22 junior varsity teams, 6 freshmen teams, 6 Easton Middle School teams and added 1 unified track team which was a great success. He continued that the unified track team had 8 students with disabilities, 8 peer students that worked with them. Mr. Matthews praised Colleen Rose, a teacher at Oliver Ames and Alexa Murray, a teacher at Easton Middle School who did an unbelievable job with the unified track team; the kids had a great time, it was the highlight of last year. Mr. Matthews said that the unified track team had been well received by the parents, they appreciated some form of activity for the kids. He continued that the program is exploding, other Hockomock schools are getting on board, and that there will be approximately 20 schools in Southeastern Massachusetts that will have unified track teams for the spring season. He continued that out of 1162 enrolled students, 755 participated in 1 activity, that is 65% of the students. Mr. Matthews explained that Easton had 1355 team members, 309 single sport athletes, 292 two sport athletes and 154 three sport athletes.

Dr. Keough said that the Oliver Ames athletic program has been outstanding and that Mr. Matthews addressed issues quickly and appropriately.

Chair Isleib thanked Mr. Matthews for coming to speak to the Committee.

Follow Up to POS Discussion:

A follow up discussion took place on the Program of Studies at Oliver Ames High School.

Wes Paul, Principal of the Oliver Ames High School, attended the meeting and answered questions from the Committee.

Update Adolescent / Wellness Survey:

A discussion took place over the results of the Oliver Ames High School Wellness Survey and the Easton Middle School Wellness Survey.

Dr. Cabral suggested developing action steps to address the issues.

Dr. Keough suggested organizing a Sub Committee and Sean Mullen agreed to chair it. It will be made up of nurses, adjustment counselors, Director of Guidance and Sean Mullen, to review the results of the surveys, present the findings to the School Committee, and then schedule a Question and Answer Session for the community.

Superintendent Notes:

Dr. Keough gave the Committee an update on Ameresco.

Dr. Keough attended Natural History Day at the Middle School which was overseen by Jen Pratt, who has been an awesome addition to Easton Public Schools.

Dr. Keough updated the Committee on the feedback from the Start Time Meeting Discussion from the schools.

Dr. Keough said that he met with Connor Read, Chris Bullock and Audrey Hall from Cleargov, and gave them feedback on the data that Cleargov presented to us. He continued that they requested a meeting with the School Committee.

Dr. Keough stated that the next recording of Keough's Corner is scheduled for the February 25th on the topic of "Challenges of Parenting in the New Millennium" with Pauline Dobrowski from Stonehill, Jeanne Baxter, a teacher at the Easton Middle School and Wes Paul. He continued that they targeted areas that they know are difficult for parents and supplied strategies.

Dr. Keough said that he feels there is good energy in this town and that the schools are moving in the right direction.

Chair Isleib asked if he felt that there was a favorite option of the Start Times. Dr. Keough answered that the 8:00 a.m. for the high school, 8:35 a.m. Richardson Olmsted and 9:05-9:10 a.m. for the elementary schools seemed to be the favorite.

Assistant Superintendent Notes:

Dr. Cabral thanked the Committee and Dr. Keough personally and professionally for their support in hiring her new assistant, Julie Shine. She continued that Ms. Shine has an education background, Master's in Education and has been phenomenal and thanked the Committee for their support.

School Committee Notes:

The Committee discussed the timeline for the possible new Start Times.

Dr. Keough suggested adding "Start Time Discussion" on the March 3rd agenda.

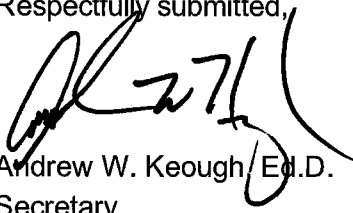
Possible Executive Session: Contract Negotiations:

The Committee entered into Executive Session at 11:54 a.m.

Adjournment:

On a motion by Chair Isleib, seconded by Ms. O'Neill, with a 4-0 vote, the Committee voted to enter into Executive Session at 11:54 a.m..

Respectfully submitted,



Andrew W. Keough/Ed.D.
Secretary