

EASTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
EASTON, MA

EASTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE WORKSHOP MINUTES
Friday, June 24, 2016

Minutes of School Committee Workshop Meeting, June 24, 2016, 50 Oliver Street, Upstairs Conference Room, convened at 8:45 a.m. Present: Laurie Han, Jackie Weisman, Caroline O'Neill, Sean Mullen, David Twombly, Marilyn Gordon and Dr. Keough.

Call Meeting To Order:

Chair Han called the meeting to order at 8:45 a.m.

Schedule of Payments:

Circulated for signatures.

Approval of Annual Requirement Contracts:

David Twombly explained that the School Department has several annual contracts and that the list of vendors that were in the packets are either with the Reads Collaborative or the state contractors. Mr. Twombly stated that one of the requirements from the school's attorney and working with Wendy from the Town Hall, is that we have these one page contracts to solidify the agreement. Mr. Twombly read the list of vendors. He continued that instead of going out to bid, the School Department can go off the state contract list and receive a better price.

On a motion by Ms. O'Neill, seconded by Dr. Mullen, with a 5-0 vote, the Committee approved all the required annual contracts for the fiscal year 2017.

Approval of Office Space Lease - 50 Oliver:

Mr. Twombly explained that every three years the School Department has to go out to bid called Chapter 30B bidding to rent out space at 50 Oliver Street. He continued that the lease is through Doug King Builders, it is a three (3) year contract starting July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2019. Mr. Twombly added that it goes up \$1,800.00 per year which is a 2% increase each year. Mr. Twombly said that it is posted on the state's website and it goes in the Brockton Enterprise.

Dr. Keough said that we have to go through this process of equal opportunity for people to offer us space.

On a motion by Ms. Weisman, seconded by Ms. O'Neill, with a 5-0 vote, the 50 Oliver Street space lease was approved.

Mr. Twombly left the meeting at 8:55 a.m.

Easton Public Schools - Food Service Agreement:

Marilyn Gordon stated that this is a three (3) year contract, one (1) year with two (2) renewals so it needs to be renewed every single year and this is the third year. She continued that we will have to go out to bid again this year. Ms. Gordon said that every time a food service worker retires or leaves, Whitson's replaces them, not us.

Dr. Keough expressed his condolences about the food service worker Norma Page, who passed away recently.

On a motion by Ms. O'Neill, seconded by Dr. Mullen, with a 5-0 vote, the Food Service Agreement amendment was approved.

Ratification of Paraprofessional Contract 2015-2018:

Dr. Keough said they had a very fruitful and challenging negotiations. He said the group was very respectful, when they were provided data, they did not dismiss it, they listened to what they had to say.

Ms. Weisman said they were very reasonable.

Dr. Keough added that they weren't pretentious and the service they provide is invaluable and very important.

Ms. O'Neill said that it was really nice negotiations and that they were very reasonable and a professional group of people. She commended the work of Attorney Rebecca Bryant regarding the negotiations.

On a motion by Dr. Mullen, seconded by Ms. Weisman, with a 5-0 vote, the Committee approved the Ratification of the Paraprofessional Contract.

Adolescent Wellness Survey Results Presentation:

Dr. Keough said that this Adolescent Wellness Survey, aka, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, is a survey that the state and CDC developed many years ago and that many school

systems across Massachusetts have given. He continued that the survey was adapted to fit Easton's needs and that the data is needed for the Wings of Hope working in collaboration with the YMCA, used this data to apply for a drug free community grant that would be essential to the district. He said the comparisons are to 2013, not 2015. He continued that the 2015 state results were not available and that when those results are available they would like to compare the results to the state's.

Dr. Mullen presented a powerpoint presentation to the Committee on the Adolescent Wellness Survey results from the Easton Middle School students and Oliver Ames High School students. Dr. Mullen stated the intention is to present a 15 to 20 minute summary to the Committee and then bring it to the teachers at each individual school and then the community.

Dr. Keough proposed the plan to publish the results of the survey on the website and in the Fall hold an evening parent event presenting this powerpoint and have the the school administrators, guidance staff and health staff be part of the panel to answer questions. The Committee agreed.

Naming costs Discussion:

Chair Han said that the Committee needs to discuss the naming costs with regard to Dan Farren who approached the Committee and requested naming the Easton Middle School gymnasium after Greg Chapman. Chair Han asked Dr. Keough to speak with Luke Carroll, Principal of Easton Middle School regarding the naming of the gym. Chair Han referred to the document "The Naming Campaign for Oliver Ames High School" that was in the packets.

A discussion took place over the costs and locations of the plaque / plaques and naming of facilities in the past.

Chair Han said she would contact Mr. Farren to explain prior practice and ask him specifically what he is considering.

On a motion by Ms. Deluca, seconded by Ms. O'Neill, with a 5-0 vote, the Committee agreed to move item number thirteen (13) "Budget Discussion", as the next order of business.

Budget Discussion:

Dr. Keough said that he met with the Administration team to discuss the budget and cuts. He said that it was decided by the Administration team which includes the principals and the Central Office Administration, to ask the School Committee for their approval to move forward with budgeting the Autism Program at the high school. He continued that it was

not budgeted however, the salary from a special needs teacher at Richardson Olmsted School that has left would fund the Autism teacher for the high school. Dr. Keough continued that they reconfigured the needs at Richardson Olmsted School and can make it work.

A discussion took place regarding the Autism Program and the budget for the schools.

Dr. Han suggested that conversations start soon regarding the 2017-2018 budget.

Review of Policy File I, J (first reading):

On File Policy IJM, "Special Interest Materials Selection and Adoption", in the last sentence, omit the word "*Principal*".

On File Policy ID, "School Day", in the third paragraph, the second sentence, the word "*insure*" should be spelled "*ensure*".

On File Policy IGA, "Curriculum Development", in the second paragraph, the words "*Committee expects its*" should be omitted.

On File Policy IHBBA, "Advanced Learning", the Committee decided to keep this policy.

On a motion by Ms. O'Neill, seconded by Ms. De Luca, with a 5-0 vote, the Committee approved the amendment to Policy File ID, "School Day" to "*To help ensure the safety of all children, parents will also be notified that students will not be admitted into the school building until 30 minutes prior to the start of the official day unless bus schedules require earlier admittance or students are involved in a sanctioned before-school activity*".

On a motion by Ms. O'Neill, seconded by Dr. Mullen, with a 5-0 vote, the Committee approved the changes made to Policy File "I".

The Committee decided to table File Policy section J.

Review of Policy file G, H (second reading):

On a motion by Ms. Weisman, seconded by Dr. Mullen, with a 5-0 vote, the Committee approved the Policy File sections G and H.

Personnel Change:

- a. Resignation of Paraprofessional at Parkview**
- b. Retirement of Social Studies Teacher at EMS**

Dr. Keough said Kathleen Donahue, Paraprofessional at Parkview School has resigned after 21 years with Easton Public Schools. Dr. Keough wished her well and said she has been a good contributor to the school system.

Dr. Keough said that Anne Drury, Social Studies Teacher at Easton Middle School, has decided to retire on January 31, 2017.

Ms. De Luca said Anne is a wonderful person and a great teacher.

Ms. O'Neill said she is a lovely person.

Dr. Keough wished them both peace, health and happiness.

Chair Han said that no vote is needed for retirements or resignations.

NEASC Annual Dues:

Dr. Keough explained that the New England Association of Schools and Colleges Memorandum in the packet was just to inform the Committee, a vote is not needed.

Superintendent Evaluation:

Chair Han said that the Superintendent Evaluation worksheets have been passed out and everyone needs to start working on these.

Ms. O'Neill said that Dr. Keough automatically has an additional year if he does not get a formal letter from the School Committee by June 30th, stating that his contract will not be renewed.

Superintendent Notes:

Dr. Keough said it was a good end of the year, it was uneventful and people seem upbeat in the schools.

Assistant Superintendent Notes:

Dr. Cabral was not present.

School Committee Notes:

Ms. O'Neill gave an update to the Committee on a procedural issue related to families.

Dr. Keough told the School Committee that the Management Conference will be held at the Queset House and they have been invited to attend on July 14th at 12:00 p.m. for lunch and the afternoon session.

Ms. Weisman requested having a detailed list of the savings available for the next Sub Committee Budget Meeting.

Dr. Keough said that he would like to schedule meetings with Marilyn Gordon, Chair Han and Ms. O'Neill and another meeting with Marilyn Gordon, Chair Han and Ms. Weisman.

Ms. O'Neill suggested quarterly updates on the budget given to the School Committee.

Chair Han requested changing the August 11th School Committee Meeting to August 18th, the Committee agreed.

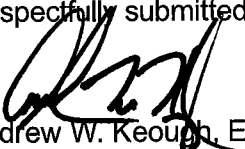
Possible Executive Session: RE: Contract Negotiations:

Not needed.

Adjournment:

The Committee adjourned at 12:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Andrew W. Keough, Ed.D.
Secretary