

EASTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
EASTON, MA

EASTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE MINUTES
Thursday, January 14, 2016

Minutes of School Committee Meeting, January 14, 2016, Simmons Lecture Hall, convened at 6:32 p.m. Present: Fred Isleib, Laurie Han, Caroline O'Neill, Sean Mullen, Jackie Weisman, Dr. Keough and Dr. Cabral.

On a motion by Chair Isleib, seconded by Dr. Han, with a 4-0 vote, the Committee approved to have the District Budget Presentation and Start Time Discussion moved up on the agenda.

District Budget Presentation:

Dr. Keough presented to the School Committee the District Budget powerpoint presentation. Dr. Keough explained that the proposed budget is guideline driven using the 2016-2018 District Strategic Plan's four major goals. Dr. Keough explained the breakdown of the budget. Dr. Keough said that town requested we come in with a 2% increase however, coming in at a 3.07% increase would only cover the contractual increases and the bus transportation contract. Dr. Keough explained the needs of the district as per the proposed budget. Dr. Keough said that the town has entered into a contract with Ameresco, which will help us save energy and implement energy saving equipment. Dr. Keough continued that this will be a \$200,000.00 savings along with the retirement of a special education van driver and having the routes consolidated, we could save an additional \$52,000.00. Dr. Keough stated that we started with 10.63% increase and if the override is passed, this is the budget that he would like the School Committee to recommend. Marilyn Gordon mentioned that the town wants the school department to present two budgets; one with a 2% increase and one with the override. Chair Isleib took questions from the audience and indicated that the Committee would need more time to discuss and would be doing so at the January 22, 2016 workshop.

Start Time Discussion:

Dr. Keough presented a powerpoint presentation of the findings of the Start Time Sub Committee. Dr. Keough presented the three options the Start Time Sub Committee put forth to the School Committee. Dr. Keough continued that the number one option included a Grade 3-5 start of 7:25 a.m., high school and middle school start of 8:00 a.m. and a PK-2 start time of 8:45 a.m. Chair Isleib announced that a question and answer session will take place prior to the February 4th School Committee meeting at 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. to discuss these options presented. Ms. Weisman suggested adding an additional information meeting; date to be determined. Dr. Keough and Chair Isleib thanked all the members of the Start Time Sub Committee.

Approval of Minutes: Regular 12/03/15; Executive Session 12/02/15, 12/14/15, 12/17/15:

On a motion by Chair Isleib, seconded by Ms. Weisman, with a 5-0 vote, the 12/03/15 School Committee Meeting minutes were approved.

On a motion by Mr. Mullen, seconded by Ms. Weisman, with a 5-0 vote, the 12/02/15 Executive Session School Committee Meeting minutes were approved.

On a motion by Ms. O'Neill, seconded by Chair Isleib, with a 5-0 vote, the 12/14/15 Executive Session School Committee Meeting minutes were approved.

On a motion by Ms. O'Neill, seconded by Chair Isleib, with a 5-0 vote, the 12/17/15 Executive Session School Committee Meeting minutes were approved.

Schedule of Payments:

Circulated for signatures.

Personnel Changes: Retirement

- a. **Payroll Manager - Central Administration**
- b. **Library Resource Aid - Parkview School**
- c. **Paraprofessional - Oliver Ames High School**

Dr. Keough announced the retirements from the district, Nancy Huggard, Payroll Manager, at Central Office, Geraldine Kane, Library Resource Aide at Parkview School and Marie Flynn, Paraprofessional at Oliver Ames High School. Chair Isleib read the three retirement letters.

On a motion by Chair Isleib, seconded by Mr. Mullen, with a 5-0 vote, the Committee accepted the retirement letter from Nancy Huggard.

On a motion by Ms. Weisman, seconded by Dr. Han, with a 5-0 vote, the Committee accepted the retirement letter from Geraldine Kane.

On a motion by Chair Isleib, seconded by Dr. Han, with a 5-0 vote, the Committee accepted the retirement letter from Marie Flynn.

Dr. Keough thanked Nancy, Geraldine and Marie for their commitment and service to Easton Public Schools.

Foreign Travel Proposal - World Challenge Expedition Trip (Summer 2017):

Kyle Sousa, a teacher at Oliver Ames High School who proposed the trip, gave a brief overview of the trip to Thailand.

On a motion by Chair Isleib, seconded by Mr. Mullen, with a 5-0 vote, the Foreign Travel Proposal World Challenge Expedition Trip to Thailand was approved.

Approval of Wastewater Treatment Contract Extension:

On a motion by Chair Isleib, seconded by Ms. Weisman, with a 5-0 vote, the Wastewater Treatment Contract Extension was approved.

Approval of Physical Restraint of Students Policy File #JKAA (Second Reading):

On a motion by Dr. Han, seconded by Ms. O'Neill, with a 5-0 vote, the Committee approved the Physical Restraint of Students Policy File #JKAA.

Ratification of Custodial Contract 2015-2018:

On motion by Chair Isleib, seconded by Ms. O'Neill, with a 5-0 vote, the Committee approved the Custodial Contract as it is drafted.

FY 17 Budget Schedule:

Dr. Keough read the budget timeline that was discussed with the Selectmen from David Colton, Town Administrator. Dr. Keough stated that two budgets will be presented; a non override budget and an override budget.

January 1, 2016 Enrollment Data Update:

Dr. Keough presented the Enrollment Data Update to the Committee. A discussion took place over the data presented.

2016-2017 School Calendar (Second Reading):

Dr. Keough stated the first day for staff will be August 31, 2016 and the first day for students will be September 1, 2016. Dr. Cabral stated that the parent conference days will align with the dates the report cards are issued. Chair Isleib stated there was a significant reduction of half days. Dr. Keough stated that the December 23rd half day was part of the negotiations with the EEA.

On a motion by Dr. Han, seconded by Ms. O'Neill, with a 5-0 vote, the Committee approved the 2016-2017 Revised School Calendar Draft #3 as is.

Superintendent Goals Report:

Chair Isleib suggested the Committee review Dr. Keough's Superintendent Goals Report at the next scheduled School Committee Workshop on January 22, 2016.

Override Update:

Dr. Keough stated that he sent out information to all parents regarding tonight's School Committee Meeting. Dr. Keough said that the 50 Oliver Newsletter will be going out soon from Dr. Cabral.

Public Comment:

None.

Superintendent Notes:

Dr. Keough said that the youth risk survey has been sent back to Scantron and the results should be received by March which will be shared with the public. Dr. Keough mentioned the Wings of Hope have done a great deal of work and donated a lot of time and energy about the opioid crisis in Massachusetts and that they are going to apply for a drug free community grant. Dr. Keough said the Dr. Ruth Potee presentation at the high school tonight will be televised.

Assistant Superintendent Notes:

Dr. Cabral said that during the half release day today, grades 6-12 worked on content area units and that they were very productive, and grades PK-5 participated in a technology day, which was put together by Jessica Garbowski, who is working as a Technology facilitator in the district. Dr. Cabral said that the entire technology team, John Sousa, Donna Davey, Jessica Garbowski and Bruce Tanzer worked extremely hard. Dr. Cabral confirmed that the 50 Oliver Newsletter will be going out tomorrow and the Easton Community University offerings are under the Community tab on the Easton Public Schools website.

School Committee Notes:

Mr. Mullen attended the SEPAC meeting yesterday and the Stoughton and Easton staff will be attending a meeting at the O'Donnell Middle School, 211 Cushing Street in Stoughton on January 25, 2016. Theresa Skinner said the Federation for Children will be presenting and anyone wishing to carpool should email eastonsepac@gmail.com. Ms. O'Neill thanked Dr. Han about her comments on Start Time and encouraging people to think about the whole community. Dr. Keough acknowledged the new sign outside of Richardson Olmsted School, he stated that the sign was the the result of a project by Eagle Scout Dan Borbely.

Possible Executive Session RE: Contract Negotiations:

Not needed.

Adjournment:

On a motion by Dr. Han, seconded by Chair Isleib, with a 5-0 vote, the Committee approved to adjourn the School Committee Meeting at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrew W. Keough, Ed.D.
Secretary

