

EASTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
EASTON, MA

EASTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE WORKSHOP MINUTES  
Friday, March 17, 2017

**Minutes of School Committee Workshop Meeting, March 17, 2017,** 98 Columbus Avenue, Easton Middle School Library, convened at 9:32 a.m. Present: Laurie Han, Nancy DeLuca, Jane Martin, Dr. Keough, Dr. Cabral, Luke Carroll, Jessica Garbowski and David Twombly.

**Call Meeting to Order:**

The meeting was called to order at 9:32 a.m. by Chair Han.

Chair Han noted that Ms. Weisman and Ms. O'Neill would not be attending as they are ill.

**Minutes: Workshop 2/17/2017:**

On a motion by Ms. Martin, seconded by Ms. De Luca, with a 3-0 vote, the workshop minutes of 2/17/2017 were approved.

**Approval of Re-Submittal of a Statement of Interest to the Massachusetts School Building Authority:**

David Twombly said that he and Dr. Keough had a conversation with Diane Sullivan from the MSBA and it was recommended that Easton Public Schools resubmit a Statement of Interest for Parkview and Moreau Hall Schools with Parkview being identified as the priority school for the district. He continued that this will keep these two schools in play and as we get into the building project at the Center School it may be considered to combine schools or reconfigure the grades. Mr. Twombly said it gives the school department different options by submitting the Statement of Interest to the MSBA. He continued that the "Form of Vote" needs to read verbatim by a member of the School Committee and then it is presented to the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Selectmen will do the same procedure of reading the "Form of Vote" aloud. He said that the Acting Town Manager and Chair Han will need to sign the application before it is sent to the MSBA. Mr. Twombly said he, Dr. Keough and Dr. Cabral will have a conversation with the MSBA regarding the Center School project and that April 1st will be the kick off date. He continued that the first step will be to create a School Building Committee which will include members of the Board of Selectmen, members of the School Committee, perhaps members from the Municipal Building Committee and parents. Mr. Twombly said the School Committee will determine who the members will be on the School Building Committee. He continued that they will find out the guidelines from the MSBA when they meet regarding setting up the Committee, and then an Enrollment Study will be done and following will be the Design and Feasibility portion which will cost approximately

\$600,000.00 to \$800,000.00. Mr. Twombly said the money will need to be appropriated by the townspeople at the Fall Town Meeting. He continued that we will ultimately need to hire an owner's Project Manager as well. He continued that the next six months will be very busy.

Ms. Martin read the "Form of Vote":

### **Form of Vote**

The following form of vote should be used by both the City Council/Board of Aldermen, Board of Selectmen/equivalent governing body AND the School Committee in voting to approve this Statement of Interest.

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Resolved: Having convened in an open meeting on **March 17, 2017**, the **School Committee** of Easton, Massachusetts in accordance with its charter, by-laws, and ordinances, has voted to authorize the Superintendent to submit to the Massachusetts School Building Authority the Statement's of Interest submitted by **April 7, 2017** for the following schools:

<u>School</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Repair</u>
<u>Parkview School</u>	<u>50 Spooner Street</u>	<u>Replacement or Addition</u>
<u>Moreau Hall</u>	<u>360 Washington Street</u>	<u>Replacement of Addition</u>

Which describes and explains the following deficiencies and **(2) two Statement of Interest are being submitted for consideration under Priority 7 to the Massachusetts School Building Authority.** Priority 7:

Replacement of or addition to obsolete buildings in order to provide for a full range of programs consistent with state and approved local requirements, as determined in the judgement of the Authority; and hereby further specifically acknowledges that by submitting this Statement of Interest Form, the Massachusetts School Building Authority in no way guarantees the acceptance or the approval of an application, the awarding of a grant or any other funding commitment from the Massachusetts School Building Authority, or commits the City/Town/Regional School District to filing an application for funding with the Massachusetts School Building Authority.

On a motion by Chair Han, seconded by Ms. Deluca, with a 3-0 vote, the Committee approved the re-submittal of the Statement of Interest to the MSBA for the Parkview Elementary School and Moreau Hall School.

Mr. Twombly left the meeting at 9:45am.

**Discussion Regarding the Implementation of New Middle School Classroom Models to Better Meet Individual Learning Needs:**

Mr. Carroll, Principal of Easton Middle School introduced the EMS Scheduling and Leveling Committee members:

Amy Meehan, Jim Fisher, Sharon Stearns, Maura Richards, Jennifer Pratt, Cathy Millet, Jesscia Garbowski and Mike Ciliberto, Assistant Principal of Easton Middle School.

Mr. Carroll and members of the Scheduling and Leveling Committees presented a powerpoint presentation on their plans to un-level grade 7 classes in all subjects except Math in 2017-18 and all grade 8 classes except for Math in 2018-19.

A discussion followed the presentation.

The School Committee agreed that Mr. Carroll will present the information to the parents at an event that will take place prior to April 6, 2017. Mr. Carroll will then present at the televised April 6th School Committee Meeting.

**Middle School Schedule - Next Steps:**

Dr. Keough suggested that a meeting take place with the EEA and members of the School Committee regarding the EMS Schedule proposal and how it impacts the contract.

On a motion by Ms. Martin, seconded by Ms. De Luca, with a 3-0 vote, the Committee nominated Ms. De Luca and Ms. Weisman to be the representatives of the Negotiations Subcommittee from the School Committee, to meet with the EEA, Dr. Keough and Dr. Cabral regarding the Easton Middle School Schedule proposal and the impact on the contract.

**Announcement of the Opening of the "Think Tank" Room at Easton Middle School:**

Jessica Garbowski welcomed everyone to the new "Think Tank" room. She said thanks to a very generous donation of \$12,000.00 by an anonymous parent, they were able to complete this room. Ms. Garbowski explained and demonstrated each component in the room and said that the hope is that this room will be the "pilot classroom" as there have been profound changes to the ways we teach young people due to changes in the workforce and advances in technology. Ms. Garbowski said the next step is to have Google Expedition kits for virtual field trips for students.

The Committee was appreciative of the efforts of the administration to see this project through and to the family that donated the funds for the project.

Mr. Carroll and Ms. Garbowski left the meeting.

**Final Approval of FY 18 Budget:**

Dr. Keough said that he wanted to mention some minor changes in the Budget. He continued that Ms. Gordon had mistakenly included unemployment on a list that was presented to the Committee and that this resulted in minor changes to the budget to be presented to the Board of Selectmen and the Finance Committees on Wednesday, March 22 (Increase in PK-2 Adjustment Counselor to full time and increase of EMS Guidance Counselor to full time).

On a motion by Ms. De Luca, seconded by Ms. Martin, with a 3-0 vote the Committee approved the revised FY 2018 Budget as presented by Dr. Keough.

**Discussion of Positions Added After Failed Override:**

Dr. Keough said that questions have been raised via social media regarding adding items that were on the override list using the existing budget. Dr. Keough referred to the sheet that the Committee was provided explaining each position, the cost and an explanation of where the funding came from in the budget.

**Discussion and Vote Regarding Advertising Banners to Support OA Softball and Fund the Dugout Project:**

Chair Han suggested tabling this agenda item to the next meeting when all members of the Committee are present.

**Assistant Superintendent Search:**

Chair Han said we cannot start the Assistant Superintendent Search until negotiations with Dr. Cabral have completed.

Dr. Cabral said that the Committee had been kind enough to let her revisit the job descriptions and that in many school districts, the allocation of job duties can be different. She continued that due to the feedback of staff, the administrators and herself, that she should still be involved with the Curriculum as the Superintendent. Dr. Cabral said that she is looking at all of the Central Administration's job descriptions to see if there is any overlap and that has a big part in the Assistant Superintendent search because that is what they will create the profile based upon. She continued that she had a meeting yesterday with the Administration and will meet again Tuesday during the Administration Team Meeting and that Dr. Keough is aware of the duties that she will continue as Superintendent and that Dr. Keough will be instrumental in those conversations.

Chair Han said that it is a nice benefit to have Dr. Cabral hired from within the district and to have the opportunity to work with Dr. Keough during the transition.

**Superintendent Notes:**

Dr. Keough commented on the successes in the district with DECA, the OA Art Show, the Art Show at Richardson Olmsted School, and the OA Iron Tigers. He continued that the schools have done incredibly well and another important announcement will be revealed next week. Dr. Keough said he cannot publicize it yet however, there will be an announcement on March 23rd.

**Assistant Superintendent Notes:**

Dr. Cabral said she attended the National Junior Honor Society at Easton Middle School and congratulated Maura Richards, Steve Cerce, Luke Carroll, Mike Ciliberto and all the teachers and that it was a very nice event.

**School Committee Notes:**

Ms. De Luca expressed her sadness about the passing of Diane Hight, Paraprofessional at Center School.

Ms. De Luca asked about the results of attendance in regards to the change of school starts times.

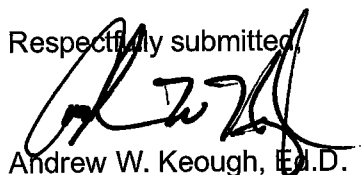
Dr. Keough said the results will be provided towards the end of the school year.

Ms. Martin said she would like to express a heartfelt appreciation of the educators in this district who stay committed and dedicated to innovation in the classroom to looking at things that will benefit the students and the district and the needs of all the learners.

**Executive Session RE: Dr. Cabral's Contract as the Next Superintendent:**

On a motion by Ms. De Luca, seconded by Ms. Martin, with a 3-0 roll call vote, the Committee adjourned at 11:37 am to enter into Executive Session, not to return to Open Session.

Respectfully submitted,



Andrew W. Keough, Ed.D.  
Secretary