

EASTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
EASTON, MA

EASTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE MINUTES
Friday, May 11, 2018

Minutes of School Committee Meeting, May 11, 2018, 50 Oliver Street, Upstairs Conference Room, convened at 9:18 a.m. Present: Jacqueline Weisman, Nancy De Luca, and Jane Martin.

Also in attendance: Superintendent Dr. Cabral, Assistant Superintendent Crissy Pruitt, David Twombly, and Bill Matthews.

Minutes: 3/8/2018, 4/6/2018, 4/10/2018, 4/26/2018; Executive Session 4/6/2018:

On a motion by Ms. De Luca, seconded by Ms. Martin, with a 3-0 vote, the minutes of 3/8/2018 were approved.

On a motion by Chair Weisman, seconded by Ms. De Luca, with a 3-0 vote, the minutes of 4/6/2018, 4/10/2018 and 4/26/2018 were tabled.

On a motion by Chair Weisman, seconded by Ms. De Luca, with a 3-0 vote, the Executive Session minutes of 4/6/2018 were approved but not to be released.

Schedule of Payments:

Circulated for signatures.

Approval of Out of State Trip to Orlando Florida April 2019:

Dr. Cabral introduced Rob Wheeler, Oliver Ames High School Music Department Chair. Mr. Wheeler proposed an out of state trip to Orlando Florida for April of 2019. He stated that the trip has been offered to the entire music department. The trip will cost students approximately \$1,500.00. He stated that fundraising will begin the start of the school year.

On a motion by Ms. Martin, seconded by Ms. De Luca, with a 3-0 vote, the Committee approved the out of state trip to Orlando Florida in April 2019.

Update on Next Steps in the Replacement of the Synthetic Turf:

Dr. Cabral said that the Committee had previously requested more information about the planning and assessment of the OA turf field. She said that Bill Matthews is in attendance to update the Committee. Mr. Matthews explained the current condition of

the turf field and the track. He said that the process for the track is to place a rubber surface over the track which costs approximately \$135,000 to \$150,000. He stated that the expected life of the turf field is ten years. The turf field at OA is in its ninth year. He stated that he would like to put in place a plan to replace the the turf over the summer of 2019. Mr. Matthews reminded the Committee that Activitas was approved by the Committee to prepare the phase one engineering surfacing review. He explained the options available for the turf. He said Activitas would like to move forward with the next phase which would be to implement the bid process. Mr. Matthews said that the fee would be approximately \$23,415.00. Mr. Matthews said that he would like to recommend moving forward. He stated that Representative Claire Cronin has been an advocate for the turf field and has sought and implemented funding in the amount of \$50,000 to help cover the expense. Mr. Twombly added that if they were to go out to bid that would create a firm number for it to be added to the capital budget before Town Meeting and it would allow Mr. Matthews to begin the fundraising. Ms. Martin said she will support the project of the turf process pending funding. Ms. Martin asked what timeline would be for the track. Mr. Matthews responded the summer of 2019. Ms. Martin asked if CPA funding was explored. Mr. Matthews said that the areas he will explore for funding would be private funding, fundraising, naming rights or signage, CPA funding, and possibly using revenue from the facility rentals revolving account fund. Dr. Cabral added that Mr. Matthews will continue to explore funding revenues such as grants as well.

Discussion of and Possible Vote on Sponsors for the Easton Girls Softball League:

Amanda Varella stated she came before the Committee on behalf of the Easton Girls Softball League in March. She continued that an unexpected opportunity had come about that requires the School Committee's approval. Ms. Varella explained that she has two banner sponsors who have come forth for funding of a scoreboard. She said that Barrett's Ale House and Prime Honda would like to purchase banners. She stated that Barrett's Ale House is a family oriented establishment and is formerly known as the "Charlie Horse" in Bridgewater. Ms. Varella provided the Committee with a handout illustrating the scoreboard. A discussion took place.

On a motion by Chair Weisman, seconded by Ms. Martin, with a 3-0 vote, the Committee approved the banner sponsorships for the Easton Girls Softball League.

Review and Vote on Physical Restraint on Students Policy File JKAA (second reading):

Dr. Cabral stated that legal counsel will be reviewing all the policies over the summer. She continued that due to some policies that require updating due to new laws in Massachusetts, updated policies have been brought forth to the Committee for approval.

The Physical Restraint of Students Policy File JKAA had been updated and requires the approval of the Committee. The Committee reviewed the policy as a first reading at a previous meeting. This is the second reading of the updated policy.

On a motion by Chair Weisman, seconded by Ms. De Luca, with 3-0 vote, the Committee approved the Physical Restraint of Students Policy File JKAA.

Personnel Changes - Retirement:

- **Paraprofessional at MH**
- **Food Service Manager at EMS**

Chair Weisman read the retirement letter from Dorothy Merola. Ms. De Luca said that Dorothy, is also known as "Sue". She said she had Ms. Merola's daughter as a student when she taught at the middle school. Ms. De Luca said that Ms. Merola is a wonderful educator. Ms. Martin said that her letter speaks to the connection of community at Moreau Hall.

On a motion by Ms. De Luca, seconded by Ms. Martin, with a 3-0 vote, the Committee accepted the retirement letter from Dorothy Merola.

Chair Weisman read the retirement letter from Carolyn Dalton. Ms. De Luca said Ms. Dalton worked at Easton Middle School during her teaching years and Ms. Dalton helped frequently with special events and was always very helpful and kind. She said she will surely be missed. Dr. Cabral continued that she can't underscore enough the support of these professionals and all of the support staff in Easton Public Schools. She stated that it takes a village and the district works together as a team to provide a topnotch education and safe learning environment for all of our children.

On a motion by Ms. Martin, seconded by Ms. De Luca, with a 3-0 vote, the Committee accepted the retirement letter from Carolyn Dalton.

Discussion and Vote on School Choice for 2018-2019:

Dr. Cabral noted that every year it is required in Massachusetts to review School Choice and whether the district will participate. She said a public hearing was held at the last meeting and the Committee will vote to decide whether or not to participate in School Choice for the 2018-19 school year.

On a motion by Ms. Martin, seconded by Ms. De luca, 3-0 vote, the Committee voted in favor of not participating in School Choice for the school year 2018-19.

FY18 Budget Update:

Dr. Cabral said she has no new information; however, she will keep this item on each agenda should new information become available.

FY19 Budget Discussion:

Dr. Cabral said she has no new information; however she will keep this item on each agenda until the Town Meeting on May 21st and potentially after the Town Meeting.

Public Comment:

None.

Superintendent Notes:

Dr. Cabral noted that some people may not be aware of a wonderful event by Mr. Craig Goldberg's class called "Senior Class Projects." She said that the students have worked on their senior projects all year long. The MIAA had their first series of presentations for students who are service oriented and have submitted senior projects. Dr. Cabral said senior Regan Benton, who is a student athlete and senior project presenter, completed a project at the Bi-County Collaborative. Dr. Cabral said that she serves on the Board of Directors at BICO and at this month's meeting Ms. Benton presented a donation. She raised over \$5,200.00 specifically for equipment to facilitate communication for BICO students. She said she was so proud of Ms. Benton.

Dr. Cabral said that the district signed a contract for an Owner's Project Manager.

Dr. Cabral said she held her first virtual coffee and will have another one on May 15h at 6:30pm. She said the focus of the virtual coffee will be on the budget and she will send out a reminder.

MCAS and AP testing is wrapping up and she thanked the technology department, the administration, the teachers for their flexibility in classes and the students for doing their very best.

She said this time of year there are many events going on in the district and that she enjoys attending and is appreciative of the invites.

Assistant Superintendent Notes:

Ms. Pruitt said "Happy Teacher Appreciation Week". She continued that it had been a privilege covering lunch duties at Parkview and Moreau Hall. She added she also covered an advisory period at Oliver Ames High School. In talking with the students, she asked what they like most about Easton Public Schools and what they would like changed. Most students said they liked their teachers and as the answers varied from grade levels, the elementary students said they would like forks and spoons in place of

“sporks.” She said they also would like extended recess. She said she loves this tradition of covering teacher duties in Easton.

Ms. Pruitt stated that she would like to bring before the Committee at the next meeting the new Math program that had been chosen for grade levels six to eight.

She reminded everyone about Family STEAM Night on May 18th held at the Richardson Olmsted School.

School Committee Notes:

Ms. Martin recognized that the Student Council had awards night.

She said she attended a Human Rights Committee sponsored training program on Bystander Intervention. She said it was well attended and it was very interesting.

She continued that the senate passed their approval of moving forward on the recommended changes to the Foundations Budget. She said that School Committees from several communities are writing letters to support this initiative. She proposed having this added to the next School Committee meeting.

She continued that the School Planning Committee met recently. The Procurement Subcommittee has been working diligently and tirelessly over the past months. The Procurement Subcommittee made a recommendation to the School Planning Committee with their first choice of the Owner's Project Manager for the Center School Project. Ms. Martin said the School Planning Committee met and voted to accept the recommendation of the Procurement Subcommittee to hire PMA Consultants as the OPM, pending acceptance by the MSBA. She said on June 4th Dr. Cabral and Mr. Twombly will go to the MSBA in Boston to present and request approval. She added that the choice was unanimous and she thanked all the members of the Procurement Subcommittee for their hard work. She thanked Mr. Twombly for compiling all the necessary paperwork for the MSBA. Dr. Cabral noted that Mr. Twombly has been very thorough and has met every deadline. Ms. Martin added that pending the MSBA's approval, PMA will be ready to begin the process. She said an architect should be chosen by the end of August followed by reviewing the educational programming. She added that the architect and designer will work closely with the School Planning Committee. The Municipal Building Committee will take over once it begins the process of construction. Ms. De Luca thanked Ms. Martin and Dr. Cabral for serving on the School Planning and Procurement Committees.

Ms. De Luca noted that the Industrial Arts and Consumer Arts Fair will be held on May 17th.

She added that the fair last year was fabulous. Ms. De Luca stated the senior prom will be held this evening and she wished the students a fun and safe time.

She congratulated the new Parkview Principal, Sam Cederbaum. Ms. Pruitt added that there were strong candidates. The Committee worked tirelessly and Mr. Cederbaum had been chosen to take the position. Dr. Cabral added that the Parkview Principal Search Committee did an excellent job and brought forth three candidates. All three candidates

were extremely complimentary about the process and excited to be considered for Easton. She noted that it is a reflection of the district and a nice validation. Chair Weisman said she attended the Waterwise Program. She said she was so impressed with the program and thankful that Easton is providing it to our students. She said she also attended a "Save the Bay" field trip with Parkview School and that it was incredible. She noted that when Dr. Cabral presented the budget she had mentioned that the district is not in compliance with regulations pertaining to the number of nurses for each school. Chair Weisman said as a result of the district not being in compliance with the number of nurses in schools due to budgetary restrictions, Easton could potentially lose field trips in the future.

Adjournment:

On a motion by Ms. Martin, seconded by Ms. De Luca, with a 3-0 vote, the Committee adjourned at 10:26 a.m.

Minutes Recorded by,
Lynn Souza

Respectfully submitted,



Lisha Cabral, Ed.D.
Secretary