

EASTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
EASTON, MA

EASTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE MINUTES  
Thursday, May 24, 2018

**Minutes of School Committee Meeting, May 24, 2018** Simmons Lecture Hall, Oliver Ames High School, convened at 6:01 p.m. Present: Jacqueline Weisman, Nancy De Luca, Jane Martin, Caroline O'Neill, and Michelle Durrance.

Also in attendance: Superintendent Dr. Cabral and Assistant Superintendent Christine Pruitt.

**Minutes: 4/6/2018, 4/10/2018, 4/26/2018, 5/11/2018:**

On a motion by Chair Weisman, seconded by Ms. De Luca, with a 5-0 vote, the minutes of 4/6/2018 were approved with edits.

On a motion by Chair Weisman, seconded by Ms. Durrance, with a 5-0 vote, the minutes of 4/10/2018 were approved with edits.

On a motion by Chair Weisman, seconded by Ms. Durrance, with a 5-0 vote, the minutes of 4/26/2018 were approved.

On a motion by Chair Weisman, seconded by Ms. Durrance, with a 5-0 vote, the minutes of 5/11/2018 were approved with edits.

**Schedule of Payments:**

Payments were circulated.

**Approval of Foreign Travel Proposal to Quebec City, April 2019:**

Dr. Cabral introduced Rebecca Michael the World Language teacher at Easton Middle School. Ms. Michael said she brought some students and parents who attended the trip to Quebec City this year. She said the students and parents wanted to thank the Committee for allowing them this opportunity and to talk about their experience in Quebec City. Ms. Michael presented a powerpoint presentation of the Quebec City 2018 trip.

Ms. Michael presented the foreign travel trip to Quebec City scheduled for April of 2019. She said the trip scheduled for April 2019 is similar to the 2018 trip.

A brief discussion took place.

On a motion by Ms. Martin, seconded by Ms. O'Neill, with a 5-0 vote, the Committee approved the foreign travel proposal for the eighth grade middle school students to Quebec City in April 2019.

**Discussion and Possible Vote to Accept School Council Presentations:**

**CENTER / MOREAU HALL / PARKVIEW - RICHARDSON OLMSTED**

Dr. Cabral said that Center, Moreau Hall, and Parkview Schools have combined their School Improvement Plans and the principals of each of the schools will present together. She continued that Chris Getchell and Bryan Aries will present for Richardson Olmsted School.

Ann Weintrob Principal of Center School, Tom Higgins Principal of Moreau Hall School and John Giuggio Interim Principal of Parkview School presented the Preschool through grade two School Improvement Plan for the school year 2018-2019.

A discussion took place.

On a motion by Chair Weisman, seconded by Ms. Durrance, with a 5-0 vote, the PK-2 School Improvement Plan was accepted.

Chris Getchell, Principal and Bryan Aries, Assistant Principal of Richardson Olmsted School presented their School Improvement Plan for the school year 2018-2019.

A discussion took place.

On a motion by Chair Weisman, seconded by Ms. Durrance, with a 5-0 vote, the Richardson Olmsted School Improvement Plan was accepted.

**Vote to Move Forward with the Next Steps in the Replacement of the Synthetic Turf:**

Chair Weisman stated that at the May 11th School Committee meeting, David Twombly and Bill Matthews presented information on the next steps for the replacement of the synthetic turf at OA. The School Committee previously had voted to allow phase one analysis to be conducted by Activitas. She continued that the next phase is to solicit bids to determine the actual cost of the project. Mr. Matthews' estimated that the cost would be \$23,415.00 and would be funded by a grant received by the Mass Marketing Partnership. Dr. Cabral added that the funds were originally vetoed. However, Representative Claire Cronin and Senator Walter Timilty submitted an amendment to have it reconsidered and with their support and advocacy on Easton's behalf, it did go through. Chair Weisman noted that this vote will only allow the next phase to move forward. The entire project is dependent upon funding factors.

On a motion by Chair Weisman, seconded by Ms. Martin, with a 5-0 vote, the Committee voted to allow Mr. Matthews to move forward soliciting bids for the replacement of the synthetic turf at OA to be funded by a grant by the Mass Marketing Partnership.

**Vote to Approve Contracts:**

- **Open-Up Resources (EMS Math Program)**
- **Renaissance Learning (Star ELA and Math Assessment for grades 3-8)**
- **Pearson (Renewal of Reading Street Program for grades K-6)**
- **Heinemann Publishing (Leveled Literacy Intervention Kits grades K-5 and Benchmark Assessments grades 3-8)**

Dr. Cabral said that work this year has included committees researching, investigating programming, and professional development of programs. She said that Ms. Pruitt will review four contracts that require two motions. The first motion will be to approve the purchase and the second motion will authorize Chair Weisman to sign the contracts pending approval by Town Council and the vendors.

Ms. Pruitt reviewed each of the contracts. A discussion took place.

On a motion by Chair Weisman, seconded by Ms. De Luca, with a 5-0 vote, the Committee approved the purchase of the Open-Up Resources Illustrative Math Program.

On a motion by Chair Weisman, seconded by Ms. O'Neill, with a 5-0 vote, the Committee authorized Chair Weisman to sign the Open-Up Resources Illustrative Math Program contract upon approval by Town Counsel and the vendor.

On a motion by Chair Weisman, seconded by Ms. Durrance, with a 5-0 vote, the Committee approved the purchase of the Renaissance Learning Star ELA and Math Assessment for grades three to eight.

On a motion by Chair Weisman, seconded by Ms. O'Neill, with a 5-0 vote, the Committee authorized Chair Weisman to sign the Renaissance Learning Star ELA and Math Assessment for grades three to eight contract upon approval by Town Counsel and the vendor.

On a motion by Chair Weisman, seconded by Ms. Martin, with a 5-0 vote, the Committee approved the purchase of the renewal of the Pearson Reading Street program.

On a motion by Chair Weisman, seconded by Ms. Durrance, with a 5-0 vote, the Committee authorized Chair Weisman to sign the renewal of the Pearson Reading Street program contract upon approval by Town Counsel and the vendor.

On a motion by Chair Weisman, seconded by Ms. O'Neill, with a 5-0 vote, the Committee approved the purchase of the Heinemann Publishing Leveled Literacy

Intervention kits grades kindergarten through five and Benchmark Assessments grades three through eight.

On a motion by Chair Weisman, seconded by Ms. Martin, with a 5-0 vote, the Committee authorized Chair Weisman to sign the Heinemann Publishing Leveled Literacy Intervention kits grades kindergarten through five and Benchmark Assessments grades three through eight contract upon approval by Town Counsel and the vendor.

Ms. Pruitt said that at the next meeting she and some teachers will present the Open-Up Resources Illustrative Math Program to the School Committee.

**Review and Possible Vote of Foundations Budget Review Commission (FBRC):**

Dr. Cabral said that the Foundation Budget was created years ago and updated in 2008. She continued that it determines the foundation or minimal level funding for a school district. Dr. Cabral said that there is a Foundation Budget Review Commission who put forward some recommendations. The recommendations are related to:

- Health Insurance
- Special Education
- English Language Learners (ELL)
- Low Income
- Data Collection
- Preschool
- Inflation

The list of Massachusetts communities supporting the Foundations Budget Review Commission recommendations was provided to the Committee. A letter was drafted which if approved, the members of the School Committee will sign.

Chair Weisman read the letter.

Ms. Martin noted that the Senate had to vote to approve and move forward. She said they are awaiting for the House to do the same.

On a motion by Ms. De Luca, seconded by Ms. Durrance, with a 5-0 vote, the Committee voted in favor of signing the Foundation Budget Review Commission resolution letter.

**Discussion and Vote to Appoint Dr. Cabral to the BICO (Bi-County Collaborative) Board of Directors for the 2018-2019 School Year:**

Dr. Cabral said that as required under Chapter 43, all board members have to be appointed by their School Committee members annually. She said this is the Special Education Collaborative of which Easton is a member. This has been a beneficial relationship for the Town of Easton. Dr. Cabral suggested the Committee recommends her to continue her role on the Bi-County Collaborative Board of Directors for the 2018-2019 school year.

On a motion by Chair Weisman, seconded by Ms. O'Neill with a 5-0 vote, the Committee appointed Dr. Cabral to the Bi-County Collaborative Board of Directors for the 2018-2019 School Year.

**FY18 Budget Update:**

Dr. Cabral said the executive team continues to monitor the FY 18 budget. She said it is very close to the end of the school year and she does not have any major updates.

Ms. Martin asked if any amount of money is leftover from the FY 18 budget could it be moved into the Special Education Reserve fund. Dr. Cabral stated that it would have to be presented at a Town Meeting for a vote.

**FY 19 Budget Discussion:**

Dr. Cabral noted that the FY 19 Budget passed at the Town Meeting. She added that negotiations are not completed.

**Public Comment:**

None.

**Superintendent Notes:**

None.

**Assistant Superintendent Notes:**

Ms. Pruitt announced that Jessica Minahan will be coming back to the district to run a full day professional development. She said it will be held on June 26th in the OA cafeteria, 8:00am to 2:30pm and it will be open to all service providers. Ms. Pruitt said she currently has over fifty staff members registered. Maximum number is one hundred participants.

Dr. Cabral added that Jessica Minahan is the author of "The Behavior Code."

Ms. Pruitt noted that the professional development is scheduled after the school year ends and the staff members are attending on their free time. She added the response that she has received is overwhelming. She invited the members of the School Committee to attend.

Ms. Pruitt extended her thanks to the Town of Easton for approving the budget.

**School Committee Notes:**

Ms. O'Neill said that she along with Dr. Cabral and Ms. Durrance, attended Monogram Awards Night. She said that it was great to see so many students involved in a number of sports and student scholar awards. She thanked Bill Matthews for organizing the event. She added that Mr. Matthews was honored with the Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association Ted Danko award which is a prestigious award. Ms. O'Neill said that the STEAM Family Event was terrific.

Ms. Pruitt said it was a wonderful event. She said that the community partners in Easton are truly remarkable. She said that the event could not have run without her

Administrative Assistant, Julie Shine. She said that Ms. Shine handled every detail, she communicated with the partners, and created some events herself. She said this would not have run without her and that she is exceptional.

Chair Weisman said it was wonderful and her son enjoyed it quite a bit.

Ms. Martin said she attended Mr. Carroll's presentation on Scheduling. She said there were several parents in attendance. Ms. Martin said that she hopes everyone there felt confident about the program. Mr. Carroll had a principal from Sharon Middle School who resides in Easton in attendance. When asked about the scheduling at his school, he interjected that Sharon Middle School has been unlevelled for fifteen years.

Dr. Cabral said that it has been a lengthy process that included a team of teachers, service providers, and administrators from the Easton Middle School.

Ms. O'Neill said that the feedback on social media from parents has been positive.

Chair Weisman thanked Rachel and Laurie Han for providing free babysitting services for the community to attend the Town Meeting. The service was appreciated.

Chair Weisman suggested moving the June 15th, 3:00 pm meeting to an evening meeting on June 14th to discuss Dr. Cabral's evaluation.

Ms. Martin stated that the next meetings are on June 7th and June 15th.

Ms. O'Neill suggested adding a "Preliminary Discussion" on the June 7th meeting.

Ms. Martin suggested adding a meeting to June 21st.

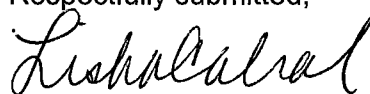
Chair Weisman confirmed keeping the June 15th meeting and add an evening meeting to June 21st if needed.

**Executive Session RE: Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A §21(a) 3 To Discuss Strategy with Respect to Collective Bargaining for Unit A (Teacher's Union) and Custodian Unit:**

Chair Weisman made a motion to enter into Executive Session not to return to Open Session for the purpose of discussing strategy with respect to collective bargaining for Unit A (Teacher's Unit) and Custodian Unit, and stated that in her opinion having this discussion in public would be detrimental to the bargaining position of the School Committee. Ms. O'Neill, seconded the motion, with a roll call vote of 5-0, the open meeting adjourned at 9:26 p.m.

Minutes Recorded by,  
Lynn Souza

Respectfully submitted,



Lisha Cabral, Ed.D.

Secretary