

EASTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
EASTON, MA  
EASTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE MINUTES  
Friday, December 15, 2017

**Minutes of School Committee Meeting, December 15, 2017,** 50 Oliver Street, Upstairs Conference Room, convened at 10:19 a.m. Present: Jacqueline Weisman, Jane Martin, Caroline O'Neill, Nancy De Luca, Dr. Cabral and Christine Pruitt.

Ms. Durrance was not in attendance.

**Call Meeting to Order:**

Chair Weisman called the meeting to order at 10:19 a.m.

Ms. De Luca noted that a former teacher, Veronica Carter, passed away and would have been 110 years old on January 21st.

**Minutes: Workshop 11/17/2017:**

On a motion by Ms. O'Neill, seconded by Ms. De Luca, with a 4-0 vote, the Committee approved the Workshop minutes of 11/17/2017.

**Schedule of Payments:**

Circulated for signatures.

**Review and Possible Vote on the Physical Restraint of Students Policy File JKAA (second reading):**

Chair Weisman stated that the Committee discussed this policy in the past.

Dr. Cabral said that Rebecca Bryant has reviewed this policy. The Committee reviewed Ms. Bryant's recommendations on December 7th as a first reading.

Ms. Martin suggested adding the revision dates and adopted dates at the bottom of the policy.

On a motion by Chair Weisman, seconded by Ms. O'Neill, with a 4-0 vote, the Committee adopted the "Physical Restraint of Students Policy File JKAA" as revised.

**Review and Possible Vote on the Naming of Facilities and Grounds Policy File FFA (second reading):**

Chair Weisman said that this policy was discussed at the December 7th meeting as a first reading. Chair Weisman said that Ms. Martin suggested adding *"Any granting of naming rights for a space which is associated with a previously established Campaign for Naming Rights must adhere to the guidelines and fee structure associated with that Campaign"* as the last paragraph under *"Policy"* and after *"number 4"*.

Ms. Martin suggested adding the revision dates and adopted dates at the bottom of this policy.

On a motion by Ms. O'Neill, seconded by Ms. De Luca, with a 4-0 vote, the Committee adopted "Naming of Facilities and Grounds Policy File FFA".

**Review Fundraising and Acceptance of Grants and Gifts Policy JJE (first reading):**

Chair Weisman said that Ms. Durrance suggested at the Policy Subcommittee meeting to add *"There are many ways in which a family may contribute to a child's school, including gifts of time. There should be no pressure on individual students or their families to give monetarily or participate in fundraising activities"* from the original policy to the revised policy as a statement under "Fundraising".

Dr. Cabral referred to page 1 of the revised policy "Fundraising and Acceptance of Grants and Gifts Policy File JJE" under "A. Fundraising for activities or purchase of supplies for a particular school building".

A discussion took place. The Committee decided to ask Rebecca Bryant for clarification on the first paragraph under "A. Fundraising for activities or purchase of supplies for a particular school building".

Ms. De Luca left the meeting at 11:00 a.m.

On page 3 in the second paragraph, Dr. Cabral suggested adding "FFA" after "Naming Policy".

The Committee agreed to add *"It is not permitted for students to receive academic rewards or academic incentives for participation or reaching goals, ie, no homework, points on quiz, etc."* to the last paragraph of "III. Fundraising by Students for Charity and Relief".

Chair Weisman said the changes will be sent to Rebecca for her review.

**Public Comment:**

None.

**Superintendent Notes:**

Dr. Cabral said that the Central Office is working on a newsletter and will be available after the holidays.

**Assistant Superintendent Notes:**

Ms. Pruitt said she has information as to what assessment other districts administered for the Science MCAS assessments at the highschool level. She said 78 districts took the Physics exam. When looking at the overall data, the results were comparable between Physics and Biology.

Ms. Pruitt said a new Massachusetts Law called SBIRT (Screening, Brief Intervention, Referral to Treatment) requires all districts screen for drugs and alcohol. Easton will complete this screening by the end of this year after the training of those who will be administering the actual assessment. Grades 7 and 9 will be participating in the

screening. She continued that although the Department of Public Health is enforcing and putting time lines on this, we as a district have to wait for guidance and guidelines from the Department of Secondary and Elementary Education. She is expecting to hear about some possible funding for this from the Governor. The assessment takes about three to five minutes per child. It is a series of questions and if a child answers "no" then the assessment is over. If the child answers "yes" then they continue on to other questions. The student is identified as low, medium or high risk. Parents do have the option to have their child opt out of the assessment. A notification will be going home to parents after the new year. Following this year, per the written law, this will be added in the handbook.

Dr. Cabral added that she received notice that the 290 Early Childhood Grant, which is used to pay for professional development, will be cut.

Chair Weisman requested a list of what grants the district has lost and what we anticipate will be cut.

Dr. Cabral said that they are moving services that have been previously funded by grants into the operational budget.

**School Committee Notes:**

Ms. Martin said that the MSBA has officially invited Easton into the Feasibility Program. She said the first step is to identify and hire an Owner's Project Manager which can be a six to eight month process.

Dr. Cabral added that the MSBA approves every step in the process.

Ms. Martin said the next meeting of the School Planning Committee is January 24th.

Ms. Martin said that members from Central Office and David Twombly will be going before the Board of Selectmen on Monday, December 18 to have the Board sign off on the Feasibility Study Agreement with the MSBA.

Chair Weisman said that a workshop has been scheduled for December 29th at 9:00 a.m.

**Adjournment:**

On a motion by Chair Weisman, seconded by Ms.O'Neill, with a 3-0 roll call vote, the Committee adjourned at 11:26 a.m.

Minutes Recorded by,  
Lynn Souza

Respectfully submitted,



Lisha Cabral, Ed.D.

Secretary