

EASTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
EASTON, MA

EASTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE WORKSHOP MINUTES
Friday, May 12, 2017

Minutes of School Committee Workshop Meeting, May 12, 2017, 50 Oliver Street, Upstairs Conference Room, convened at 9:04 p.m. Present: Jacqueline Weisman, Nancy DeLuca, Jane Martin, Dr. Keough, Dr. Cabral and Marilyn Gordon.

Call Meeting to Order:

Chair Weisman called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m.

Minutes: Workshop 4/14/2017; Executive Session 4/14/2017:

On a motion by Ms. Martin, seconded by Ms. De Luca, with a 3-0 vote, the Committee approved the Workshop Minutes of 4/14/2017.

The Executive Session minutes of 4/14/2017 were tabled.

Review of the Process for Possibly Naming of the Auditorium at Oliver Ames High School:

Colleen Less and Joanne Faust introduced themselves. Ms. Less said that she and Ms. Faust have children in the Easton Public Schools. Ms. Less continued that over the years she has watched Charlene Dalrymple do the work of four people and have more energy than a teenager. She continued that Ms. Dalrymple had been with Easton Public Schools over thirty five years. Ms. Less said that pursuant to Section 4 (b) (i) of the Easton School Committee's Policy for Naming of School Facilities and Grounds, she would like to propose to the School Committee, that the Oliver Ames Performing Arts Center be renamed the Charlene Lorion Dalrymple Performing Arts Center. Ms. Less said that she will commit to raising \$50,000 as a supplemental honorarium and assured the Committee that there are significant numbers of current and former students, parents, community members and colleagues who agree that naming the auditorium for Ms. Dalrymple is the most appropriate way to honor Ms. Dalrymple's contributions to the district. She continued that there is significant support for fundraising efforts to supplement the proposal with a honorarium. Ms. Less said that she understands that there is a three step process.

Chair Weisman noted that two School Committee members were not available to attend the meeting today and said she would like for the other members to collect the information and talk to Ms. Less if need be.

Ms. Martin suggested having Wes Paul attend the Meeting as well to discuss further.

Ms. Less said any monies raised over the amount committed, would go to the Easton Public Schools. She concluded that a retirement party is in the process of being planned for Ms. Dalrymple in September, and if her proposal is approved, she will then start the fundraising process.

The Committee thanked Ms. Less and Ms. Faust for attending.

On a motion by Ms. Martin, seconded by Ms. De Luca, with a 3-0 vote, the Committee agreed to move item #9, *School Presentation for the Town Meeting*, to the next order of business.

School Presentation for the Town Meeting:

Dr. Cabral said that the budget is driven by the School Improvement Plan and Core Values, and that they were able to get the budget down to 2.71%. She continued that the FY17 budget including contractual increases, represents a 3.17%. Dr. Cabral spoke of the proposed savings for FY18 which included the Out of District savings, Natural Gas rates, Retiree and Resignations and Unemployment which totaled \$477,000. Dr. Cabral listed the FY18 Improvements that totaled \$297,500. The average per pupil spending for the district was compared to other districts and the state.

A discussion took place regarding the Budget Presentation for FY 2018 that will be presented to the Town at the Town Meeting on May 15th.

Dr. Keough suggested that he introduce the budget and turn the presentation over to Dr. Cabral who will present it to the Town.

Discussion of Possibly Removing an Additional Position from the FY 18 Budget:

The discussion of possibly removing an additional position from the FY18 budget was discussed in the School Presentation for the Town Meeting.

Approval of Special Education Reserve Account Transfer Amount:

The Committee stated that they need a dollar amount to be placed into the Special Education Reserve Fund for the warrant Article 17. Ms. Gordon suggested the amount of \$200,000.

On a motion by Ms. De Luca, seconded by Ms. Martin, with a 3-0 vote, the Committee approved \$200,000 as the transfer amount for the Special Education Reserve Account for warrant Article 17.

Vote to Appoint A Member of the School Committee to the Assistant Superintendent Search Committee:

Dr. Cabral said that Marilyn Gordon is the Chair of the Assistant Superintendent Search Committee.

Ms. Gordon said the position of Assistant Superintendent was posted on April 24th and she sent out an email to all staff asking for potential people to be included on the search committee. She said the applications were due on May 5th, and that she would like to have a member of the School Committee be on the Search Committee. Ms. Gordon said the first meeting of the Search Committee will be on Wednesday, May 17, which will include interview dates, visit dates, Superintendent interviews and deliberation and finally the Superintendent will make a recommendation to the School Committee with a possible appointment in June. She said the time frame is very short. Ms. Gordon said that they received ninety applications. She continued that the following are on the Search Committee: Principal Wes Paul, Principal Chris Getchell, John Sousa, Karen Rodgers, Dan Smith, Elizabeth Starr, Christen Foote and herself.

On a motion by Chair Weisman, seconded by Ms. Martin, with a 3-0 vote, Ms. De Luca was appointed to the Assistant Superintendent Search Committee to represent the School Committee.

Vote to Appoint Two Members of the School Committee to the School Planning Committee:

On a motion by Ms. De Luca, seconded by Chair Weisman, with a 3-0 vote, the Committee appointed Ms. Martin and Ms. O'Neill to the School Planning Committee.

Possible Vote to Appoint a School Committee Member to Respond to School Questions on Social Media:

Chair Weisman said that sometimes questions come about pertaining to School Committee and the District via social media.

A discussion took place of how to best handle questions on social media.

Dr. Cabral suggested the Committee consider having a School Committee page and that people will know to go to this page for information pertaining to School Committee issues.

Dr. Keough suggested that Dr. Cabral speak with Superintendents in other districts for ideas on how they may be addressing this issue in their districts.

Superintendent Notes:

Dr. Keough said he enjoyed visiting schools this week as they covered lunch duties for teachers in honor of National Teacher Appreciation Week. He said that it's a lot for the teachers to teach classes and cover lunch duties every single day. Dr. Keough said that they shouldn't wait until teacher appreciation week to cover lunches and that he wished he could cover lunch duties more often. He said kudos to Christen Foote at Center School who gave him the idea to cover lunch duties for the teachers.

Dr. Keough said the Chinese exchange students left last week and that it was a nice experience for our kids to have this cultural exchange. He continued that he hopes that Easton students will have the opportunity to go to China next year. Dr. Keough thanked Dr. Cabral for covering so many events in his absence.

Assistant Superintendent Notes:

Dr. Cabral said that it is nurse appreciation week and she sent her appreciation to all of the nurses in the district. She continued that it was the last day for the School on Wheels drive and she will be going with a group of Togetherhood volunteers from the YMCA to sort all the inventory, materials and pack the backpacks for kids. She said that the School Committee donations outnumber the Central Office donations once again. Dr. Cabral reminded everyone that next Friday, May 19th is the annual STEAM Family Night, held 6:00-7:30pm and that it is designed for toddlers to grade 2, and it is open to all Easton residents and staff members.

Ms. Gordon said that the food service bid is out and there will be presentations on May 25th at 9:00am at 50 Oliver Street should anyone want to attend. Ms. De Luca said she will attend.

School Committee Notes:

Ms. De Luca said invitations went out for the EEA Retirement party on June 8th, and it will be 3:00-6:00pm at the Easton Country Club and all are welcome. She noted that three more people were added to the list of retirees.

Ms. Martin questioned if retirement letters were still read at the School Committee Meetings.

Dr. Keough said that the change was suggested from school counsel. He continued that we can gather the letters for the Committee.

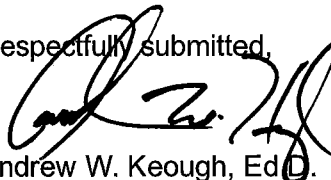
Ms. Martin gave a shout out about prom and said the students will be around town taking pictures this evening. She said she appreciates that there have been savings in the district because of the efforts of all our educators, administration, support staff and paraprofessionals and that they should never lose sight of that progress.

Chair Weisman said she attended the OA Art show and it was very impressive.

Ms. Martin said she attended the Family and Consumer Art Show and it was wonderful.

Adjournment:

On a motion by Ms. De Luca, seconded Ms. Martin, with a 3-0 vote, the Committee adjourned at 10:42 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrew W. Keough, Ed.D.
Secretary