

**EASTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
EASTON, MA**

**EASTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE WORKSHOP MINUTES
Friday, September 25, 2015**

Minutes of School Committee Workshop meeting, September 25, 2015, Upstairs Conference Room, 50 Oliver Street, convened at 9:01 a.m. Present: Fred Isleib, Laurie Han, Caroline O'Neill, Jackie Weisman, Sean Mullen, Marilyn Gordon, Dr. Keough and Dr. Cabral.

Special Education – Overview, Laws, State of Affairs:

Dr. Keough introduced Theresa Skinner, Director of Special Services. Ms. Skinner distributed the “Coordinated Program Review” document which is one part of the state’s accountability system. The basic overview of the program is to make sure we are following the federal and state laws of Special Education, Civil Rights, English Language Learners, Career Technical Education, if applicable, and Homeless Students. Discussion took place regarding the laws and state of affairs.

Selection of Representative to Green Committee:

Ms. Weisman agreed to continue to be the representative to the Green Committee. No further discussion took place.

School Department Audit Discussion:

Discussion took place on whether an audit would be beneficial to reinforce the override. Dr. Keough said although an audit would not be a concern, the time we spend on an audit will be time consuming.

Dr. Han discussed the timeline of the Ipswich Public School’s audit. Mr. Mullen said the cost and timeline would depend upon the scope and depth of the audit. Mr. Mullen suggested having an open casual School Committee meeting in order to educate the community. Mr. Isleib suggested sending a representative to give a proposal of the following: #1, look at what we are spending money on, #2, take the Ipswich audit and see where Easton stands in terms of this district versus others and #3, talk and highlight where our performance stands compared to other districts.

On a motion by Mr. Isleib, seconded by Ms. O'Neill, with a 5-0 vote, the committee voted to switch the agenda and put the Approval of North Easton

Savings Bank Donation for Financial Education Program before the Technology Search Update.

Approval of North Easton Savings Bank Donation for Financial Education Program:

Wes Paul, principal of Oliver Ames High School introduced Susan Sweeney, a teacher at Oliver Ames High School. Discussion took place proposing a financial education fair sponsored primarily by North Easton Savings Bank. The fair will be offered to juniors and held at Stonehill College. This fair will educate the students on how to make good career choices and lifestyle decisions.

On a motion by Mr. Isleib, seconded by Dr. Han, with a 5-0 vote, the committee approved the North Easton Savings Bank Donation for the Financial Education Program.

On a motion by Dr. Han, seconded by Ms. Weisman, with a 5-0 vote, the committee approved to briefly continue discussion regarding the audit. Mr. Isleib feels that reaching out to Board of Selectman will be supportive, once we do the analysis, in pushing for an override. Dr. Han suggested putting out in front of the town whether we even need an audit after explaining the issues that we need to challenge. Dr. Keough suggested that during the October 5 meeting we can provide concrete information for them to make an informed decision.

Technology Search Update:

Dr. Cabral discussed the results of the search for the Technology Director. Due to the needs of the district, what the position entails, and the budget for the Tech Director, they were unable to fill the position. They have decided to suspend the search and repost in the winter. Dr. Cabral explained going forward; she and Dr. Keough have decided not to hire an interim. They have scaled back the responsibilities and have identified two staff members. One staff member will help with the technology side and the other staff member will work on the instructional technology side. The position will be reposted in the winter.

Dr. Keough, Dr. Cabral and Marilyn Gordon left the meeting due to an emergency.

Inclusion of Grade 7 and 8 Students in Adolescent Health Survey:

Motion by Ms. O'Neill, seconded by Mr. Mullen, with a 4-0 vote, the Inclusion of Grade 7 and 8 Students in Adolescent Health Survey was tabled.

Prioritization of Needs for Possible Override:

Mr. Mullen suggested that a discussion should take place about which items are priorities. Ms. O'Neill suggested discussing the need to add another workshop meeting with Mr. Isleib.

School Committee Notes:

None.

Adjournment:

On a motion by Ms. O'Neill, seconded by Ms. Weisman, with a 4-0 vote, the committee adjourned the meeting at 10:52 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrew W. Keough". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Andrew" being the most prominent part.

ch

Andrew W. Keough, Ed.D.
Secretary