

EAST LONGMEADOW SCHOOL COMMITTEE

MINUTES

DATE: April 27, 2016

Time: 7:00 PM

Where: Superintendent's Conference Room

Present: Richard Freccero, William Fonseca, Deirdre Mailloux ; Gregory Thompson, Elizabeth Marsian-Boucher, Gordon Smith, Superintendent of School, Pamela Blair, Assistant Superintendent for Business, Student Rep; Kathy Celetti, Recording Secretary;
Chair: Is anyone else video or audio taping this meeting - No

Recognition of School Committee Chair by Mr. Smith: At this time I would like to recognize our outgoing chair, Richard Freccero. Rich, it's been a very good year.

Reorganization of School Committee:

Nomination for Chair

The superintendent asked for nomination for School Committee Chair:

Gregory Thompson nominated William Fonseca as Chairman of School Committee. Elizabeth Marsian-Boucher seconded the nomination for William. William accepted the nomination of Chair for School Committee.

Discussion: Rich, I hope that Mr. Fonseca is up to the standard that Ms. Mailloux started with her graduation speech two years ago.

It was voted (4 Yes -1abstention) to appoint William Fonseca as Chairman of the School Committee based upon a roll-call vote as followed: Beth (Yes); Greg (Yes); Bill (abstained); Deirdre (Yes) Rich (Yes)

Nomination for Vice Chair

The Chairman asked for nomination for School Committee Vice Chair:

Deirdre Mailloux nominated Elizabeth Marsian-Boucher as Vice Chairman of School Committee. Gregory Thompson seconded the nomination for Elizabeth. Elizabeth accepted the nomination of Vice Chair for School Committee. It was voted (4 Yes -1abstention) to appoint Elizabeth Marsian-Boucher as Vice Chairman of the School Committee based upon a roll-call vote as followed: Beth (abstained); Greg (Yes); Bill (Yes); Deirdre (Yes) Rich (Yes)

Appointment of School Committee Secretary

Richard nominated Gordon Smith, Superintendent as Secretary to School Committee, Deirdre seconded the motion. The superintendent accepted. It was voted (5-0) to appoint Gordon Smith as Secretary to School Committee based upon a roll-call as followed: Deirdre (Yes), Greg (Yes), Bill (Yes), Beth (Yes), Rich (Yes)

Approval of Minutes

2.1 Deirdre moved to approve the April 4, 2016 regular session meeting minutes, Richard seconded the motion

Chair: those in favor of the motion say aye (5 ayes), those opposed say nay (0), motion carries (5-0)

Committee/Sub-committee Communications

Greg: Charter passed, that's a good thing

Deirdre: Two weeks ago I went to the High School Chamber Music Night. Again I'm always amazed at the talent that comes out of the students, really fantastic. Bill and I had the opportunity to go to the State House for Day on the Hill. We met with our State Representatives. We had some really nice conversations on the politics in East Longmeadow, advocating for a new high school and also we talked a bit about budget.

Richard: I attended three athletic events; our teams lost all three events, so I'm a little concerned about my appearances there at these events. Everything else is wonderful.

Elizabeth: I was supposed to attend Day on the Hill, but instead I attended the DA's Youth Advisory Conference. It's really amazing program and I think that more kids should participate in this program. The kids go to different schools throughout the region and give presentations. This year they did Internet Safety. They talk about drugs, and did a nice public service on drinking and how it only takes one drink or pill to change your entire life. It is up on their website. They have even more programs that we don't even know about, so that was good. The Art Show for Mountain View is next Wednesday, which will collide a bit with the HS music night, but it will all work out. ELEEF golf is going to be in the fall this year. I will have more information when that comes about.

Student Rep: Awards Ceremony is coming up on May 5th; grades are closing on Monday; the HS Spring Concert is Wednesday, May 4th; and next week is staff appreciation week. There will be a different event every day, with five different gifts they get. The PTO will be hosting a luncheon for them on Monday.

Administration, Key Club and Student Council all give gifts. CVS gave a presentation today on drug abuse to the Health Seminar classes and that was very informative.

William: Like Deirdre said, we did spend a Day on Hill. There were some great speakers. These people all support education. They talked about the Foundation Budget Review Commission, and the cap on Charter Schools. It doesn't look like the House is going to take up on that. Had some conversations with Angelo Puppolo and Brian Ashe, and it doesn't seem that at this time Representative Puppolo didn't want to really say diffidently no, time is getting short. The two big ballot questions out there for November are the Charter Cap and Common Core. A lot of misinformation out there in what the Charter Schools does. It was a good day, very well attended with a lot of school committee members across the state. Attendance was up this year through MASC.

Beth: I wish Day on the Hill was pushed back to the fall or early spring.

Bill: I will pass that message on Beth.

Opportunity for visitors to Address the committee - No one wished to address the committee

Superintendent's Report:

5.1.1 Mr. Michael Harrigan and Jonathan Torcia presented American Government/Civics for all students to the committee.

Mr. Harrigan stated that all students should be taking a government course. Improved civic learning goes hand in hand with more active citizenship. Citizen participation is the foundation of any democracy. One of the things students can do is vote. We need to help students understand public issues that are out there, think critically. Mr. Harrigan offered his services for free to help organize Mock Trial, and speakers.

Assistant Superintendent of Business :

5.2.1 The End-of-Year Pupil and Financial Report Audit for June 30, 2015 was presented by Ms. Blair

Greg motioned to accept the Final End-of-Year Pupil and Financial Report Audit for June 30, 2015.

Discussion: Ms. Blair did compliment Ms. Olejarz on being thorough with her records.

Chair: those in favor of the motion say aye (5) ayes, those opposed say nay (0), motion carries (5-0).

Old Business :

New Business

7.1 Reorganization of e the School Committee Roles/ Assignments and Sub-committee was discussed.

Rich moved to approve the School Committee Roles/Assignments and Sub-committees with one amendment "Budget/Finance" with the new chair and vice chair, Greg seconded the motion.

Chair: those in favor of the motion say aye (5) ayes, those opposed say nay (0), motion carries (5-0).

7.2 Waiving the 12 month notice for final year compensation eligibility.

Greg moved to waive the 12 month notice for final year compensation eligibility, Deirdre seconded the motion.

Chair: those in favor of the motion say aye (5) ayes, those opposed say nay (0), motion carries (5-0).

7.3 The bargaining agreement between EL School Committee and EL Secretaries Association was discussed.

Rich moved to accept the collective bargaining agreement between EL School Committee and EL Secretaries Association, Elizabeth seconded the

motion.

Chair: those in favor of the motion say aye (5) ayes, those opposed say nay (0), motion carries (5-0).

7.4 Cycle MA bike tour overnight stop at BPMS for August 4-5, 2016 was discussed.

Mr. Smith stated that Cycle MA would like to use the bathrooms, locker rooms, and also put tents up outside on the field. Greg asked if this is allowed. Rich asked if they are representing a charity. Also mentioned was that the custodian's will be busy cleaning the school getting it ready for opening school, will this interfere with that. The committee asked the Mr. Smith check with Planning and Zoning, how many people are we talking about, charity, and also check with the Police Department. Tabled

The Chair thanked the ELCAT volunteers: Becky and Don, and also thank our student rep: Elena Tilli

Greg moved to adjourn at 7:30 PM, Deirdre seconded the motion.

Chair: those in favor of the motion say aye (5 ayes), those opposed say nay (0), motion carries (5-0).