

EAST LONGMEADOW SCHOOL COMMITTEE

MINUTES

DATE: October 3, 2016

TIME: 7:00 P.M.

WHERE: Superintendent's Conference Room

Meeting called to Order by: William Fonseca, Chair

Present: Richard Freccero, William Fonseca, Deirdre Mailloux, Gregory Thompson, Elizabeth Marsian-Boucher, Gordon Smith, Superintendent of School, Pamela Blair, Asst. Superintendent for Business, , Kathy Celetti, Recording Secretary,

Chair stated that this meeting is being both audio and video taped by ELCAT, is anyone else was taping the meeting.

Approval of Minutes

2.1 Approval of the September 19, 2016 regular session meeting minutes.

Rich moved to approve the September 19, 2016 regular session meeting minutes, Deirdre seconded the motion.

Discussion: Rich, where is the follow-up with Ms. LaBombard and Ms. Haskell, are they coming back to us. Mr. Smith stated yes, once they have the chance to do some research on the questions and confidentiality.

Chair: Any further discussion, hearing none, all those in favor say aye (5), those oppose (0), motion carries (5-0)

2.2 Approval of the August 22, 2016 AMENDED regular session meeting minutes. The Chair stated that we needed to correct the August 22, 2016 regular meeting minutes. Beth actually voted in favor of the minutes, however, she was not in attendance that meeting, she should have abstained. This is why they are brought back to us to be corrected.

Greg moved to approve the August 22, 2016 minutes, Deirdre seconded the motion.

Chair: Any further discussion, hearing none, all those in favor say aye (4), those oppose (0), (1) abstain, motion carries (4-0-1)

Committee/Sub-committee Communications

Deirdre: I just want to mention that we had a Safety and Crisis Planning Sub-committee meeting last week. Mr. Smith, Beth and I had the meeting. We spoke about some of the updated safety procedures that are going on in the schools and I'm sure if you have any kids in the schools, you'll know that they've been practicing these drills this week. They've had the lock-down procedure and so they are just going to continue these. So if you hear your kids saying this, again if you have any questions you can always call the principal's office and find out more information.

Richard: Couple of things, The Town Election Committee did meet and we are investigating all possible avenues as far as the site. Second meeting is scheduled for October 12th, so I'll keep you posted on that. I was the beneficiary of a tour by Dr. Flanagan on our library. I did see one room which where the laptops and students were settled in. It was very impressive; I think it was Ms. Forward's class. There is still some progress being made in the larger part of the library.

Beth: At our last Collaborative Corporation meeting, we went and saw the new machine area. It is just really phenomenal, can't say enough about it. It's a wonderful opportunity for students.

Bill: I just want to piggyback that Gordon and I did attend on Friday, September 22 the Grand Opening of the Precision Machine Technology Program over at the LPVEC. It is a great opportunity for our students. Senator Lesser was a key speaker during the Grand Opening. He said that there are 7,000 jobs currently in this state that are unfilled, and the demands are increasing. Met with manufactures that are saying the same thing. So this program is up and running, it is available to our students. There will be tours in the Spring. It's a wonderful opportunity for anyone who has an interest in getting into that.

Mr. Smith: It's incredibly impressive. It certainly is filling in a need. One of the things I think the students will be intrigued by is that these are jobs of all natures. If you go through the precision machine program you can be positioning yourself and ultimately end up being an engineer somewhere. So this is not something where you finish and that's the category, sort of you enter the field and there is not upward movement. The program is designed to look at jobs at all levels. Really impressive, it's going to be a growing program. Like Mr. Fonseca said, 7,000 jobs available in the state, We are assuming more will follow.

Bill: In talking to some of the companies, part of the advisory entry level on some of these jobs, like a custodial position is \$25,000 and goes up from there. So it's going to be a market we hear a lot about in the news. In the short term future.

Beth: They said the average machinist is well into their 60's.

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

Superintendent's Report:

5.1.1 Guidance department and Career Center presentation by: Ms. DeNardo, Dr. Flanagan and Mr. Maccarini.

In the fall, guidance meets in small groups with the 9th and 12th graders. In the Spring, guidance meets in small groups with 10th and 11th graders. We also have a Social Skills Group and Girls Group.

12th Grade Curriculum: College Application Process; Resume Building; Financial Aid/Scholarships; College Essay Writing; and Transition from high school to college/career/trade school or military.

9th Grade Curriculum: Introduction to Counselors; Review-Graduation requirements; GPA; Introduce Naviance; getting involved; and finding balance. Also creating a (4) year course plan. Research career clusters and personality profiler

10th Grade Curriculum: Continue career research; start college research; update (4) year plan, resume building and overview of standardized testing.

11th Grade Curriculum: Post-secondary college/career research; college admissions process and college search

AP Data: ELPS is at 83% for a 3 or better score.

Upcoming Guidance Events: Senior Parent Night; Financial Aid Night; Junior College Planning Night; College Fair @ ELPS; Step up Days;

Freshman Orientation; 8th Grade Parent Night; Military Day; College Visits and Career Speakers. New course "Community

Dr. Flanagan really excited about this course "Community Action Learning", critical leaning. Students have access to a computer 24 hours a day.

Mr. Maccarini said that September was current events. There are two groups, one with six seniors and the second is more diverse, juniors and Foreign Exchange students. This is a full year course with three short blocks and one long block. The kids were looking at doing a Community Garden, sell produce to local restaurants.

Bill said that Naviance is a useful tool. Rich asked if all counselors have seniors. Amanda said yes, all counselors have 9-12 students. Mr.

Maccarini spoke about Senior Projects, presentations on December 9th and 16th.

5.1.2 Preliminary Capital Plan FY18 was discussed. Mr. Smith said there has been some cost increase (3%) so I made some of those adjustments. Principals are already meeting with Bruce Fenney on capital projects for their buildings. The deadline for submission is November 4th. Rich suggested that maybe he and Mr. Smith meet with Bob Peirent, DPW. Gordon said that he will reach out to Denise Menard, Interim Town Manager.

Assistant Superintendent of Business :

5.2.1 Ms. Blair presented the 4th quarter budget report.

Greg moved to accept the 2016-2017 grants listed on page 18 totaling \$1,415,319, Rich seconded the motion.

Chair: Any further discussion, those in favor say aye (5), those oppose (0) motion carries (5-0)

5.2.2 FY16 Final Quarterly Budget Report was presented by Ms. Blair. This is the final report for the FY16 School Budget, Grants, and Revolving Funds as of June 30, 2016. \$69,583 was given back to the town. Greg asked why is the stadium account little this year? Mr. Smith said some events stopped renting. The recreation department holds summer camps, with rentals through the fall. Greg asked what the longevity is for the turf and Mr. Smith said its (12) years. Rich

<p>suggested we look to the Community Preservation for the track field. Rich: my compliments to Ms. Blair on her first year with the budget.</p>
<p>Rich moved to approve the FY16 Final Quarterly Budget Report as presented, Beth seconded the motion. Chair: Any further discussion, hearing none, those in favor say aye (5), those oppose (0), motion carries (5-0)</p>
<p>Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction : None</p>
<p>•</p>
<p>Old Business : None</p>
<p>New Business</p>
<p>7.1 Position Statement on the Ballot Question on lifting the cap on Charter Schools was discussed. The Chair stated that MASC came up with some language for this resolution. It important that we take a stance on this. There are (138) School Committees that oppose this. This is one of the Resolutions we will be discussing tonight.</p>
<p>Rich: I motion that East Longmeadow School Committee opposes any lift to the cap on Charter Schools in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Beth seconded the motion. Chair: Any further discussion, those in favor say aye (5), those oppose (0), motion carries (5-0)</p>
<p>7.2 MASC Resolutions was presented. Resolution #1: Therefore be it resolved that MASC calls upon the legislature to enact the recommendations of the Foundation Budget into law, and further, that the legislature order the Commission to reconvene in order to conduct further deliberations and make such recommendations as the FBRC may propose, and further that the FBRC shall address and make recommendations toward the overall accuracy of the adequacy of the overall Foundation Budget.</p>
<p>Greg moved that East Longmeadow School Committee support Resolution #1, The Foundation Budget, Rich seconded the motion. Chair: Any further discussion, those in favor say aye (5), those oppose (0), motion carries (5-0)</p>
<p>Resolution #2: Now therefore be it resolved that the Massachusetts Association of School Committees explore ways to promote social and economic equity through a ballot initiative whose purpose may include a state constitutional amendment, tax reform, protection of the state's neediest residents of all ages, and seeks additional revenue only from tax reform affecting the state's wealthiest residents. Further, that the goal of such a ballot referendum would be to secure a stronger financial base to underwrite needed improvements in the infrastructure of the Commonwealth as well as the educational, social and economic wellbeing if its residents.</p>
<p>Greg moved that the EL School Committee recommend Resolution #2 Tax Reform Ballot Question, Beth seconded the motion Chair: Any further discussion: Greg, I think it's too ambiguous the way it's written, it's very bad. Those in favor say aye (0), those oppose (5), motion carries (0-5)</p>
<p>Resolution #3: Charter School Reform was discussed.</p>
<p>Greg moved to approve Resolution #3 "Charter School Reform", Deirdre seconded the motion Chair: Any further discussion, those in favor say aye (5), those oppose (0), motion carries (5-0)</p>
<p>Resolution #4: Therefore be it resolved that the Massachusetts Association of School Committee shall be directed to deploy such resources of the Association independently and in collaboration with other organizations to gather resources, identify strategies, and improve public awareness of the importance of addressing student social and emotional well-being, and further that MASC shall give consideration to such public policy initiatives that prioritize action by stakeholders and stakeholder groups, in collaboration with expert behavioral and health care providers, as the most effective entities for addressing strategies that are in the best interest of children.</p>
<p>Rich moved to approve the Social and Emotional Well-being of Students, Deirdre seconded the motion. Chair: Any further discussion, those in favor say aye (5), those oppose (0), motion carries (5-0)</p>
<p>7.3. Request from MIAA to host the semi-final soccer play-off games on November 9th and 10th, 2016 was discussed. Mr. Smith said that MIAA contacted him to have the play-off games at the high school. They will cover all cost; (ticket takers, announcers, security, etc.). The Booster Clubs can still run the concessions stand. All MIAA is asking for is to waive the rental fee. Rich said that seating is poor; we are not ready for this. Greg said, it's a great opportunity, would suggest they add additional port-a-potties.</p>
<p>Greg moved to approve the MIAA's request to have the soccer play-off at East Longmeadow High School on Nov 9th & 10th, Deirdre seconded the motion. Chair: Any further discussion, those in favor say aye (4), those oppose (1), motion carries (4-1)</p>
<p>7.4 Birchland Park 7th grade field trip to the CT Science Ctr. on November 1, 2016 was discussed.</p>
<p>Rich moved to approve the BP 7th grade field trip to CT Science Ctr. on November 1st, Deirdre seconded the motion. Chair: Any further discussion, those in favor say aye (5), those oppose (0), motion carries (5-0)</p>
<p>Chair: ELCAT recognition, Mr. Maki, thank you. moved to adjourn at, seconded the motion Chair: All those in favor of the motion say aye, (5) ayes</p>