EAST LONGMEADOW SCHOOL COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES

District Mission

"Our mission in the East Longmeadow Public Schools is to promote achievement and accountability in all endeavors as we educate today for the challenges of tomorrow"

DATE: March 13, 2023
TIME: 4:03 PM
WHERE: Superintendent's Conference Room

Meeting called to Order by: Greg Thompson, Chair
Chair stated that this meeting is being both audio and video taped, and asked if anyone else was taping the meeting.

Roll Call: Greg Thompson, Antonella Raschilla, Aimee Dalenta, Elizabeth Marsian-Boucher, Gordon Smith, Superintendent, Pamela Blair, Asst. Superintendent for Business, Heather Brown, Director of Curriculum, Samantha Velazquez, Recording Secretary

Approval of Minutes
2.1 Approval of February 27, 2023 Executive Session Meeting Minutes

Antonella Raschilla moved to approve the February 27, 2023 Executive Session meeting minutes. Aimee Dalenta seconded the motion.
Chair: Any further discussion? All those in favor say aye (4), those oppose (0), motion carries (4-0)

2.2 Approval of February 27, 2023 Regular Session Meeting Minutes

Antonella Raschilla moved to approve the February 27, 2023 Regular Session meeting minutes. Elizabeth Marsian-Boucher seconded the motion.
Chair: Any further discussion? All those in favor say aye (4), those oppose (0), motion carries (4-0)

Committee/Sub-committee Communications

Aimee
- I attended, as a parent, the High School orientation night for 8th grade, and it was amazing.

Beth
- I went to Spartanum. It was a fantastic show and really well done.

Opportunities for visitors to address the Committee:

Superintendent 's Report:
5.1.1 Discussion with East Longmeadow Planning Director on Energy Reduction Plan
- Bailey Mitchell, Tom Christensen and Chris Mason joined the School Committee meeting in hopes of getting an adoption of the Energy Reduction Plan
- The School Committee and the Town Council have to approve the Energy Reduction Plan before it can go into effect
- Grant funds are available through the Green Community Program and we would also be able to apply for competitive grants with the Green Community Designation
- The plan is to achieve a 20% reduction over 5 years
- A letter is needed from the Superintendent stating that the Energy Reduction Plan was approved, and that letter goes into the application process

Elizabeth Marsian-Boucher moved that we adopt the Energy Reduction Plan as presented moving forward. Antonella Raschilla seconded the motion.
Chair: Any further discussion? All those in favor say aye (4), those oppose (0), motion carries (4-0)

5.1.2 ELPS Mid-Cycle Data Presentation by ELPS Leadership Team
- The ELPS Leadership team joined the School Committee to discuss their Mid-Cycle data
- ELPS students at all grades levels feel supported and have positive relationships (92% in 3 - 5 and 88% in 6 - 12)
- 90% of grade 3-5 students and 81% of 6-12 grade students feel like they are part of the community of their school
- ELPS students are still struggling with challenging feelings (31% in 3- 5 and and 42% in 6 -12)
- New curricular materials are standards-aligned, SEL - integrated, and student-centered (Wit and Wisdom, Illustrative Math, Reveal, Adios, and History Alive!)
- Continued Professional Development on Universal Design for Learning and Culturally Responsive Pedagogy focused on removing barriers so that all students can access grade-level curriculum
- Elementary: Continues to provide second step Social/Emotional Curriculum, Engages in community circles/morning meetings in every classroom, access to River Valley Counseling Services for students, and engages in activities where staff and students feel that they belong to a community where they know and trust each other
- Middle School: School wide advisory lessons focused on self-regulation, "Need-to-Talk?" QR codes in the hallways, just opened their new Girls' Leadership Club, River Valley is now seeing 36 students (8 on waitlist) and Student Intervention Coordinator is working directly with numerous students and families, as well as facilitating MTSS work
- Birchland Park Unity Day is on May 25th
- ELHS: Continuation of MTSS work, Administration of PSAT's - This has helped the guidance counselors when speaking with students about their plans after high school and to also help guide them through high school, the guidance department worked with the english department to create a curriculum schedule for all grade levels four times a year, 42 Students receiving therapeutic support through River Valley Counseling
- Student Services: 2 areas we want to continue to improve are Early Childhood Education and Transition to Adulthood program
- Integrated Preschool program has increased since the fall (65 students) we now have 73
- Milestones Program now has 9 enrolled, 6 students were enrolled in the fall
- Walk-In Program has 18 children enrolled, 14 were enrolled in the fall
- The New England Business Association and ICE Program are being used for the transition to adulthood program

Assistant Superintendent for Business Report:
5.2.1 Department 399 - School Committee

Elizabeth Marsian-Boucher moved for Department 399 to be submitted with a request of $8500. Antonella Raschilla seconded the motion.
Chair: Any further discussion? All those in favor say aye (4), those oppose (0), motion carries (4-0)

Director of Curriculum and Instruction Report

Old Business :

6.1 Update on ELHS Feasibility Study and School Building Project

- Public Forum- Thursday, March 16th at 6:00 PM in the High School Cafeteria, 5:30 will be the tour
- We are going from the Preferred Schematic Report, into Schematic Design
- May 18, 2023 will be the next Public Forum - site to be determined

New Business:

7.1 Superintendent's Mid-Cycle Formative Assessment

- Mr. Smith has been involved in programs with the Mass. Association of School Superintendents (MASS) helping support and lead the diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging work for districts in the Commonwealth
- He presented at the MASS Executive Institute Conference in the summer on the MASS REDI Guide and the equity work that we are doing here in ELPS
- Continuing the work with the Center for Leadership and Educational Equity
- We will be transitioning to a new student information system; this will make accessing information easier; the transition will take place at the end of the school year with training going on this year in January, March, June, and August
- The Feasibility Study work has allowed us to present in front of a larger groups this year a few different times, that's been very helpful to explain the ELHS building project
- Mr. Smith is working with an Earth Day Planning Group in Town; it's bringing together a few different Town departments to work with parents in the community to organize an Earth Day cleanup that's gone on for a number of years
- Mr. Smith, recently, was asked to join the Town Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee

8. ELCAT

9. Student Rep

Chair: Thank you,
Elizabeth Marsian-Boucher moved to adjourn at 6:03 PM. Antonella Raschilla seconded the motion.
Chair: All those in favor say aye (4), those oppose (0), motion carries (4-0)

For a more detailed version of this meeting, go to: www.eastlongmeadowma.gov (ELCAT)

Minutes Recorded by: Samantha Velazquez
Respectfully submitted by: Gordon Smith

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Signature