

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 22, 2021

TIME: 6:00 P.M.

WHERE: Superintendent's Conference Room

Meeting called to Order by : Gregory Thompson, Chair

THIS MEETING IS BEING HELD REMOTELY IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE GOVERNOR OF MASSACHUSETTS' MARCH 12, 2020 ORDER SUSPENDING CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF THE OPEN MEETING LAW MA G.L.c. 30A, SECTION 20.

Roll Call: Elizabeth Marsian-Boucher, Antonella Raschilla, Greg Thompson, Gordon Smith, Superintendent of Schools, Sarah Truoiolo, William Fonseca, Pamela Blair, Asst. Superintendent for Business (Remote), Kathy Celetti, Recording Secretary (Remote)

Approval of Minutes

2.1 Approval of the March 8, 2021 executive session meeting minutes.

William moved to approve the March 8, 2021 executive session meeting minutes, Sarah seconded the motion.

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

2.2 Approval of the March 8, 2021 regular session meeting minutes

William moved to approve the March 8, 2021 regular session meeting minutes, Antonella seconded the motion

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

2.3 Approval of the March 16, 2021 executive session meeting minutes

Sarah moved to approved the March 16, 2021 executive session meeting minutes, Elizabeth seconded the motion

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

2.4 Approval of the March 16, 2021 regular session meeting minutes

Sarah moved to approved the March 16, 2021 regular session meeting minutes, William seconded the motion

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

Opportunities for Visitors to Address the Committee:

Committee/Sub-committee Communications :

Elizabeth : I am looking forward to the kids coming back. A lot of the high school kids are outside learning, and that is fantastic.

Presentations

Superintendent 's Report

5.1.1 Mr. Magee presented the proposed Floating Season Athletic Fee and information on Spring Athletic Season.

We are currently in the Floating Season with Football, Indoor Track and Cheerleading. I am looking for the School Committee to set a rate for those three sports. My proposal for the three sports are as followed: (Football and Indoor Track fee is \$125), and (Cheerleading proposed fee is \$50). This season will run from March 1st - April 25th.

Elizabeth moved to accept the sports fee of \$125, for Indoor Track and Football, and a fee of \$50, for Cheerleading. This would be for the Floating Season starting on March 1st - April 25th, Antonella seconded the motion.

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

The lineup for Spring sports is (Baseball, Softball, Lacrosse, Outdoor Track, Tennis and Boys Volleyball and possibly Wrestling. The season is going to be reduced by 30%. Schedules will be ready in about three weeks. There will be a Western MA Tournament and possibly a state tournament. Transportation for sports teams will be provided by ELPS. The proposed Spring Season fee would be \$125 - \$149. The Spring season will run from April 26th - June 30th. I am recommending \$125 athletic fee for all sports to be consistent with the other sports.

William moved to approve the Spring Season sports (Baseball, Softball, Lacrosse, Outdoor Track, Tennis and Boys Volleyball) with the athletic fee of \$125 for April 26th - June 30th, Elizabeth seconded the motion.

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

5.1.2 Mr. Smith gave an update on the ELPS Transition to the New Learning Model

Mr. Smith stated that this would be our third transition. To go from fully remote, to hybrid and now going into full in-person learning. We are working on making sure we have a smooth transition going into this next phase. We currently have 900 students riding the bus. Bus passes went out last week. This will give us this week and next week to make any route changes. LPVEC is creating seating chart, we will have two students per seat. We also ordered tents for outdoors space for the spring through the fall. The high school ordered furniture for the courtyard, elementary ordered more desks.

Mr. Paige: At this time we have 445 students (65%) coming back. The custodians added some desks to classrooms and cafeteria. We are creating an outdoor space, a warm and welcoming environment.

Dr. Allen: We have 450 students (78%) coming back and 22% still remote. We ordered some tents, and bought benches for the courtyard.

Ms. Santaniello: We have 17 students staying remote. We also have tents coming this will be used for lunch and other activities. Thank you Pam and Gordon for materials. I bought picnic tables for the courtyard for my staff, a place for them to have lunch. There will be 48 students in the cafeteria at one time.

Thursday is Parent Information Night.

Remote students will see and hear like students in the classroom.

Chair: Are we changing how we mark students absent?

Dr. Allen: It will be similar to what we are doing now. We will be checking with parents of those in-person students who start remote, not coming in.

Mr. Paige: Secretaries make calls, if there is a trend, then Administration steps in.

Parents need to communicate with us and we need to communicate with the parents.

Mr. Fredette: At Mapleshade we bought supplies and furniture. We have 85% opting into full in-person learning and (30) students staying remote.

Ms. Lodi: We ordered some materials and a tent. We have (42) students staying remote. 91% full in-person (423) students. For lunch, we will have some student in the café and some in the classrooms. We can fit 51 students in the café. Waiting on the buses, carline is huge right now.

Dr. Welch: We are working with the families. March madness. Student Services working with Kelly and nurses on contact tracing. Becky is doing an admiral job with the bus flow. Opening things up, community based progress. Ready for extended school year. Unique situation, programs will run six weeks this summer, utilizing three schools. Last year we added a week and went from (4) days to (5) days.

Ms. Santaniello: A shout out to DPW. They put in new window screens for all our windows so that we can open them up.

Mr. Paige: The DPW have been extremely helpful, anytime we needed anything done, they were here.

Chair: The Health Department and DPW have done a great job.

5.1.3 Ms. Brown and Mr. Smith presented the ELPS revised Action Steps to SMART Goals.

2020-21 Key Action Steps :

Key Action Steps:

Step 1: The ELPS District Equity and Diversity Steering Committee will utilize the recommendations from the Equity Audit to create a plan of action for the District and support schools in creating an action plan for each school

Measurements: ELPS District Equity and Diversity Plan of Action

Step 2: Continue to expand the understanding and integration of social and emotional instruction into daily/weekly lessons and provide support for all ELPS staff to build capacity in this work

- Elementary schools will work with Developmental Designs coaches to enhance the plan for Social Emotional Learning at each school
- Secondary schools: BPMS will continue to expand its advisory period to ensure that all three-grade levels include social and emotional lessons. ELHS will review how their new Spartan Block is supporting students and make any needed revisions

Measurements: Panorama survey data shows that students feel safe, nurtured and have positive, caring relationships with both students and teachers.

Step 3: Improve Multi-tiered Systems of Support

- The district MTSS Committee will meet monthly with CLEE in order to understand and develop facilitative leadership and anti-racist continuous improvement practices, in order to improve adult leadership and collaboration and to guarantee equitable student outcomes
- Each school MTSS Committee will utilize Panorama Student Success dashboard to assess attendance, academics, and social emotional data for identified students and create interventions that are monitored for success; teams will evaluate trends in data to improve Tier 1 instruction
- Maintain funding in the Operational Budget for schools to support the implementation of SEL measures

Measurements: District MTSS team Plan of Action and measured outcomes; School MTSS teams Plans of Action; Panorama usage data

District SMART Goal - Instructional Practice:

100% of ELPS teachers will support students through providing 21st Century Learning experiences and creating an inclusive learning environment rooted in Universal Design for Learning and Culturally Sustaining Pedagogy.

End of Year Benchmark: Student and staff survey information; Artifacts from 2020-21

Instructional Practice:

2019 Key Action Steps :

Key Action Steps

Step 1: Professional Development on Anti-racist, Culturally Responsive Pedagogy and Universal Design for Learning

Measurements: Records of school and District training; survey data that includes teacher feedback on levels of understanding and implementation connected to support provided.

Step 2: the ELPS Leadership Team will continue to support all staff using technology to differentiate instruction in order to allow all students, at all grade levels to engage the curriculum at their current skill level.

Measurements: Personalized learning data in district applications (Lexia, Albert I-o, I-Ready, ST Math, etc.) teacher survey data on tools utilization, student survey on personalized learning and needs met.

Step 3: District professional development will support all staff in providing student-centered instruction rooted in the Universal Design for Learning framework. The professional development also will support teachers in increasing their understanding of and use of Culturally Responsive Pedagogy and Universal Design for Learning.

Measurements: Record of professional development offerings and survey data; school and classroom climate survey data

District SMART Goal - Continuous Learning & Achievement

All students will be challenged and supported to achieve a high standard of academic performance and growth through the implementation of a standards-based instructional program aligned to MA Curriculum Frameworks (and National Standards where appropriate)

End of Year Benchmark: Maintain Aggregate Student Growth within the Typical Growth Range of 40% - 60%

Key Action Steps:

Step 1: the District/Schools will implement standards-based curriculum in all academic subjects aligned to current MA Curriculum Frameworks (or national standards where applicable). All members of the ELPS Leadership Team will continuously monitor revisions made by DESE. This will drive the ongoing collaborative work with ELPS Dept. Heads, Academic Coaches, and teachers to revise curricular scope and sequences.

Measurements: Artifacts of process and product from around the District

Step 2: the District will continue to provide PD and coaching to support the use of personalized learning tools data to drive both whole group and small group instruction.

Measurements: PD offerings, coaching session data, teacher survey data

Step 3: the District will continue to provide PD that supports teachers and paraprofessionals in gaining a deeper understanding of how to create an instructional environment that is inclusive and culturally sustaining for all.

Measurements: ELPS teachers will be able to utilize one more strategies learned in the PD in their classrooms this year.

Step 4: District and school leaders will support teachers in collaborative planning by scheduling common planning time to examine student data to inform instruction, to monitor progress, and determine mastery of priority standards.

Measurements: Provide examples of scheduled collaborative time.

Mr. Smith presented his Education Plan.

SMART Goal 1: All ELPS staff will create a safe, nurturing, and respectful learning/working environment in which students are supported in developing the knowledge, skills and the mindset to become resilient and culturally-proficient citizens. During ELPS continued COVID-19 operations, ELPS will work to develop and maintain a robust, remote instructional model and identify new ways to support students in the fully remote, hybrid and eventually a fully in-person instructional model.

Action Step 1: work with the Leadership Team and committees (Health and Medical Advisory Committee; Operations Planning Committee; and Instructional Planning Committee) to develop a plan for school operations for full in-person, hybrid and remote instructional learning model.

- Work with Leadership Team to review work and recommendations from the District committees for safety procedures and daily operations in the three possible instructional models and develop a PD schedule for the first (10) days.

Action Step 2: Use the (10) additional days prior to the new school year beginning to provide PD development for the staff on instruction in a fully remote model.

Action Step 3: Work with the Center for Leadership and Educational Equity to take a deeper look into the ELPS data utilizing Panorama and help build skills of the ELPS MTSS team and building teams to analyze data consistently in order to identify students who may be in need of social, emotional academic support.

- Plan with CLEE and Director of Curriculum in between scheduled PD meetings

Action Step 4: Use the MTSS trainings with CLEE to help guide the Leadership Team in helping staff to embed into their instruction, the five core competencies of social and emotional learning. Self-awareness; Self-management; Social awareness; Relationship skills and Responsible decisions making.

• Use the Leadership Team meetings to develop PD ideas and best ways to support staff and to discuss how to best use the Panorama data

Individual Goal 1: Continue to build strong partnerships with all Town Dept. and other organizations in order to help improve operations during the COVID --19 Pandemic and create stronger partnerships for future years.

Individual Goal 2: Complete the (8) required deliverables for the MSBA Eligibility Study in order to enter into a Funding Agreement for the Feasibility Study.

SMART Goal 2: Building strong partnership with Town departments and other organizations in order to improve operations during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Action Step 1: Continue to strengthen the relations with Mary McNally, Town Manager

• Utilize Town Dept. Head meetings, Emergency Planning meeting, and individually scheduled meetings with Town Manager

Action Step 2: Work with the IT Dir. to ensure that ELPS continues to implement a technology plan that supports use of technology for both in-person and remote learning.

• Schedule meetings with the IT Dir. to review 1:1 program making any necessary adjustments

Action Step 3: Work with the Asst. Supt. for Business, Town Manager and the Town Finance Dir. to develop a budget that best supports ELPS students and all successful programming.

• Schedule working meetings with this group to review budget information and discuss possible strategies

Action Step 4: Work with the Town Emergency Management Group to keep COVID Operation plans as efficient as possible and maintain safety plans.

• Utilize the Town Emergency Planning meetings to review plans and strengthen partnerships with ELPD, ELFD, and DPW

SMART Goal 3: Completion of MSBA Eligibility Required Deliverables

Action Step 1: Work closely with the MSBA liaison and Project Coordinator, Emma Parrish

Action Step 2: Coordinate and schedule assistance from the Asst. Supt. for Business, Dir. of Curriculum, Principals and DPW as needed

**William moved to approve the Revised Action Steps, including the Superintendents Education Plan as presented, Elizabeth seconded the motion.
Chair: Any further questions? Hearing none, all those in favor say aye (5), those oppose nay (0), motion carries (5-0)**

Assistant Superintendent of Business Report:

5.2.1 The Mountain View gift donation from Grynn & Barrett was presented by Ms. Blair.

**Elizabeth moved to accept the \$500 gift donation from Grynn & Barrett , to be put in Mountain View gift account, Antonella seconded the motion.
Chair: Any further discussion? Hearing none, a ll those in favor say aye (5), those oppose nay (0), motion carries (5-0)**

5.2.2 High School donation for Spartan Walkway was presented by Ms. Blair

**Elizabeth moved to accept the \$100 from the Correia family for 2021 Spartan Walkway brick, Sarah seconded the motion.
Chair: Any further discussion? Hearing none, a ll those in favor say aye (5), those oppose nay (0), motion carries (5-0)**

Old Business:

New Business:

7.1 School Choice for 2021-2022 School Year was presented by Mr. Smith

**Elizabeth moved to participate in School Choice for 2021-2022 for ten slots, (5) slots for 6th grade and (5) slots for 9th grade, Sarah seconded the motion.
Chair: Any further discussion? All those in favor say aye (4), those oppose nay (1), motion carries (4-1)**

**William moved to adjourn at 8:12 PM, Elizabeth, seconded the motion.
Chair: Any further discussion? Hearing none, a ll those in favor say aye (5), those oppose (0), motion carries (5-0)
Chair: Thank you Mr. Maki and Jamie**

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

Minutes Recorded by: Kathy Celetti
Respectfully submitted by: Superintendent Smith
