

**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: April 26, 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, SECTIONA 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, Kathy Celetti, Recording Secretary (Remote)

Elizabeth moved to move up agenda item 6.1 .1 to the first order of business after Roll Call, Sarah seconded the motion.

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

Presentations

Superintendent 's Report

6.1.1 8th Grade Athletic Waivers and a discussion of Wrestling Spring Season was presented by Mr. Magee, Athletic Director I have (2) waivers I am presenting tonight, Boys' Volleyball and Girls' Softball. Right now for softball we have (22) signed up for the Varsity team, if we get more we can have a JV team. For volleyball we have (8) signed up, would like to offer to the eighth graders for a JV team. MIAA suggest applying for a waiver when the number of volleyball players drops below 12 participants and for softball if it drops below 24. 8th graders would only be permitted to play on the JV team and they would not displace any 9-12 graders.

William moved to approve the 8th grad waiver for the Boys ' Volleyball and Girls ' Softball for this season only, Elizabeth seconded the motion.

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

Today the MA Energy and Environmental Affair amended their March 22 guidelines to include an update to high risk sports/level of play section. Effective April 16, the sport of wrestling has reached Level 3 status allowing for competitions, however, we do not know what the modifications will be. For Level 2 and 3, activities will be outside, but can be conducted indoors. There will be a meeting this week with MIAA with new modifications for wrestling. I'm looking at Level (1), social distance; non-contact drill and some fitness. There is a wrestling meeting tonight at 7PM. Level (2) = Competitive Practice; Level (3) = Competitions; Level (4) = Tournaments. At this time we have (14) wrestlers signed up.

Elizabeth moved to approve Wrestling on Level (1) for the spring season, William seconded the motion.

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

2.0 East Longmeadow Public School Budget Hearing for the FY22 Budget was presented by Mr. Smith

2.1 Superintendent's Presentation

We started the school year remotely, in January we went into the Hybrid model and in April to full in-person learning. As we come out of the COVID-19 Pandemic, staff will continue to need support.

- Working to ensure that all ELPS students, staff and families have the support they need to move on from the COVID-19 Pandemic
- We are supporting the whole child, focusing on academics, social and emotional ED, and cultural responsiveness

Through it SMART Goals ELPS continues to focus on ensuring that all students can access the full curriculum and receive the support they need to develop 21st Century Skills and master social competencies during their journey through K-12

Post pandemic operations: All in the ELPS community experienced challenges in the last 14 months due to the COVID-19 pandemic

- ELPS continue to work to identify learning gaps in our students along with identifying students' social and emotional needs. These areas will need to be supported in order for our students to move forward in their learning.
- ELPS also will identify the support that staff will need to do their jobs as effectively as possible.

Changes in operations from 2020-2021 that will continue in 2021-2022:

- Purchased PPE and cleaning supplies for all buildings
- Added temporary staff - Permanent Building Subs, lunch and recess monitors, sub custodians, daily on-call subs
- Increased our Contracted Services in order to support students and staff
- Created and outfitted outdoor spaces
- Continued to use Panorama Surveys
- Continued to use Personalized Learning Services

Per Pupil spending (from DESE Report Per Pupil Expenditure 2016-2020 LPVEC Districts

- State Average: FY2018 (\$16,506); FY2019 (\$17,150); FY2020 (\$17,511)
- East Long: FY2018 (\$15,312); FY2019 (\$16,081); FY2020 (\$15,622)

Town of EL investing in our students (budget increases over the last 10 years and the our request for this year)

FY2012 = 3.7%; FY2013 = 2.9%; FY2014 = 4.1%; FY2015 = 1%; FY2016 = 2.1%; FY2017 2.0%; FY2018 = 2.2%; FY19 = 2.1%; FY20 = 2.9%

FY2021 = 1.35% (Five positions eliminated)

FY2022 = 2.78% (Level services budget request) increase from the FY2021 = \$32,471,200

Chair: We do have a meeting with the Finance Oversight Committee next week.

Approval of Minutes

3.1 Approval of the April 5, 2021 executive session meeting minutes.

Antonella moved to approve the April 5, 2021 executive session meeting minutes, Sarah seconded the motion.

Chair: Any further discussion? All those in favor say aye (4), those oppose nay (0), abstention (1), motion carries (4-0-1)

3.2 Approval of the April 5, 2021 regular session meeting minutes

Antonella moved to approve the April 5, 2021 regular session meeting minutes, Sarah seconded the motion.

Chair: Any further discussion? All those in favor say aye (4), those oppose nay (0), abstention (1), motion carries (4-0-1)

Opportunities for Visitors to Address the Committee:

Committee/Sub-committee Communications :

Antonella: I'm on the ELEEf committee, one of the things Gordon mentioned earlier, ELEEf offered up to \$40,000 to teachers to help support their needs in the classroom. I know that Mr. Smith will be sending out the application to all the teachers.

Mr. Smith: Yes, I'm hoping to get that information out tomorrow. That amount has increased over the years which is pretty incredible. That's \$40,000 that they will divide up depending on what kind of grant applications they receive. That's exciting!

Elizabeth: Is that the most they offered?

Antonella: I'm not really sure, they are very supportive of our schools, teachers and our kids. We are really thankful for us, everyone.

Sarah: We had a wonderful event that was put on by Erin Chrusciel over the weekend which was the Earth Day event. I want to applaud the students who participated, but also the students and teachers who really made an effort to advertise for the event. Between commercials and posters, there was just a constant buzz around the event across the community. A special thank you to Erin for organizing the event, ELCAT for filming, the police department, DPW volunteers, it really was a tremendous event that the rec department also helped to put on. I thought it was just great, and that the school's support of that was tremendous. So thank you to all the educators and students who really helped to promote the event. I also want to mention, the District Attorney is going to continue to partner alongside of East Longmeadow, this Thursday evening, April 29th from 7PM - 8:15PM. The DA will be working alongside particularly with Birchland Park and ELHS to put forward a social media event for families. To help to continue to educate us to the positives and some of the concerns that are linked to our students engaging with social media. So really thankful to the DA's office for supporting us on that event. Finally, I want to say, welcome back from break. I'm really glad to have students and faculty back. I'm looking forward to this next stretch as we move forward to the end of the academic year.

Gregory: Ms. Truoiolo in her efforts on Earth Day, she did coordinate and organize the largest group of volunteers. So certainly a great event and a lot of trash collected. Look around town, see how clean it is right now and hopefully we can maintain that, because it does look awesome.

Sarah: The same can be said for Mr. Thompson, he was also there working to collect a lot of trash.

William: On March 9th, the LPVEC held their Skills USA District Competition. I'm pleased to announce that Matthew Pelletier, EL (Information Networking) received the Bronze Medal, congratulation!

Assistant Superintendent for Business Report

6.2.1 The FY2021 Esser II Grant was present by Ms. Blair.

William moved to accept the FY21 Esser II Grant in the amount of \$965,608, Antonella seconded the motion.

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

Old Business:

New Business:

William moved to adjourn at 7:55PM, Antonella 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

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

Minutes Recorded by: Kathy Celetti

Respectfully submitted by: Superintendent Smith
