

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: June 26, 2023

TIME: 4:33 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: Aimee Dalenta; Antonella Raschilla; Greg Thompson; Gordon Smith, Superintendent; Sarah Truoiolo; Pamela Blair, Asst. Superintendent for Business; Heather Brown, Curriculum Director; Samantha Velazquez, Recording Secretary

Approval of Minutes

2.1 Approval of June 5, 2023 Regular Session Meeting Minutes

Sarah Truoiolo moved to approve the June 5, 2023 regular session meeting minutes. Antonella Raschilla 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

Sarah - We had our final Collaborative Committee meeting last week, and we had some great input from the members relative to the cell phone policy. I heard from both Heather and Gordon about the Diversity and Equity Steering Committee meeting that it was a positive session.

Antonella - I got to attend the years of service ceremony. We have a lot of teachers that have been in this District for many years. I think that says a lot about the District, our students, and our community, that teachers enjoy being here.

Aimee - The Lower Pioneer Valley Collaborative has appointed a Director, they are currently finalizing the contract. I was able to attend the Diversity and Equity Meeting, and I think we have a really good vision and are moving in a good direction.

Opportunities for visitors to address the Committee:

Superintendent's Report:

5.1.1 Trial Late Bus for BPMS and ELHS for the 2023-2024 School Year - Run three days a week

- Students Daniel and Oluwafunmilayo spoke about the benefits of having a late bus for the 2023-2024 school year.
- Daniel and Oluwafunmilayo did their Civics project on bringing back the late bus. They did a survey that got 300 students to respond between middle school and high school.
- LPVEC was able to accommodate this request and will add a late bus three days a week for Birchland Park and the High School.

Antonella Raschilla moved to approve the trial late bus for the 2023-2024 school year. Aimee Dalenta 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 End-of-Year Presentation by the Leadership Team

- Implementation of new curricular materials that are student-centered, aligned with revised DESE standards, and integrated with SEL standards continued to occur at multiple grade levels
- ELPS students at all grade levels feel supported and have positive relationships (90% - 92%)
- ELPS students showed growth across grade levels

Elementary Schools

- The Elementary Schools completed year two of Second Step implementation, which was very successful
- Community circles and morning meetings continued daily
- River Valley Counseling has been a huge resource for us. Students needing support continued to increase all year.
- The guidance counselors and adjustment counselors also had an increase this year in the students needing support
- Meadow Brook had their first Pre-K field day
- After one year of implementation with the new literacy curriculum, we have a better understanding of both the content and the structure of those programs
- We've been able to see the impact of these new programs on our student learning
- 4th graders engaged in an immigration simulation to learn about the Ellis Island Experience
- Mapleshade students reached 100% goal completion for their ST Math goal
- Increased positive results in Panorama across all three schools

Birchland Park

- We continued to focus on self-identity and self-regulation, identifying the emotions you're having and being able to control the emotions you're having
- We held our first Unity Day event. Every student did two workshops, one on personal identity and one on social identity.
- Birchland worked closely with the Academic Leadership Association for their 6th grade students
- A 6th grade student facilitated an African Book Project with Mr. Pearson. They collected books to help build a library for a school in Africa.
- Completed Year 1 of Illustrative Math and Reveal Algebra curriculum
- Piloted Science MCAS Innovative Assessment this spring

- Continued real world authentic math learning through Escape Rooms and other lab-style learning experiences
- Overall typical growth numbers of math are 133% and reading are 125%

High School

- We focused on the supportive relationships at the high school level
- The guidance curriculum has helped putting people in flexible places to support kids individually and in small groups
- The guidance team also managed a "See Something, Say Something" week. This helps students to feel supported by doing it in a way that's advocating for themselves and teaching them how to do it.
- We completed our PLC work devoted to exploring and implementing UDL practices into our classes
- Reveal Math will be fully implemented in Algebra 1, Algebra 2, and Geometry this fall
- We will be in year one of our US History realignment this coming fall
- Going into next year, we will be implementing iReady diagnostic testing for grade 9 students in both Mathematics and English Language Arts
- Exploration of CPR programming in our health courses for all students
- Exploration of ASL class at ELHS in partnership with Willie Ross

Students Support Services

- ELPS continues to improve our early childhood programming for students ages 3 to 5 years.
- Pre-K Nurses added to staffing in August 2022
- Health room was created in Milestone classroom

Assistant Superintendent for Business Report:

5.2.1 Acceptance of Increase to the One8 Foundation grant of \$4,125

Sarah Truoiolo moved to approve the increase to the One8 foundation grant in the amount of \$4,125. Aimee Dalenta seconded the motion.

Vice Chair: Any further discussion? All those in favor say aye (3), those oppose (0), motion carries (3-0)

5.2.2 Acceptance of the \$51,094.05 check for ELEEF

Sarah Truoiolo moved to approve the \$51,094.05 from ELEEF for approval. Aimee Dalenta seconded the motion.

Vice Chair: Any further discussion? All those in favor say aye (3), those oppose (0), motion carries (3-0)

Director of Curriculum and Instruction Report

Old Business :

6.1 Policy JICJ - Cell Phones & Portable Communication Devices - New Procedure

Sarah Truoiolo moved to approve the new procedure related to policy JICJ regarding cell phones and portable communication devices for the school year 2023-2024. Aimee Dalenta seconded the motion.

Vice Chair: Any further discussion? All those in favor say aye (3), those oppose (0), motion carries (3-0)

6.2 Discussion of Time for School Committee Reorganization Meeting on July 3, 2023

- The Reorganization Meeting will take place on July 3, 2023 at 2:00 p.m.

6.3 Superintendent's Summative Evaluation

Sarah Truoiolo moved to approve the Superintendent's Summative Evaluation for the school year 2022-2023. Aimee Dalenta seconded the motion.

Vice Chair: Any further discussion? All those in favor say aye (3), those oppose (0), motion carries (3-0)

New Business:

7.1 Discussion on Ways to Increase Information to Community on the ELHS Building Project

- The School Committee discussed providing information on LCAT regarding the capital planning process for the town which starts in September

7.2 MASC/MASS Joint Conference Early Bird Special (November 8-10, 2023) Deadline July 15, 2023

8. ELCAT

9. Student Rep

Vice Chair: Thank you,

Sarah Truoiolo moved to adjourn at 6:45 PM. Aimee Dalenta seconded the motion.

Vice Chair: All those in favor say aye (3), those oppose (0), motion carries (3-0)

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

Minutes Recorded by: Samantha Velazquez

Respectfully submitted by: Gordon Smith

Signature