

**Minutes from the
Regular Meeting of the
East Bridgewater School Committee
on Tuesday, January 14, 2020**

A meeting of the East Bridgewater School Committee was held on Tuesday, January 14, 2020 at 7:00 PM in the Anne Kenneally Hynes Library in the East Bridgewater Jr/Sr High School. In attendance were: Chair Ellen Pennington, Secretary Rob Rhuda, Trista Higgins, Theresa Maltz, Tim McLaughlin, Ciara Lonergan, Superintendent Elizabeth Legault, Assistant Superintendent Dr. Gina Williams, School Business Administrator John Shea, and Clerk Joanne Benner. Mr. McKinnon was not in attendance

Motion to open a 7:01 PM: Maltz/McLaughlin

Vote: 5 in favor

Also in attendance: Principals Byrne, Gentile, and Sylvia

Report of East Bridgewater Jr/Sr High School Student Advisory Council:

- ❖ Ciara Lonergan, from the East Bridgewater High School Student Advisory Council, reported to the School Committee. When it comes to the item regarding Chromebooks she would like to give a student perspective. The Unity Club went on a field trip to Framingham State and participated in workshops that they will present to the school. DECA participated in a competition and will now move to the state level from the district level. The junior class is selling wooden logos, music is holding its 5th annual mattress fundraiser on 1/25/2020 from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM, and the Math Club will be holding a bakes sale on Friday during lunches.

Superintendent Legault's Community Corner:

- ❖ Central School Boiler Project update- The commissioning agent came out and they determined there are a few things that need to be buttoned up before it is fully commissioned.
- ❖ Gordon Mitchell School – Fobs, the vestibule, doors, and safety equipment has been installed along with a new monitor in the main office so they can see what is going on. The fobs are in the process of being programmed and should be done within the next 4 to 5 days. This project was paid for through a state grant.
- ❖ Chromebook and IT update- There is a shipment of 70 Chromebooks that should be in the building in the next day or so. IT has a list of students with issues and they are called during the Viking Block to swap out there device. Forty Chromebooks needed to be used for MAP testing and once it is over will be circulated in with the others on hand. There are two IT guys that are keeping up as best they can with the demand. There are lost chargers and damaged screens; we know that they can be dropped but we are also dealing with people being careless with them. Ciara expressed she was happy about the new equipment coming in and said not all students are in the Viking Block when called; they may be with another teacher. Mr. Shea said if we do not know there is a problem we can't fix it. The Superintendent asked Ciara to go to Mr. Sylvia if she is aware of an issue, or tell the student to, so it can be taken care of quickly.
- ❖ Update on the FY21 budget kick-off meeting with Brian Noble, Town Administrator and Finance Committee Liaisons, Crystal Hudson & Melanie Dean. This evening the budget subcommittee met at 6:15. Last week Mr. Noble and Mrs. Morrissey came to meet with us and again this afternoon; we are moving in a direction together. They have met with the principals to hear of their bare bones request and wish list. On February 4th the Public Hearing will be held at 7:00 PM for the FY21 proposed budget. On February 11th the School

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Committee will vote to certify the FY21 proposed budget. On February 24th they will present the FY21 budget to the Finance Committee and Board of Selectman at 6:30. Then on March 2nd we will submit a warrant to the Board of Selectman for the Town Meeting. This is a little quicker pace than they have done before but the Superintendent feels we will be done on time. Also, we are still in contract negotiations and they are keeping Mr. Noble in the loop.

- ❖ A letter of intent to retire was received from Dianne Asci, EBJSHS Administrative Assistant. Mrs. Asci will retire June 30, 2020. While we wish she wasn't leaving us we do wish her the best of luck.
- ❖ Superintendent Legault thanked Everett's Auto for donating a trailer to the district for the Hidden in Sight project. It is parked in front of the shop area so Mr. Ferioli's student can build the rooms. We will have a trailer here at the last PD and hope to have it here for the March parent teacher conferences. Once ours it ready it will be moved around for parents and community members to go in and see where kids can hid paraphernalia.
- ❖ Mrs. Victoria Cameron and Dr. Osowski are doing a tremendous job teaching STEAM to our students. On January 10th there was a wonderful article in the Enterprise called Girl Power. It is about the STEAM program for girls at the Mitchell School. We are very excited for these hands on program that allows students to develop their learning skills in their own way. Mrs. Cameron has written a book on how to get kids involved in STEAM and once it is published we will ask her to come to a meeting.

Reports & Discussions:

- ❖ Strategic Plan #3 – Professional Development – Gina Williams. New this year for the PD academy is book club and the books being offered continue with the UDL theme. There is one book with different content and that is, "So you want to talk about race by Ijeoma Oluo." We have opened the book club up to other districts and it is done online. This club is for fifteen hours of work and will satisfy recertification for some. It is a great way to gain knowledge while satisfying licensure requirements. The second thing she wants to share is we will continue to use the model of breakout sessions during PD. We have staff members that present in other towns and they reciprocate to us. Next week we have 4 members presenting in Foxboro. During the March 3rd PD in lieu of a key note speaker we are having a staff member from each school share a "passion pitch." It will speak to why they are in education, what drives, and what inspires them. Another new piece will be a student showcase. She met with the principals yesterday and students from each school will be in the gym to share their experiences with the teachers.
- ❖ Report from Kate Byrne, Central School Principal. January is a very busy month at Central School. They are currently taking registration for pre-school half and full day programs; all are filling up faster than usual. We are collecting names for a wait list and if we have enough tuition funding to secure another teacher we will add another class. After school activities have begun along with the BOKS program on Tuesday and Thursday mornings. They are starting the next One Central Book continuing with the theme of responsibility and it is The Mitten by Jan Brett. We will have activities connected with the book from now through February. MAP winter assessment is being done along with recapturing midyear data from dibels. We will assess progress and create Title I reading groups. Mrs. Byrne is meeting with the nonprofessional staff to talk about their SMART goals, to ask what support they may need, and to track the evidence they should be accumulating. The STEAM carts are a big hit at the school and Mrs. Cameron and Mrs. Fisher do a great job with the students in utilizing the cart. She is hoping her PTO can help fund a STEAM cart that they could keep at their school. Her staff is conducting vertical and horizontal visits to see one another. We are partnered with Bridgewater State University with students coming into our classrooms to learn from the teachers and practice

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with students. Moving forward they will be incorporating UDL so they can all talk the same language. On January 31st the PTO will hold the annual Boosterthon fundraiser.

- ❖ Report from Andrew Gentile, Gordon W Mitchell Principal. Southeastern Regional donated a bench to the school and we will have a plaque made to honor Mrs. Power; he will contact the family when it is going to be dedicated in case they want to attend. He feels compelled to give a shout out to Andrew, Josh, and John for managing the daily tech needs in his building. When something goes down he has them to go to and they are very responsive giving him a timeline. He would like to advocate to the Committee to potentially add another person to the department; they need more help. Mrs. Cameron and Mrs. Fisher are doing great things in the school with the STEAM cart and technology. They are taking what they love to do and sharing it with others. Mr. Gentile has been working with Mrs. Clifford on an internship program for students in grades 11 & 12 that are considering the field of education. Students will be paired with classrooms based on availability to gain experience. It is in the initial stages at this time. Last week the MARK program came out and gave a free presentation on bullying and cyberbullying. This week he has been meeting with the students to review the ALICE protocols. Teachers will discuss scenarios with the students and what should be done with each one.
- ❖ Report from Jeff Sylvia, East Bridgewater Jr/Sr. Principal. We are in the throes of final exams and the term ends on Friday. Report cards will be posted on January 24th at 2:00 PM. The two year report to NEASC concerning the vision of the graduate is being formulated with critical pieces being: communication, creative thinking, lifelong learning, and being a responsible community member. They have had great conversations on how they will assess and plan on doing a pilot similar to the Central and Mitchell Schools report card. They are doing a lot of borrowing from other schools and want to use Lincoln R.I. as a model because they are considered an exemplary school. The Program of Studies is in the final stages. He has been working with Dr. Williams, Mrs. Clifford, and the lead teachers on the proposed new courses. If enrollment isn't great enough the course will not run. They should be going to print at the end of January, it will be available in February, and selections can begin in March. Mr. Sylvia did an attendance analysis. The average daily attendance was about 95% over all six grades. Overall he is happy with the trend as it is 2 ½% better over last year. Tomorrow at 4:30 the Unified Basketball team will be hosting Abington.

Public Comments:

- ❖ The public comment period is not an open public forum. Speakers may address topics on the agenda, items specified for public comment, or items within the scope of the School Committee's responsibility. No one came forward.

Action Items:

- ❖ Action is required on the School Committee Meeting minutes from the December 17, 2019.
Motion: Maltz/McLaughlin Vote: 4 in favor, McLaughlin abstained
- ❖ Action is required, after review, to approve accounts payable warrants 25SV dated 12/18/19, 27SV dated 1/1/2020 and 29SV dated 1/15/2020.
Motion: Maltz/Higgins Vote: 5 in favor
- ❖ Action is required on payroll warrants 26PS dated 12/23/19 and 28PS dated 1/8/2020.
Motion: Maltz/McLaughlin Vote: 5 in favor

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- ❖ Action is required by the School Committee to vote to disband the High School Building Committee effective January 14, 2020. Upon approval, a letter needs to be sent to Susan Gillpatrick, Town Clerk, informing her that the High School Building Committee has been disbanded.

Motion: Maltz/Higgins

Vote: 5 in favor

- ❖ Action is required by the School Committee to approve the increase to the crossing guard's daily rate from \$124.80 to \$127.50, due to the increase of minimum wage.

Motion: Maltz/Rhuda

Vote: 5 in favor

- ❖ Action is required by the School Committee to approve disposal of work tables located at the Gordon W. Mitchell School.

Motion: Maltz/McLaughlin

Vote: 5 in favor

Motion to close at 8:38PM: Maltz/McLaughlin

Vote: 5 in favor

Respectfully Submitted by,

Joanne M. Benner
School Committee Clerk

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