

**Minutes from the
Regular Meeting of the
East Bridgewater School Committee
on Monday, August 26 ,2019**

A meeting of the East Bridgewater School Committee was held on Monday, August 26, 2019 at 7:00 PM in the Anne Kenneally Hynes Library in the East Bridgewater Jr/Sr High School. In attendance were: Chair Ellen Pennington, Co-Chair Gordon McKinnon, Secretary Rob Rhuda, Trista Higgins, Theresa Malts, Superintendent Elizabeth Legault, Assistant Superintendent Dr. Gina Williams, School Business Administrator John Shea, and Recording Clerk Joanne Benner. Mr. McLaughlin was not in attendance.

Motion to open a 6:02 PM: Pennington/Maltz

Roll call

Mrs. Pennington, yes

Mrs. Maltz, yes

Mr. Rhuda, yes

Ms. Higgins, yes

Mr. McKinnon, entered at 6:05 after roll call was taken

Mr. McLaughlin, not in attendance

Chair Pennington:

“Moved that the School Committee meet in executive session pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws chapter 30A, section 21(a) for the following purposes:

Purpose (2) to conduct a collective bargaining session with the East Bridgewater Education Association, specifically to hear two Level Three grievances regarding the non-renewal of two non-PTS educators; and

Purpose (3) to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining, specifically to deliberate regarding a response to two Level Three grievances regarding the non-renewal of two non-PTS educators because an open discussion may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the Committee.”

“The School Committee will now meet in executive session pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws chapter 30A, section 21(a) for the following purposes:

Purpose (2) to conduct a collective bargaining session with the East Bridgewater Education Association, specifically to hear two Level Three grievances regarding the non-renewal of two non-PTS educators; and

Purpose (3) to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining, specifically to deliberate regarding a response to two Level Three grievances regarding the non-

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renewal of two non-PTS educators because an open discussion may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the Committee.”

The Committee will be reconvening in open session this evening.

Open session began at 7:35

A moment of silence was observed for Margaret Alexander

Also in attendance: A.D. Patrick Leonard, Jeffery Sylvia EBJSHS Principal, Matthew Bosh EBJSHS Assistant Principal, Athletic Trainer Evan Chandra

Guests:

- ❖ The Superintendent introduced Jeffery Sylvia, the new EBJSHS Principal and Matthew Bosh, the new EBJSHS Assistant Principal. Mr. Sylvia said they had an exciting first day with the staff and had their first staff meeting where he spoke about his vision of support, standards, and expectations. A brief discussion was held about scheduling and he is pleased to say every student was given a full schedule. They will start the day on Wednesday with the Power Block so they can pass out the administrative papers. He has said to take it slow the first few days so everyone can adjust to the new schedule and bell timing. He has had staff members tell him they are excited about the student engagement the block will offer. Mr. Bosh said they will be clear about expectations and behaviors that will be communicated to staff and students. The entire staff needs to be on the same page and has received a lot of positive feedback from teachers today. He will meet with each grade individually to communicate their expectations clearly. Tomorrow is the 7th grade orientation and a speaker from the DA’s office will be talking about social media awareness. From there they will go and check out the building and classrooms.

Report of the Standing Committees:

- ❖ First reading of recommended changes to School Committee Policy File: JLCD, Administering Medicines to Students. Mr. McKinnon, Ms. Higgins, and Chair Pennington met with the school nurse regarding this. The nurse had the school certified so it could adopt the policy. The policy will allow the nurse to designate someone other than nursing staff to administer medication.

Superintendent Legault’s Community Corner:

- ❖ Superintendent Legault began the day today addressing all of the staff speaking about looking at the whole child and not just data. We need soft skills and empathy, not sympathy, for children. Guest speaker Katie Novak, who wrote the book on UDL was here. After that our annual luncheon was held with all of the town departments having been invited. We are coming together as a town and school and are all working very well together. She has seen the fruits of labor changing the culture and climate within the schools and town. Ms. Legault is very proud of the community and teachers. She shared that the district spent \$250,000 on curriculum and instruction this year. That Mr. Shea worked with Chief Allen on obtaining a safety grant for school upgrades. The tech department has worked very hard on improvements and we now have a state of the art fire wall in place. The boiler project is behind as a result of a slow down on obtaining the steel from Canada. The new date of completion is 10/15/19 and she wants the community to know every worker

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on the project has filled out a CORI form before the start of school and the workers have been told to not engage with the parents or students at any time.

- ❖ Varsity Football tri-scrimmage against Hingham on Saturday, August 31th at 10:00 A.M. at the East Bridgewater Jr/Sr. High School.
- ❖ FY20 Bus Routes- we have received appeals for some routes and have worked hard looking at them and determining if a change was warranted. We cannot send buses to every door or down every cul-de-sac.
- ❖ Chief Allen asked her to remind people that the garage is being built and the small access road is shut during this time. She is still hoping to get a grant to open up the driveway at Central School.
- ❖ Go Buckets- Superintendent Legault thanked Dewhurst Lumber for providing free buckets for the district and tools at cost. Every teacher in every classroom received a bucket today.
- ❖ Patrick Leonard – Athletics and Athletic Trainer Evan Chandra, Mr. Leonard said they had 325 kids sign up for fall sports with 50 girls coming out for volleyball. He thanked Evan for the outstanding job he has done over the last 4 years. Football has had a scrimmage, boys soccer is going to West Bridgewater and on Wednesday the girls had their first scrimmage; field hockey will play on Thursday. He asked the community to be flexible on time changes while they deal with issues and new policies. Mr. Chandra said he is entering his 5th year in East Bridgewater and is currently implementing a new heat policy that has been mandated by MIAA. There needs to be cooling zones set up at every practice or game; this is done with tents, tubs, and ice. There is a protocol that needs to be in place if they feel someone is overheating a rectal temperature need to be taken because they cannot be transported until the internal temperature goes below 102; this is a lifesaving matter. Superintendent Legault said school counsel has the protocols and is determining if we can follow them. Once this is done we will make sure the parents are made aware of them.
- ❖ The band has already won a few awards and they will be coming to our meeting on the 10th in their new uniforms and will play for us.
- ❖ School lunches – breakfast will be served at all of the schools and at the JRSRHS it will be from 6:45-7:30 am. Snack prices are 1.25, water 1.00. Lunch prices have remained the same and are: 2.75 at Central School, 2.85 at Mitchell School, and 3.00 at the JRSRHS.
- ❖ We have had requests from some parents that if they have children that participate in both music and athletics that they only need to pay one user fee. The Superintendent feels financially we are in a good place and should be able to do this. Mrs. Pennington would like to revisit this at the next meeting and Mr. Rhuda would like to know the financial impact on the district.
- ❖ FY19 appointments
 - Teachers- list available upon request

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Reports & Discussions:

- ❖ Overview of the Office of the Assistant Superintendent of Schools.
 - The school year began last week with a new teacher welcome luncheon and they spoke about the mentoring program and induction series. At the end of last year she met with the new teachers and asked them what they felt would be of benefit for new hires. They said that it would be better to have all trainings done in the first half of the year as opposed to over the course of the year. The leadership teams will offer workshops every other week as a result of this feedback.
 - The keynote speaker today was Dr. Katie Novak. She is internationally known for UDL and is also a part time Assistant Superintendent. She eloquently spoke to the staff today and told them this is not a one year deal. The district purchased a book on UDL for every teacher. They did an ice breaker with the staff teaming up to do activities. It showed you can do fun stuff with students while having an academic base allowing us to hit all learners. We are currently in the exploratory phase now and she met with the team last week and they will start to create goals. The students are excited that they will have a voice and a choice.

Action Items:

- ❖ Action is required on the School Committee Meeting minutes from the June 20, 2019.
Motion: McKinnon/Higgins Vote: 4 in favor, Maltz abstained
- ❖ Action is required on the minutes from the August 7, 2019 School Committee Workshop.
Motion: McKinnon/Rhuda Vote: 4 in favor, Maltz abstained
- ❖ Action is required, after review, to approve accounts payable warrant 5V dated 7/31/2019, 7SV dated 8/14/19.
Motion: Maltz/Rhuda Vote: 5 in favor
- ❖ Action is required on payroll warrants 53PS dated 6/26/19, 2PS dated 7/10/19, 4PS dated 7/24/19, 6PS dated 8/7/19 and 8PS dated 8/21/19.
Motion: Maltz/Higgins Vote: 5 in favor
- ❖ Action is required by the School Committee to waive the three reading process and vote on the first reading of the recommended changes to School Committee Policy, File: JLCD, Administering Medicines to Students.
Motion: Maltz/McKinnon Vote: 5 in favor
- ❖ Action is required by the School Committee to approve the recommended changes to the School Committee Policy, File: JLCD, Administering Medicines to Students.
Motion: Maltz/Higgins Vote: 5 in favor
- ❖ Action is required by the School Committee to approve payment of the school crossing guards' salary from the Transportation Fees Revolving account (26-330-762-5131) for the 2019-2020 school year.
Motion: McKinnon/Maltz Vote: 5 in favor

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- ❖ Action is required by the School Committee to accept the very generous donation of \$1,000 from Mr. and Mrs. West to the Grid Iron Club.

Motion: McKinnon/Maltz

Vote: 5 in favor

- ❖ Action is required by the School Committee on the request of Tessa Ryan to take a Personal Day on Tuesday, September 3, 2019. Ms. Ryan is making this request to attend an out of state family obligation. Superintendent Legault recommends approval of Ms. Ryan's request.

Motion: Maltz/Rhuda

Vote: 5 in favor

Motion to close at Maltz/Rhuda 8:46 PM:

Vote: 5 in favor

Respectfully Submitted by,

Joanne M. Benner
School Committee Clerk

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