A regular meeting of the East Bridgewater School Committee was held on Thursday, March 20, 2014, at 6:30 PM at the Anne Kenneally Hynes Library in the East Bridgewater Jr/Sr High School. A motion to adjourn to Executive Session was made by Kitchenham/McKinnon. At 7:38 PM the Committee returned to open session. Members present were: Chairperson George McCabe, Vice-Chairperson Jennifer Kitchenham, Secretary Elizabeth Hayes, Keith Boyle, Gordon McKinnon, Superintendent of Schools John Moretti and Recording Clerk Joanne Benner. Heather Graham was not in attendance.

Also in attendance were: Principals Andrew Gentile, Gina Williams, and Paul Vieira, Pupil Personnel Director Marie Grable, Director of Technology Rob King, Facilities Manager Brian Kiely, Food Service Director James Fluevog, Bill Lucini from Lucini Bus, and community members.

Chairperson George McCabe opened the meeting at 7:44 PM with The Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairperson McCabe began by stating that this would be Mrs. Hayes last of, “thousands of meetings”; she has been serving on the Committee since 2003. Mrs. Hayes will be greatly missed and Mr. McCabe said he has never seen anyone work harder for the East Bridgewater School community while always having the student’s best interest in the forefront. Mrs. Hayes was presented a gift from the Committee and assured by Chairperson Kitchenham that a citation from Senator Kennedy and Representative Diehl’s offices were being prepared. Mrs. Hayes said it has been an honor to serve and wishes the best of luck to whoever takes her place as well as to the existing Committee members.

**CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED** — A letter from Lynch, Malloy, Marini, LLP, Certified Public Accountants was received regarding the end of the year audit and report. Procedures included in the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Compliance Supplement or Massachusetts School Districts to the Districts’ End of Year Pupil and Financial Report for the year ended June 30, 2013. "No findings were found to note in connection with this engagement.” A “no findings” means the School District is in compliance the areas audited by the accountants.

**PREVIOUS BUSINESS**

- Action is required on the minutes from the School Committee meeting held on February 27, 2014. Minutes presented.
  
  Motion: Kitchenham/Boyle
  
  Vote: 4 in favor, Hayes abstained

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EAST BRIDGEWATER SCHOOL COMMUNITY MISSION STATEMENT
The East Bridgewater Public Schools provides a comprehensive curriculum that prepares students to be critical thinkers, problem solvers, and effective communicators ready to assume their positions as responsible productive citizens.
• Action is required on accounts payable warrant 38V dated 3/19/14. Warrant presented.
  Motion: Kitchenham/Boyle       Vote: 5 in favor

• Action is required on payroll warrant 38P dated 3/19/14. Warrant presented.
  Motion: Boyle/Hayes            Vote: 4 in favor, McCabe abstained

• Action is required on the Food Service Recommendation for self-operation.
  Motion: Kitchenham/McKinnon    Vote: 4 in favor, 1 opposed/Boyle

• Action is required on the Special Education Transportation Recommendation.
  Motion: Kitchenham/Hayes       Vote: 4 in favor, 1 opposed/Boyle

• Action is required on the FY15 Budget Recommendation. - The Committee and Superintendent
  Moretti are in the process of working with the town to bridge the gap between what has been
  presented by the school district and what the town has allotted for the FY15 budget.
  Superintendent Moretti is prepared to make cuts totaling $773,500 to close the gap. The selected
  cuts are: textbooks-$225,000, SPED transportation-$150,000, Norfolk Agricultural-$50,000, two
  secretaries-$70,000, one Central Office Secretary $40,000, one Speech Pathologist-$40,000,
  four Teaching Assistants-$88,500, general supplies and materials-$50,000, one Kindergarten
  teacher-$50,000, Central Office-$10,000.
  Motion: McKinnon/Kitchenham    Vote: 5 in favor

• Superintendent Search Timeline - Chairperson Kitchenham has been selected as the Chair of the
  Superintendent search. Mrs. Kitchenham feels confident in moving forward and has a detailed
  outline from Superintendent Moretti with the suggested time frames on moving forward. The
  search will be a community effort and there will be a variety of committees formed to aid in the
  search. Mr. McCabe pointed out that the final decision as to who is hired is made by the School
  Committee.

NEW BUSINESS

• Chairperson McCabe added the route 18 crosswalk to the new business discussion. He informed
  the audience that since it is a state road nothing can be done without the states approval. It would
  cost the town approximately $100,000 to get state involvement and on top of this a crossing
  guard would need to be hired. An organization called the Old Colony Planning Council is working
  on assisting East Bridgewater with the state to move forward. At no cost to the town they cut
  through the red tape helping to expedite the request. Mr. McCabe said enough students attempt
  to cross there that he feels it is important to have this come to fruition and would like to see a
  sidewalk constructed there as well.

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prepares students to be critical thinkers, problem solvers, and effective
communicators ready to assume their positions as responsible productive citizens.
• Jr/Sr High School Program of Studies - In October the School Committee approved adding new classes to the Jr/Sr High School Program of Studies. The students have embraced the new courses as reflected in the number of students signing up for them.

• Mid-Cycle Coordinated Review - Every six years the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education evaluates SPED programs. Half way through they perform a mid-cycle review. Superintendent Moretti is very pleased to notify the Committee that our SPED Department received an exemplary report. Two minor issues were found concerning paperwork compliance and they can be easily fixed. The areas are the number of copies sent to families on IEP’s and having progress reports in students files. The SPED staff deserves a tremendous amount of credit for this accomplishment.

• 2014-2015 School Calendar - Teachers will return to school on 9/2/14 and students on 9/4/14. The EBEA has been given a copy of the calendar and there is open discussion on its adoption. There will be a full day of professional development on 11/4/14 coinciding with Election Day. Superintendent Moretti listened to concerns regarding the number of ½ days in March and is going to bring the calendar back to his administration for further review. Additionally, the Committee would like to continue with a ½ day before Thanksgiving as opposed to the full day off as scheduled.

Motion to adjourn at 9:52: Kitchenham/Boyle       Vote:  5 in favor

Respectfully submitted by,

Joanne M. Benner
Recording Clerk

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