

**EASTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
EASTON, MA**

Minutes of School Committee meeting, June 10, 2010, Simmons Lecture Hall, convened at 6:35 p.m. Present: Caroline O'Neill, Jane Martin, Donna Abelli, Colleen Less, Rebecca Turley, Allen Duarte, and Dr. Green.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

None.

MINUTES:

None.

**OLD BUSINESS:
Schedule of Payments:**

Circulated for signatures.

Revised 2010-2011 Operating Budget:

Dr. Green reviewed the process. He spoke of the March 10th workshop meeting at which he outlined some of the variables that are on the table regarding the development of next year's budget. Relative to the School System Budget, as part of the total town budget for next year, the Committee had identified at this stage the first draft of a preliminary Adjusted Level-Services Budget with a 4.86% increase request. Draft #1 included 4.6 FTE positions that we had identified to address Special Education needs, class size issues, and staff needed to implement a proposed block and drop schedule at the high school as well as develop a more uniform schedule for grades 6, 7 and 8 at the Middle School.

Dr. Green mentioned that word was out that the Proposed reductions in FY11 Chapter 70 and Local Aid were estimated to be 4% lower than the Governor's house of both Chapter 70 and Unrestricted Local Aid.

As a result of this, Dr. Green pointed out that Draft #2 Budget was pared down to a 3.98% increase. The budget sub-committee met again and had more definitive figures and found a gap. Once again the school budget was revisited and was reduced to 3.5%. This budget included a net effect of 1.6 FTE positions.

Revised 2010-2011 Operating Budget(continued):

Another budget sub-committee meeting was held and, based upon a budget gap that still existed, the school department budget was revised, reflecting a 2.98% increase.

The Superintendent stated that this is the budget that will be presented at Town Meeting. The FY2011 Adjusted Level Services Budget is \$31,860,839, which represents a difference of \$922,648 from last year’s budget.

Vice Chair Martin said that she was pleased to have the scheduling change occur at the Middle School but at the same time was disappointed that we could not implement the block and drop schedule at the high school. She remarked that it is hopeful that Phase II could be implemented next year.

Chair O’Neill totally agreed with Vice Chair Martin. She added that we were reluctant because the budget could be even tighter. Chair O’Neill stated that we face a \$450,000 deficit as we start the year off. She was impressed with the work that went into the “block and drop” and is genuinely regretful that we could not implement it this year. Chair O’Neill added that we have been working cooperatively with the Town and appreciates the support given by David Colton and the Selectmen.

NEW BUSINESS:

Retirements:

Custodian – Center School:

Chair O’Neill read a letter from Denis “Mike” Brophy indicating his retirement from the school system effective July 31, 2010.

Dr. Green added that Mike began his work as a Building Custodian in 1990 at North Easton Grammar School and then moved to Center School with the staff when NEG was closed. He has done a great job and will be missed.

On a motion by Vice Chair Martin, seconded by Mrs. Less, and with a 5-0 vote the Committee accepted the retirement of Denis “Mike” Brophy with regret to be effective July 31, 2010.

Resignations:

None.

Appointments:

None.

Professional Status Recommendations:

Dr. Green began by thanking Dotti O'Donnell for the outstanding job she has done on the Professional Status Recommendation book which will be given to the recipients next October at the Professional Status Reception. The reception is held just prior to the regular School Committee meeting in October.

Dr. Green explained that by statute individuals must be recommended to the Superintendent and must commit to enter the 4th year of teaching in the District in the Fall. He stated that a public vote of support by the Committee on these recommendations would be appreciated.

Chair O'Neill asked the Committee for support of the Professional Status recommendations as follows:

On a motion by Vice Chair Martin, seconded by Mrs. Less, and with a 5-0 vote, the Committee supported the recommendation of Laura Ayasse (OAHS) for Professional Status.

On a motion by Vice Chair Martin, seconded by Mrs. Less, and with a 5-0 vote, the Committee supported the recommendation of Thomas Baldino (OAHS) for Professional Status.

On a motion by Vice Chair Martin, seconded by Mrs. Less, and with a 5-0 vote, the Committee supported the recommendation of Jordan DiStefano (EMS) for Professional Status.

On a motion by Vice Chair Martin, seconded by Mrs. Less, and with a 5-0 vote, the Committee supported the recommendation of Paula Donahue (EMS) for Professional Status.

On a motion by Vice Chair Martin, seconded by Mrs. Less, and with a 5-0 vote, the Committee supported the recommendation of Donna Donovan (HHR)for Professional Status.

On a motion by Vice Chair Martin, seconded by Mrs. Less, and with a 5-0 vote, the Committee supported the recommendation of Samantha Hill (PKV)for Professional Status.

Professional Status Recommendations(continued):

On a motion by Vice Chair Martin, seconded by Mrs. Less, and with a 5-0 vote, the Committee supported the recommendation of Samantha Izzo (PKV) for Professional Status.

On a motion by Vice Chair Martin, and seconded by Mrs. Less, and with a 5-0 vote, the Committee supported the recommendation of Pamela Large (MH) for Professional Status.

On a motion by Vice Chair Martin, seconded by Mrs. Turley, and with a 4-1 vote, the Committee supported the recommendation of Megan Campbell (OAHS) for Professional Status.

On a motion by Vice Chair Martin, seconded by Mrs. Less, and with a 5-0 vote, the Committee supported the recommendation of Colleen Lutkevich (OAHS) for Professional Status.

On a motion by Vice Chair Martin, seconded by Mrs. Less, and with a 5-0 vote, the Committee supported the recommendation of Colleen Maxwell (PKV) for Professional Status.

On a motion by Vice Chair Martin, seconded by Mrs. Less, and with a 5-0 vote, the Committee supported the recommendation of Barbara Ratcliffe (OAHS) for Professional Status.

On a motion by Vice Chair Martin, seconded by Mrs. Less, and with a 5-0 vote, the Committee supported the recommendation of Lisa St. Mary (OAHS) for Professional Status.

On a motion by Vice Chair Martin, seconded by Mrs. Less, and with a 5-0 vote, the Committee supported the recommendation of Danielle Welch (EMS) for Professional Status.

On a motion by Vice Chair Martin, seconded by Mrs. Less, and with a 5-0 vote, the Committee supported the recommendation of Elizabeth Hoitt (MH) for Professional Status.

Professional Status Recommendations(continued):

On a motion by Vice Chair Martin, seconded by Mrs. Less, and with a 5-0 vote, the Committee supported the recommendation of Shira Werb (FLO) for Professional Status.

Mrs. Less commented that the students have a sense of what a good teacher is.

Mr. Giuggio was asked the criteria for recommending a teacher for Professional Status. He responded that the teacher must possess good skills, be certified, and possess good observations and evaluations.

Mr. Paul interjected that there is an evaluation process that was collaboratively bargained. He added that there is nothing in the teachers' contract for student input. Mr. Paul did say that teachers will ask students how things are going, what went well, and what needs improvement.

Central Office Lease Extension:

Dr. Green stated that a copy of the Central Office lease is included in the members' packets. We advertised according to State requirements appearing in the Central Register and Brockton Enterprise. The successful bidder is Douglas A. King Builders. The lease covers a three year period, July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2013.

A brief discussion took place.

On a motion by Mrs. Less, seconded by Mrs. Turley, and with a 5-0 vote, the Committee approved the Central Office Lease with Douglas A. King Builders for July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2013.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

SCHOOL COUNCIL PLANS:

Dr. Green announced that there will be presentations from the School Council Chairs of **Oliver Ames High School, Easton Middle School, and Center School**. Copies of the respective plans have been included in the members' packets.

Each principal provided a powerpoint presentation on their accomplishments this past year and the goals that have been set for 2010-2011.

SCHOOL COUNCIL PLANS(continued):

A dialogue took place by the Committee with each of the building principals, whereby members asked various questions of each principal. The Committee wants to be assured that the goals are in line with district goals.

The second evening of presentations of School Council Plans was again delightful for the Committee. It is quite obvious that the principals are devoted to their staff and students and take pride in the building that they manage.

On a motion by Vice Chair Martin, seconded by Mrs. Turley, and with a 5-0 vote, the Committee accepted and approved the OAHS School Council Plan for 2010-2011.

On a motion by Vice Chair Martin, seconded by Mrs. Less, and with a 5-0 vote, the Committee accepted and approved School Council Plan for Easton Middle School for 2010-2011.

On a motion by Mrs. Less, seconded by Vice Chair Martin, and with a 5-0 vote, the Committee accepted and approved the School Council Plan for Center School for 2010-2011.

Unanticipated Expenses:

None.

SUPERINTENDENT'S NOTES:

None.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE ISSUES:

Vice Chair Martin thanked the parents who coordinated the Safe Grad Night and all the volunteers for their efforts to support the many endeavors across the district.

Chair O'Neill commented on the wonderful graduation that was held on Sunday. It was the first time that graduation was held in the new state-of-the-art auditorium and it worked out beautifully.

Chair O'Neill spoke about Class Night and the multiple awards and scholarships given and also the recent retirement events that were held.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

On a motion by Vice Chair Martin, seconded by Mrs. Less, and with a 5-0 vote, the Committee entered into Executive Session at 8:58 p.m. for the purpose of approving the Minutes of 4/29/10 and to discuss contract negotiations through collective bargaining.

APPROVAL OF EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES:

On a motion by Vice Chair Martin, seconded by Mrs. Less, and with a 5-0 vote, the Executive Session Minutes of 4/29/10 were approved.

ADJOURNMENT:

On a motion by Mrs. Less, seconded by Vice Chair Martin, and with all members in agreement, the meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael A. Green, Ed.D.
Recording Secretary