

**EASTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
EASTON, MA**

**EASTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING  
WORKSHOP MINUTES  
Wednesday, March 10, 2010**

**Minutes of the School Committee Workshop Meeting of March 10, 2010**, convened at 5:30 p.m. in the Simmons Lecture Hall. Present were: Caroline O'Neill, William Braun, Colleen Less, Rebecca Turley, and Mike Green.

The Superintendent reviewed a first draft of the FY2011 Operating Budget and explained that it was an Adjusted Level-Services Budget, which would allow the school system to maintain the current operations with an identified number of positions to address transition issues, class size, special education and/or NEAS&C recommendations.

Discussion ensued regarding the budget development process as well as the timeline to be followed.

On a motion by Dr. Braun, seconded by Mrs. Turley, and with a 4-0 vote, the members voted to adjourn the workshop meeting at 6:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michael A. Green".

Michael A. Green, Ed. D.  
Secretary

**EASTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
EASTON, MA**

**Minutes of School Committee meeting, March 10, 2010**, Simmons Lecture Hall, convened at 7:02 p.m. Present: Caroline O'Neill, Dr. William Braun, Colleen Less, Rebecca Turley and Dr. Michael Green. Mrs. Martin was absent.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**

None.

**MINUTES:**

On a motion by Dr. Braun, seconded by Mrs. Turley, and with a 4-0 vote, the Workshop Minutes of 1/21/10 were approved.

On a motion by Dr. Braun, seconded by Mrs. Less, and with a 4-0 vote, the Workshop Minutes of 2/4/10 were approved.

On a motion by Dr. Braun, seconded by Mrs. Turley, and with a 4-0 vote, the Regular Meeting Minutes of 2/4/10 were approved.

**OLD BUSINESS:  
Schedule of Payments:**

Circulated for signatures.

**Update on the Assistant Superintendent's Search Process:**

Dr. Green stated that the initial screening of candidates has been completed. He reported that the interview process is currently being scheduled as we move forward.

**NEW BUSINESS:  
Appointments:**

None.

**Retirements:**

None.

**Resignations:**

None.

**Ultimate Frisbee Club Proposal:**

Dr. Green mentioned that a number of students and faculty members are interested in starting an Ultimate Frisbee Club Team at the high school. He introduced Mr. Schussler, a high school faculty member and club leader, and co-captains Patrick Babbit and Noah Newberger, and team supporter Brett Baron. They are present this evening to explain the request and answer any questions the Committee might have.

Mr. Schussler explained the concept of Ultimate Frisbee and how he got involved. He said this activity attracts a wider participation of the student body. It is not a contact sport but provides a good physical workout.

The students provided the history of the sport and the rules of the game. It was noted that this sport has gained popularity at many colleges and high schools throughout the USA. There are schools in the Hockomock League that have teams or have expressed an interest in Ultimate Frisbee which would be a great "community builder". Although there are Easton students already playing this sport, formalizing it would allow them to compete with other districts and promote school spirit. The students would like to see Easton be one of the "initial" schools to become organized. As this would be a school sponsored athletic activity, the insurance would be provided by the Town General Liability and the EPS Athletic insurance. This sport is played in the spring and possibly the fall, depending on field availability.

A brief discussion took place.

Mrs. Less expressed her appreciation for organizing this activity. She realizes that this sport is not as competitive as other sports and likes the fact that it doesn't require athletic ability which would promote more participation.

On a motion by Mrs. Less, seconded by Dr. Braun, and with a 4-0 vote, the Committee approved the Ultimate Frisbee Club proposal.

**Athletic Programs – EMS Girls Field Hockey:**

Dr. Green stated that Jim VonEuw and John Giuggio would like to start an Easton Middle School field hockey team for grades 6, 7 and 8. They are here this evening to explain their request and answer any questions.

**Athletic Programs – EMS Girls Field Hockey(continued):**

Linda Friend, a parent, will make the presentation, and Janice Sundell, Physical Education Instructor and Varsity Field Hockey Coach, is here in support of this proposal. Linda wishes to organize and coach this team as a volunteer.

Mr. Giuggio remarked that the EMS is looking to add more sports to their co-curricular activities. He added that field hockey is a popular sport and would like this proposal to be given consideration by the Committee.

Mr. VonEuw stated that there are no feeder programs. He said that field hockey is a great game for kids and another outlet for girls to participate.

Mrs. Friend provided the Committee with background information on her own experiences with field hockey as a high school student when she resided in Canada. Her interest continued when she moved to Easton. She has two daughters who are playing field hockey in another league. She continued to describe how the program would be run at the Middle School level, i.e. coordinating teams, rules of the game, establishing competitions with other towns, officiating, etc. The only uniform needed is shorts and shirts so the girls look like the high school team. Mrs. Friend pointed out that grade 6 would only compete with other grade 6 teams and that grades 7 and 8 would compete together. In addition, there is no cost to the school department. The funding is totally supported by the participants. Mrs. Friend stated that parents are willing to pay for their child to participate. She said it would be an 8-week program and that scheduling field time would be done through Mr. VonEuw. The plan is to have this activity take place in the Spring and Fall. In addition, Mrs. Friend said that a couple of women have volunteered to assist her with this endeavor.

A question and answer period followed.

On a motion by Dr. Braun, seconded by Mrs. Less and with a 4-0 vote, the Committee approved the proposal for an EMS Field Hockey team as presented.

**2010-2011 School Committee Meeting Schedule (First Reading):**

Dr. Green pointed out that he had included in the Committee's packets a draft of the School Committee Meeting Schedule for 2010-2011. This is a first reading and will be put on the April 8<sup>th</sup> agenda for a second reading.

**2010-2011 School Committee Meeting Schedule (*First Reading*)(continued):**

Chair O'Neill asked the members to look over their calendars and see if there are any conflicts.

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:**

**Unanticipated Expenses:**

None.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S NOTES:**

None.

**SCHOOL COMMITTEE ISSUES:**

Mrs. Less expressed her excitement for the OA Girls Basketball Team who won the game against Fontebonne Academy at University of MA and is very proud to be a member of the community. She commended the cast of the musical "Fiddler on the Roof" for their tremendous performance. Mrs. Less remarked how fortunate Easton is to have such a talented community.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

On a motion by Mrs. Less, seconded by Dr. Braun, and with a 4-0 vote, the Committee entered into Executive Session at 7:50 p.m. for the purpose of reviewing the Executive Session Minutes of 2/4/10, approval of Executive Session Minutes of 1/7/10, and to discuss contract negotiations through collective bargaining.

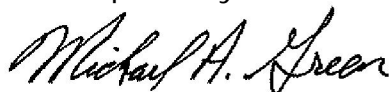
**APPROVAL OF EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES:**

On a motion by Dr. Braun, seconded by Mrs. Less, and with a 4-0 vote, the Executive Session Minutes of 1/7/10 were approved.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

On a motion by Mrs. Less, seconded by Mrs. Turley, and with all members in agreement, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael A. Green, Ed.D.

Secretary