

EASTHAMPTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
50 Payson Avenue, 2nd Floor
Easthampton, MA 01027

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

Special Session by Zoom
 Meeting ID 885 8533 4572
 Passcode: 667597

January 3, 2022
 1:15 pm

- PRESENT** Roll call vote: Cynthia Kwiecinski, Marin Goldstein, Laurie Garcia, Megan Harvey, Benjamin Hersey
- Excused** Mayor Nicole LaChapelle, Shannon Dunham
- Also Attended** Superintendent Allison LeClair, City Clerk Barbara Labombard
- Call to Order** Cynthia Kwiecinski called the meeting to order and asked the committee to vote on a Chairperson.
- Reorganization** Motion by Ms Garcia, seconded by Mr. Hersey, voted 5-0 (Roll call: Marin Goldstein, Benjamin Hersey, Megan Harvey, Laurie Garcia, Cynthia Kwiecinski) to appoint Cynthia Kwiecinski as Chairperson for the School Committee.
- Chairperson Cynthia Kwiecinski was sworn in to office by City Clerk Barbara Labombard.
- Motion by Mr. Goldstein, seconded by Ms Garcia, voted 5-0 (Roll call: Marin Goldstein, Benjamin Hersey, Megan Harvey, Laurie Garcia, Cynthia Kwiecinski) to appoint Dr. Megan Harvey as Secretary for the School Committee.
- Motion by Mr. Goldstein, seconded by Ms Garcia, voted 5-0 (Roll call: Marin Goldstein, Benjamin Hersey, Megan Harvey, Laurie Garcia, Cynthia Kwiecinski) to appoint Marin Goldstein, Cynthia Kwiecinski, and Megan Harvey to the Finance Subcommittee.
- Motion by Ms Garcia, seconded by Mr. Goldstein, voted 5-0 (Roll call: Marin Goldstein, Benjamin Hersey, Megan Harvey, Laurie Garcia, Cynthia Kwiecinski) to appoint Benjamin Hersey, Laurie Garcia, and Shannon Dunham to the Policy Review Subcommittee.
- Motion by Mr. Goldstein, seconded by Ms Garcia, voted 5-0 (Roll call: Marin Goldstein, Benjamin Hersey, Megan Harvey, Laurie Garcia, Cynthia Kwiecinski) to appoint Benjamin Hersey as CES Board Member.
- Motion by Ms Garcia, seconded by Dr. Harvey, voted 5-0 (Roll call: Marin Goldstein, Benjamin Hersey, Megan Harvey, Laurie Garcia, Cynthia Kwiecinski) to appoint Laurie Garcia as Wellness Committee member.
- Motion by Dr. Harvey, seconded by Ms Garcia, voted 5-0 (Roll call: Marin Goldstein, Benjamin Hersey, Megan Harvey, Laurie Garcia, Cynthia Kwiecinski) to appoint Marin Goldstein as Safety Committee member.
- Motion by Ms Garcia, seconded by Mr. Hersey, voted 5-0 (Roll call: Marin Goldstein, Benjamin Hersey, Megan Harvey, Laurie Garcia, Cynthia Kwiecinski) to appoint Marin Goldstein, Cynthia Kwiecinski, and Shannon Dunham to the School Building Committee.
- The committee discussed and agreed Laurie Garcia and Benjamin Hersey will serve on the Equity Committee and Dr. Megan Harvey will serve on the COVID Response Team.
- Public Speak** none
- Meeting Schedule** Motion by Mr. Hersey, seconded by Mr. Goldstein, voted 5-0 (Roll call: Marin Goldstein, Benjamin Hersey, Megan Harvey, Laurie Garcia, Cynthia Kwiecinski) to approved the meeting schedule as presented with meetings to begin at 6:00 pm.
- St. Pat Parade** Cynthia Kwiecinski, Laurie Garcia, Megan Harvey, and Benjamin Hersey expressed they will march in the St. Patrick's Day Parade.
- A/P** Motion by Dr. Harvey, seconded by Mr. Goldstein, voted 5-0 (Roll call: Marin Goldstein, Benjamin Hersey, Megan Harvey, Laurie Garcia, Cynthia Kwiecinski) to approve the accounts payable authorization for payment dated 12/16/2021 in the amount of \$246,465.39.
- Payroll** Motion by Dr. Harvey, seconded by Mr. Goldstein, voted 5-0 (Roll call: Marin Goldstein, Benjamin Hersey, Megan Harvey, Laurie Garcia, Cynthia Kwiecinski) to approve the school payroll dated 12/16/2021 in the amount of 689,379.87.

Budget Transf. Motion by Dr. Harvey, seconded by Ms Garcia, voted 5-0 (Roll call: Marin Goldstein, Benjamin Hersey, Megan Harvey, Laurie Garcia, Cynthia Kwiecinski) to approve the budget transfer request of \$49,160 from speech pathologist to school adjustment counselor Center and Pepin.

Other

The committee discussed making changes to the order of the agenda and public speak times. Ms Garcia inquired about surplus items (more specifically books and tables) from White Brook Middle School to Mountain View School. Dr. LeClair expressed the city guidelines are being followed and Mr. Michael Owens is handling the process. Chairperson Kwiecinski addressed the need for community members to follow the proper chain of command in regards to issues -- reminding that people should start with the correct person, be it teacher, then principal, then superintendent, then school committee rather than contacting school committee members immediately. Mr. Hersey inquired of school plans regarding the Omicron Variant of COVID and snow days. Dr. LeClair expressed a message is going to families today based on state/DESE guidelines; KN95 masks are mandatory, weekly pooled testing is ongoing for students and staff. If needed due to high numbers, we may call a snow day as the state has not approved remote learning except if all five snow days have been used. Dr. LeClair reminded the committee Easthampton has a very high vaccination rate (95/96% of all staff) and student vaccination rates are increasing as younger students become eligible by the CDC. Dr. Harvey requested the Covid Response Team begin meeting weekly on Tuesdays.

Adjourn

Chairperson Kwiecinski asked for a roll call vote to go into executive session and stated the committee will not return to regular session, (Roll call: Marin Goldstein, Benjamin Hersey, Megan Harvey, Laurie Garcia, Cynthia Kwiecinski). Time: 2:33 p.m.

DocuSigned by:

Megan W Harvey

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Secretary