

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

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

Zoom Meeting

Meeting ID: 88236579615
Password: 093904

January 25, 2022
6:00 p.m.

Present Chair Cynthia Kwiecinski, Megan Harvey, Marin Goldstein, Laurie Garcia, Benjamin Hersey, Mayor Nicole LaChapelle (arrived 6:12 pm), Superintendent Allison LeClair, Student Representative Caela Scanlon

Excused Shannon Dunham

Call to Order Chair Kwiecinski called the meeting to order with a roll call 5-0 (Megan Harvey, Marin Goldstein, Ben Hersey, Laurie Garcia, Cynthia Kwiecinski,) and announced this meeting is being held by Zoom and Easthampton Media is recording the meeting.

Corresp. Dr. Harvey updated the committee on correspondence received from Lindsy Mailer regarding absences and Leah Ewing regarding the consideration of joining Wait Til 8th.

Gifts Motion by Dr. Harvey, seconded by Ms Garcia, roll call vote 5-0 (Megan Harvey, Marin Goldstein, Ben Hersey, Laurie Garcia, Cynthia Kwiecinski) to approve with gratitude and appreciation from Matthew Still, Eastern Action Sports Team in collaboration with the Elementary PTO for the generous donation of the BMX bike show provided to Center and Pepin School students.

Public Speak Chair Kwiecinski opened public speak time: 6:05 pm. Maddie McDougall updated the committee on the youth programs she offers – she expressed she also provided the information at a recent city council meeting. Public speak closed, time 6:08 pm.

Presentation Dr. LeClair stated the Healthy Youth presentation will be postponed until the first meeting in March due to family health issues with the presenter.

Supt. Update Dr. LeClair updated the committee on the \$161,000 competitive, multi-year grant Easthampton was recently awarded for Social and Emotional Learning.

Dr. LeClair updated the committee on the need to make a change to the 2021-2022 school calendar for Maple School students only due to the recent cancellation of school at Maple due to boiler issues. Parents and staff at Maple School are in support of having Friday, January 28 a school day for Maple School only.

Motion by Mayor LaChapelle, seconded by Ms Garcia, roll call vote 6-0 (Megan Harvey, Marin Goldstein, Ben Hersey, Laurie Garcia, Mayor LaChapelle, Cynthia Kwiecinski) to suspend rules for emergency purposes.

Motion by Ms Garcia, seconded by Mayor LaChapelle, roll call vote 6-0 (Megan Harvey, Marin Goldstein, Ben Hersey, Mayor LaChapelle, Laurie Garcia, Cynthia Kwiecinski) to allow there to be a change from the scheduled PD day that was scheduled for this coming Friday to be moved to the end of the year only for Maple St. school to allow student to get back with the rest for the calendar.

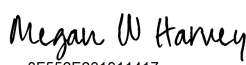
Dr. LeClair updated the committee and public that this has been in motion since last week and parents are aware of this requested change.

Dr. LeClair updated the at home testing kits available through the state and allows testing two times per week. This allows the district to do away with test and stay and contact tracing – this is no longer necessary in the stage we are in with COVID. Both the state and city are no longer doing contact tracing. Families are encouraged to sign up, information was sent to families by email last week. It is an additional opt in from pooled testing. This will start next week.

Dr. LeClair updated the committee on the shut down / two week pause of spectators at sporting events. We are moving to have each athlete be allowed to have four spectators attend sporting events. The

Mountain View gym is enormous and plenty of room to do this. This is the recommendation of the Covid Response Team along with encouraging appropriate KN95 or surgical masking. Dr. LeClair would like this change to start as early as tomorrow.

- SAA Update Caela Scanlon updated the committee on student council activities, positive feedback received on events such as hot chocolate day; committees have been formed to help organize plans to focus on specific topics; spirit week planned for the week before February break; and student council every Friday spirit day.
- Policy has not yet met. Ms Garcia is now the contact for MASC for policies. Dr. LeClair has not received any information on new policies.
- Finance has not met, next meeting scheduled for February 7.
- CES has not met, next meeting is tomorrow.
- COVID Advisory Dr. Harvey updated the committee on limited contact tracing on needed students, 472 students opted in to new testing, high quality masks have been order for the schools, updated the committee on percentage of vaccinated children, there will be another vaccine clinic for all school aged students, and city dashboard has been updated but does not include pediatric cases.
- Safety no update
- Wellness Ms Garcia would like to form a new committee with same array of members as last time. The first winter walk event will happen February 2 for Mountain View students only.
- Other Mr. Goldstein did not work on the letter to DESE due to changes made on the state side. Dr. Harvey expressed it would be nice to have the option to continue the test and stay for the small population of students who chose not be vaccinated.
- Minutes Motion by Dr. Harvey, seconded by Mr. Goldstein, roll call vote 6-0 (Megan Harvey, Laurie Garcia, Mayor LaChapelle, Ben Hersey, Marin Goldstein, Cynthia Kwiecinski) to approve minutes of January 11, 2022 regular meeting with the stipulation to withhold executive session minutes until matters are resolved.
- Warrant Motion by Dr. Harvey, seconded by Mr. Goldstein, roll call vote 6-0 (Megan Harvey, Laurie Garcia, Mayor LaChapelle, Marin Goldstein, Ben Hersey, Cynthia Kwiecinski) to approve accounts payable authorization for payment dated 1/13/2022 in the amount of \$297,984.66.
- Payroll Motion by Dr. Harvey, seconded by Mr. Goldstein, roll call vote 6-0 (Megan Harvey, Laurie Garcia, Mayor LaChapelle, Marin Goldstein, Ben Hersey, Cynthia Kwiecinski) to approve School Payroll dated 1/13/2022 in the amount of \$566,246.25.
- Next Meetings Chair Kwiecinski announced the next meetings will be held 2/8, 3/8, 3/22 with the Public Hearing on the Budget, 4/12, 4/26, 5/10, 5/24, and 6/14/2022.
- Adjourn Motion by Ms Garcia, seconded by Mr. Goldstein, roll call 6-0 (Megan Harvey, Laurie Garcia, Mayor LaChapelle, Ben Hersey, Marin Goldstein, Cynthia Kwiecinski) Time: 7:20 pm.

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Secretary