

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

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

Zoom Meeting

Meeting ID: 880 1490 9454
Password: 695971

March 8, 2022
6:01 p.m.

- Present Chair Cynthia Kwiecinski, Megan Harvey, Marin Goldstein, Laurie Garcia, Benjamin Hersey, Mayor Nicole LaChapelle, Superintendent Allison LeClair, Student Representative Caela Scanlon
- Excused Shannon Dunham
- Call to Order Chair Kwiecinski called the meeting to order with a roll call 6-0 (Laurie Garcia, Megan Harvey, Ben Hersey, Marin Goldstein, Mayor LaChapelle, Cynthia Kwiecinski,) and announced this meeting is being held by Zoom and Easthampton Media is recording the meeting.
- Corresp. Dr. Harvey updated and reviewed the many emails of correspondence the committee has received since the last meeting.
- Gifts Motion by Dr. Harvey, seconded by Ms Garcia, roll call vote 6-0 (Laurie Garcia, Megan Harvey, Ben Hersey, Marin Goldstein, Mayor LaChapelle, Cynthia Kwiecinski) to approve with gratitude and appreciation from Phoebe Reader Zan and Xtian Zan Reader of Comics N More for the donation of 500 KN95 child-sized masks.
- Student Update Caela Scanlon updated the committee on the February spirit week and student council updates.
- Public Speak Chair Kwiecinski reminded the public that people need to state their name and limit talk to 3 minutes. Shelby, precinct 4 expressed concerns regarding a principal charging an electric vehicle at school using taxpayers electricity; Sindy M. invited the committee to the upcoming Inclusion Center (only) open house on March 15 from 5-7 pm; Jessica expressed her concern for masks to be made optional; Jean expressed concerns for mask mandate and mask optional; Shelly expressed concerns regarding masks optional; Osh (student) expressed concern for masks to stay in place; Shelby of Music Boosters expressed concerns with Mountain View band room issues. Chair closed public speak, time: 6:30 pm.
- Healthy Youth Update Julie Anne Levin and Rebecca Edwards presented an update to the committee on the Healthy Youth Coalition.
- EHS Program Of Studies Principal Evans updated the committee on the proposed changes to the Program of Studies (see attached).
Motion by Mr. Goldstein, seconded by Dr. Harvey, roll call vote (6-0) (Laurie Garcia, Megan Harvey, Ben Hersey, Marin Goldstein, Mayor LaChapelle, Cynthia Kwiecinski) to approve the changes to the EHS Program of Studies as submitted. (see attached)
- Calendar tabled to the next meeting – Ms Garcia expressed her desire for discussions with the Equity Committee to be taken into account with the calendar.
- Boosters Mr. Miller updated the committee on the request for the Baseball Boosters to go to Cooperstown Baseball Hall of Fame May 13 and 14. The costs for the trip will be covered by funds raised by the boosters.
Motion by Ms Garcia, seconded by Dr. Harvey, roll call vote 6-0 (Laurie Garcia, Megan Harvey, Ben Hersey, Marin Goldstein, Mayor LaChapelle, Cynthia Kwiecinski) to approve the trip to Cooperstown.
Mr. Goldstein expressed his hopes for everyone to be safe and cautious while traveling.
- Covid Update Dr. LeClair updated the committee on the Covid Response Team meeting held today, the large number of vaccinations of staff and students, the large number of weekly testing taking place, and the unanimous decision of the response team to recommend the mask mandate be lifted with the caveat if numbers

increase, the mask mandate will be reviewed. (The committee will vote on the Mask Policy under subcommittee)

Policy Minutes of March 1, 2022 meeting submitted. Ms Garcia updated the committee on the recommended change to the EBCFA Face Coverings policy. JLCD Administering Medicine to Students – tabled for another meeting.

Motion by Ms Garcia, seconded by Mr. Hersey, roll call vote 6-0 (Laurie Garcia, Megan Harvey, Ben Hersey, Marin Goldstein, Mayor LaChapelle, Cynthia Kwiecinski) to require a one time reading and vote on the EBCFA Face Coverings policy change to updated the policy.

Motion by Ms Garcia, seconded by Mr. Hersey, roll call vote 5-1 (Laurie Garcia, Megan Harvey, Ben Hersey, Marin Goldstein, Mayor LaChapelle – yes; Cynthia Kwiecinski – no) to approve the changes to EBCFA Face Coverings policy as submitted with an effective start date of March 9, 2022. Dr. Harvey noted she would have liked more time (notice) for parents for the policy to take effect.

Finance Mr. Goldstein updated the committee on the recent weekly meetings of the Finance Subcommittee; the Mayor's request for a 1,2/3% level increase; the school union salary increases recently negotiated at 2% is 2/3 of the school budget; there are fixed cost increases district wide with transportation and the need for more (5) buses; and maximizing education with low class size.

Other Ms Garcia asked for a Wait til 8 presentation at an April/May meeting; Ms Garcia wished everyone a happy International Day of Women day today. Mr. Hersey asked for a SEPAC (Special Education Parent Advisory Council) presentation/update at a future meeting; Dr. Harvey updated the committee on the successful PTO (Parent Teacher Organization) winter scavenger hunt; Meadow Farms fundraiser, and the need for parent volunteers for the May family bingo night.

Minutes Motion by Dr. Harvey, seconded by Ms Garcia, roll call vote 6-0 (Laurie Garcia, Megan Harvey, Ben Hersey, Marin Goldstein, Mayor LaChapelle, Cynthia Kwiecinski) to approve minutes of February 8, 2022 regular meeting.

Payroll Motion by Dr. Harvey, seconded by Ms Garcia, roll call vote 6-0 (Laurie Garcia, Megan Harvey, Ben Hersey, Marin Goldstein, Mayor LaChapelle, Cynthia Kwiecinski) to approve School Payroll dated 2/10/2022 in the amount of \$570,012.86.

Warrant Motion by Dr. Harvey, seconded by Ms Garcia, roll call vote 6-0 (Laurie Garcia, Megan Harvey, Ben Hersey, Marin Goldstein, Mayor LaChapelle, Cynthia Kwiecinski) to approve accounts payable authorization for payment dated 2/10/2022 in the amount of \$623,172.25.

Payroll Motion by Dr. Harvey, seconded by Ms Garcia, roll call vote 6-0 (Laurie Garcia, Megan Harvey, Ben Hersey, Marin Goldstein, Mayor LaChapelle, Cynthia Kwiecinski) to approve School Payroll dated 2/24/2022 in the amount of \$566,821.98.

Warrant Motion by Dr. Harvey, seconded by Ms Garcia, roll call vote 6-0 (Laurie Garcia, Megan Harvey, Ben Hersey, Marin Goldstein, Mayor LaChapelle, Cynthia Kwiecinski) to approve accounts payable authorization for payment dated 2/24/2022 in the amount of \$254,263.14.

Next Meetings Chair Kwiecinski announced the next meetings will be held 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. Hersey, roll call 6-0 (Laurie Garcia, Megan Harvey, Ben Hersey, , Marin Goldstein, Mayor LaChapelle, Cynthia Kwiecinski) Time: 8:40 pm.

DocuSigned by:

8F552E261911417...
Secretary