
**EAST PROVIDENCE SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
OPEN SESSION – May 26, 2020**

The East Providence School Committee met for a virtual meeting on Tuesday, May 26, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. Members present were Charles Tsonos, Chair, Jessica Beauchaine, Vice Chair, Karen Oliveira, Clerk, Joel Monteiro and Anthony Ferreira. Also present were Superintendent Kathryn Crowley, Assistant Superintendents Sandra Forand and Celeste Bowler, Cheryl Mammone, Craig Enos and Ben Russell.

Mr. Tsonos called the meeting to order at 6:11 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance and moment of silence were observed.

Discussion Items

1. Layoffs of Certified and Non-Certified Staff – Superintendent Crowley explained that according to union contract obligations, layoffs have to be processed by June 1st. There is a significant shortfall in the state budget and all school districts may receive a 10% cut in state aid. It is uncertain whether there will be a second stimulus package at this time. With the current financial situation, it is unknown if and how the district will open school in September. The Superintendent is putting together a task force on re-entry of students.

There was discussion regarding the state cutting the Pre-K program. Superintendent Crowley stated the Pre-K program will remain the same and will be funded. If the state does fund the Pre-K program, the district will have the funds to recall staff members.

Action Items

1. Layoffs of Certified and Non-Certified Staff

Teachers #1-34

Motion by Ms. Oliveira, seconded by Mr. Monteiro and carried by a vote of 4-1 to approve the teacher layoffs as submitted. Mr. Ferreira voted nay.

Paraprofessionals #1-36

Motion by Mr. Monteiro, seconded by Ms. Oliveira and carried by a vote of 4-1 to approve the paraprofessional layoffs as submitted. Mr. Ferreira voted nay.

Administrative Assistants #1-5

Motion by Mr. Monteiro, seconded by Ms. Oliveira and carried by a vote of 4-1 to approve the administrative assistant layoffs as submitted. Mr. Ferreira voted nay.

Supervisory Aides #1-31

Motion by Ms. Oliveira, seconded by Mr. Monteiro and carried by a vote of 4-1 to approve the supervisory aide layoffs as submitted. Mr. Ferreira voted nay.

2. Retirements

Ms. Mammone read the retirement as follows: Laura Harris, Science Teacher at Martin Middle School, effective the end of the 2019-2020 school year.

Motion by Mr. Monteiro, seconded by Ms. Oliveira and carried by unanimous consent to accept the retirement as submitted.

3. Resignations

Ms. Mammone read the resignation as follows: Jessica Gomes, Paraprofessional at Martin Middle School, effective 5/20/2020.

Motion by Mr. Monteiro, seconded by Ms. Oliveira and carried by unanimous consent to approve the resignation as submitted.

4. Recalls from Non-Renewals

Ms. Mammone read the list of recalls from non-renewals as follows: Russell Levendusky, Social Studies Teacher at Martin Middle School; Mary Duhancik, Grade 5 Teacher at Kent Heights Elementary School; and Abigail Jaffa, Special Education, Self-Contained at Waddington Elementary School.

Motion by Ms. Oliveira, seconded by Mr. Monteiro and carried by unanimous consent to approve the recalls from non-renewals as submitted.

Adjournment

Motion by Ms. Oliveira, seconded by Mr. Monteiro and carried by unanimous consent to adjourn the meeting at 7:58 p.m. The next School Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 9 and the next Building Committee meeting will be held on Monday, June 8. The local Boys & Girls Club and the Elisha Project are holding a food distribution outside at Riverside Middle School on Thursday, May 28 from 9-11 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Corsi
Administrative Assistant

Karen Oliveira, Clerk