
EAST PROVIDENCE SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING OPEN SESSION – June 14, 2022

I. Call to Order Open Session

The East Providence School Committee met in Open Session on Tuesday, June 14, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. in the auditorium at East Providence High School. Mr. Monteiro called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. Present: Joel Monteiro, Chair, Jessica Beauchaine, Vice Chair, Max Brandle, Clerk, Jenni Azanero, Charles Tsonos, Superintendent Kathryn Crowley and Assistant Superintendent Dr. Sandra Forand.

II. Executive Session

Motion by Mr. Brandle, seconded by Ms. Azanero and carried unanimously to move into Executive Session in the main office conference room for the purpose of: Discussion re: Contract for Interim Director of Technology Pursuant to RIGL §42-46-5(a)(1); Discussion re: Contract for Director of Facilities Pursuant to RIGL §42-46-5(a)(1); Discussion re: Contract for Two Assistant Directors of Facilities Pursuant to RIGL §42-46-5(a)(1); Discussion re: Contract for Director of Teaching and Learning Pursuant to RIGL §42-46-5(a)(1); Discussion re: Contract for Assistant Principal at East Providence High School Pursuant to RIGL §42-46-5(a)(1); Discussion re: Contract for Principal at Hennessey Elementary School Pursuant to RIGL §42-46-5(a)(1); Discussion re: Contract for Assistant Principal at Martin Middle School Pursuant to RIGL §42-46-5(a)(1); Discussion re: Administrative Contracts Pursuant to RIGL §42-46-5(a)(1); and Consider & Vote on Motion to Adjourn and Convene into Public Session. Appropriate disclosure was made by the Chair concerning compliance with RIGL 42-46-5 (a)(1) indicating that any person to be discussed had been appropriately notified in advance in writing and given the opportunity to have the discussion held in public session. No request had been made.

III. Reconvene in Open Session (Regular Meeting)

Mr. Monteiro called the meeting to order at 7:46 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence were observed. The Chair reported that no votes were taken in executive session, except to return to public session. Motion by Mr. Tsonos, seconded by Ms. Beauchaine and carried by unanimous consent to seal the minutes.

IV. Student Liaison – Gayatri Buchta highlighted the happenings at the high school going on at the end of the school year.

V. Consent Agenda

Communications/Correspondence

Homeschool Requests – There were two requests to homeschool.

Approval of Minutes: May 12, 2022 Executive Session School Committee Meeting

May 12, 2022 Open Session School Committee Meeting

May 9, 2022 Building Committee Meeting

Motion by Mr. Tsonos, seconded by Ms. Azanero and carried by unanimous consent to approve the consent agenda as submitted.

VI. PTO/PTA/EPLAC Reports – Mary Nascimento reported from EPLAC that there were many exciting moments, recognitions and great progress this year. She ended the school year by thanking Jessica Beauchaine who is liaison from the School Committee and looks forward to collaborating next year.

VII. Public Comments I – Agenda Items – Karen D. Miller addressed the Committee with a concern about her stepson's teacher at Martin Middle School. Out of respect and privacy for her son, Mr. Monteiro advised her that a meeting should take place with the appropriate administrator. There will be a follow-up to the Committee on the status of this matter from Leslie Anderson.

VIII. Superintendent's Report

1. EBCAP School Based Health Center Presentation – Dennis Roy, Chief Executive Officer and Stephanie McCaffrey from East Bay Community Action Program presented an overview of what a school-based health center is and what it has to offer to students and families in the community. Their objective is to ask the School Committee to establish a partnership for a school based health center. The City owns the Sweetland building site which is across from the high school. If the Committee is interested in this proposal, they will develop an MOA with the School Committee for services. This would take place around January 2023 or later. Dr. Forand said this would be an opportunity to have a health center to refer to and would be beneficial to students and families. The program is currently at Hennessey Elementary School and is going very well and growing. They would like to open it up to all elementary schools. Mr. Monteiro said legal information is needed on liability and will need an MOA to review and approve first.
2. EPHS Club Advisors – Mr. Black submitted three new clubs requesting to establish at the high school for next year. The Audio/Visual Club Advisor along with their student members will provide technical support for a wide range of events, concerts, athletics, etc. The Herd Advisor will be responsible for recruitment of student members of the Herd and creating and supporting themes for sporting events. The Fashion Design Club Advisor will support the artistic and business-oriented sides of the fashion industry. The clubs will be meeting after school and the stipend for advisors is \$843.
3. Amended 2022-2023 School Calendar – The calendar was amended to add a professional development day on Jan 10th and two ½ days for PK-8 students on January 23rd and March 30th.
4. Arts Initiative MOA – The Governor and RIDE established an Art Re-engages Talent in all Students (ARTS) Initiative and awarded East Providence \$161,984.00 to spend on the arts for

eligible expenses between July 1, 2022 and June 30, 2023. The District will be looking at the elementary and middle schools and get feedback from the teachers. Funds will be reimbursed. The School Committee will approve the disbursements.

5. School Safety – Last week there was an issue at the high school and they had to shelter in place. All protocol was followed. The incident is presently under investigation by the police department. Each year a school safety plan is approved by the School Committee which is followed. There will be some funds available from the Governor for school safety.

Mr. Tsonos reported that there was a resolution on school safety on the city council docket last week. Mr. Cahoon proposed it and it was passed.

IX. Human Resources Report – Mr. Williamson

Appointments – Samantha Davey, Special Education Teacher at EPHS, effective 2022-2023 school year; Alexandra Doty, School Nurse at Myron J. Francis School, effective 2022-2023 school year; Christopher Murphy, Director of Facilities, effective 7/1/2022; Shane Messier, Assistant Principal at EPHS, effective 7/1/2022; Lindsey Reilly, Director of Teacher and Learning, effective 7/1/2022; Erin Tourgee, Art Teacher at Kent Heights/Hennessey Schools, effective 2022-2023 school year; Meg Voyer, Art Teacher at Orlo/Whiteknact Schools, effective 2022-2023 school year; Danny Carpenter, III, Assistant Director of Facilities, effective 7/1/2022; Tonianne Napolitano, Principal at Hennessey Elementary School, effective 7/1/2022; and Gregory McCarthy, Assistant Principal at Martin Middle School, effective 7/1/2022.

Resignations – Lira Dye, Paraprofessional at Waddington, effective 5/28/2022; Leslie Garabedian, Paraprofessional at Kent Heights, effective end of the 2022-2023 school year; and Cheyenne Schoonmaker, Grade 2 Teacher at Whiteknact, effective 8/31/2022.

Motion by Mr. Brandle, seconded by Ms. Azanero and carried by unanimous consent to accept the resignation of Lira Dye as submitted.

Motion by Ms. Azanero, seconded by Mr. Brandle and carried by unanimous consent to accept the resignation of Leslie Garabedian as submitted.

Motion by Ms. Azanero, seconded by Mr. Brandle and carried by unanimous consent to accept the resignation of Cheyenne Schoonmaker as submitted.

Exit interviews will be conducted going forward.

Retirements – None

Leaves of Absence – None

Non-Renewals – None

Recalls – Terrence Lynch, Physical Education Teacher at Myron J. Francis; Nicholas Ciringione, Pre-K Teacher at Martin and Oldham Pre-K; Heather Navarro, Grade 2 Teacher at Whiteknact; Sarah Carlson, Grade 2 Teacher at Kent Heights; Brittany O'Brien, Special Education Teacher at Kent Heights; and Jonathan Monast, Social Studies Teacher (1 yr.) at Riverside Middle School

Motion by Ms. Azanero, seconded by Mr. Brandle and carried by unanimous consent to approve the recalls as submitted.

Terminations – Paraprofessional at Waddington Elementary School, effective 5/11/2022.

Motion by Mr. Brandle, seconded by Ms. Azanero and carried by unanimous consent to approve the termination as submitted.

X. Director of Finance Report - Mr. Enos

1. Monthly Financial Update – Mr. Enos outlined the financial report for this month and reported that they are halfway through the fiscal year with the budget in good shape. There will be a budget workshop in July. Field trips do get rolled over and can be used at a later date and include presentations that come into the school as well. Field trips are not mandatory and are encouraged.

2. MUNIS Financial Software Contract – There are two software systems currently being used that cost \$118,000. The new software, which meets the need of the department, is \$114,138.00. Training for this program is estimated to be \$613,904.00. Rollout would be in March 2023 for the general ledger piece and October 1 for the payroll piece. Training for staff and administrative assistants will be during the summer. There will be a partial refund for what was paid for the current software for this year. The contract is for three years. Funding will be through ESSER for the startup costs. This software will make it more efficient for reporting to RIDE.

XI. Director of Facilities Report - Mr. Feola

1. Facilities Update – Mr. Feola gave a last update on the school buildings. Hennessey and Silver Spring are finishing up with the door entry projects. Orlo and Silver Spring have window projects for summer of 2023. Riverside's window project is on schedule for summer of 2023. The roof project at the administration building is currently being worked on and will go out to bid soon. Water damage was found. The architects are looking at Oldham for windows, roof and an entryway and will be drawn up over the summer and put out to bid at the beginning of next summer. They are also looking at creating entryways at Myron J. Francis, Kent Heights and Orlo Avenue Schools. Mr. Feola thanked everyone, the committee, superintendents, and custodians and the men and women of Local 2669 for a great ride. Mr. Monteiro thanked Mr. Feola for always picking up the phone and being ready and available when there was a need.

XII. Policy Committee Report – Jessica Beauchaine

1. Anti-Bullying Policy – 1st read This is the current bullying report. Many districts have Crisisgo and Safe2SpeakUp.com on their websites to have a way to go online and report bullying. The district will make readily available resources and the ability to self report. Will be sent to legal counsel for review.

2. Challenged Materials Policy – 1st read There are some revisions in section two and provided more guidance than the first handout with some changes to the forms. Will be sent to legal counsel for review.

XIII. Building Committee Report – Mr. Monteiro

1. Building Project Update – Commissioning is still going on with testing in various areas. The project is 93.3% complete. Baseball and softball fields are almost complete. The original campus had 532 parking spaces and new campus will have 542 spaces. Clocktower is beautiful and lit up. Major items working on are the details with RIDOT with regard to entrances. On schedule with Gilbane for August for fields.

2. Building Committee Membership – Superintendent Crowley explained that the requirement for Stage II for the Martin Middle School and Waddington Elementary School projects is to have a building committee membership approved by RIDE. The members need to have a certain skill set to participate on this committee. This committee must meet with RIDE representatives on June 23rd at 6:30 pm at Martin Middle School and there will be a tour at Martin and Waddington after the meeting. Mr. Tsonos asked to reach out to the community to see if anyone has an interest in participating on this building committee.

XIV. Discussion Items

1. Elementary Art Classes – Mr. Tsonos - Superintendent Crowley reported that art classes go on once a week in all elementary schools. Physical education is twice a week, music and library is once a week. Arts are integrated throughout the curriculum. The schedule is tight on the elementary level but after school activities have included the arts.

2. Grant for Vaping Detectors at High School – Mr. Brandle reported that the EP Prevention Coalition has a grant to install vape detectors in our secondary school bathrooms. Dr. Forand met with the secondary principals and members of the Prevention Coalition. They are in the process of writing a grant for vape detectors and the district is looking forward to partnering with them. Vaping is a definite concern in the district.

XV. Action Items

1. Bill List:

Voucher No. 1028 dated 5/12/22 - \$5,908.15

Voucher No. 1029 dated 5/20/22 - \$407.00
Voucher No. 1030 dated 5/25/22 - \$334,050.04
Voucher No. 1031 dated 5/26/22 - \$6,930.36
Voucher No. 1032 dated 5/31/22 - \$10,329.40
Voucher No. 1034 dated 6/1/22 - \$1,876.94
Voucher No. 1035 dated 6/7/22 - \$728.00
Voucher No. 1036 dated 6/9/22 - \$1,989.70
Voucher No. 1037 dated 6/9/22 - \$2,055,509.18

Motion by Mr. Tsonos, seconded by Ms. Azanero and carried by unanimous consent to approve the warrants as submitted.

2. Contract for Interim Director of Technology

Motion by Mr. Tsonos, seconded by Ms. Beauchaine and carried by unanimous consent to approve the contract for the Interim Director of Technology as submitted.

3. Contract for Director of Facilities

Motion by Ms. Tsonos, seconded by Ms. Azanero and carried by unanimous consent to table this item.

4. Administrative Contracts

Motion by Mr. Tsonos, seconded by Ms. Azanero and carried by unanimous consent to table this item for a special meeting in June.

Mr. Monteiro reported that the following invoices have been vetted and approved by the Building Committee at their meeting on June 13, 2022.

5. Ai3 Invoices for Services

Motion by Ms. Azanero, seconded by Mr. Brandle and carried by unanimous consent to approve the Ai3 May 2022 Invoice for Basic Services in the amount of \$29,484.68 and Extra Services in the amount of \$28,076.00 as submitted.

6. Peregrine Invoice for Services

Motion by Ms. Azanero, seconded by Brandle and carried by unanimous consent to approve the Peregrine Group LLC May 2022 Invoice for services in the amount of \$59,000.00 as submitted.

7. Gilbane Invoice for Services

Motion by Ms. Azanero, seconded by Mr. Brandle and carried by unanimous consent to approve the Gilbane Construction Co. May 2022 invoice for services in the amount of \$2,083,736.70 as submitted.

8. Stephen Turner, Inc. Invoice for Services

Motion by Ms. Azanero, seconded by Mr. Brandle and carried by unanimous consent to approve the Stephen Turner, Inc. May 2022 invoice for services in the amount of \$667.75 as submitted.

9. Thielsch Engineering Invoice for Services

Motion by Ms. Azanero, seconded by Mr. Brandle and carried by unanimous consent to approve the Thielsch Engineering May 2022 invoice for services in the amount of \$1,435.00 as submitted.

10. Construction Invoices for EPHS

Motion by Ms. Azanero seconded by Mr. Brandle and carried by unanimous consent to approve the EPHS construction invoices for May 2022 in the amount of \$2,202,400.13 as submitted.

11. Invoices for Furniture, Fixtures & Equipment

Motion by Ms. Azanero, seconded by Mr. Brandle and carried by unanimous consent to approve the FF&E May 2022 invoices in the amount of \$1,435,517.32 as submitted.

12. MUNIS Financial Software Contract

Motion by Ms. Azanero, seconded by Mr. Brandle and carried by unanimous consent to approve the MUNIS Financial Software Contract as submitted.

13. Contract for Principal at Hennessey Elementary School

Motion by Mr. Brandle, seconded by Ms. Azanero and carried by unanimous consent to approve the contract for the Principal at Hennessey Elementary School as submitted.

14. Audio/Visual, Herd & Fashion Design Club Advisors

Motion by Ms. Beauchaine, seconded by Ms. Azanero and carried by unanimous consent to approve the Audio/Visual, Herd & Fashion Club Advisors at the high school as submitted.

15. Contract for Two Assistant Directors of Facilities

Motion by Mr. Brandle, seconded by Ms. Azanero and carried by unanimous consent to approve the contract with amendment for one Assistant Director of Facilities.

16. Contract for Director of Teaching and Learning – This item was tabled.

17. Contract for Assistant Principal at High School

Motion by Mr. Tsonos, seconded by Mr. Brandle and carried by unanimous consent to approve the contract for the Assistant Principal at the high school as submitted.

18. Contract for Assistant Principal at Martin Middle School

Motion by Ms. Beauchaine, seconded by Mr. Brandle and carried by unanimous consent to approve the contract for the Assistant Principal at Martin Middle School as submitted.

19. Building Committee Membership

Motion by Mr. Brandle, seconded by Ms. Azanero and carried by unanimous consent to approve the Building Committee membership as submitted.

20. Amended 2022-2023 School Calendar

Motion by Ms. Azanero, seconded by Ms. Beauchaine and carried by unanimous consent to approve the amended 2022-2023 school calendar as submitted.

21. EBCAP School Based Health Center Proposal

Motion by Ms. Beauchaine, seconded by Mr. Brandle and carried by unanimous consent to table this item for a Memorandum of Agreement.

22. Arts Initiative Memorandum of Agreement

Motion by Mr. Tsonos, seconded by Ms. Azanero and carried by unanimous consent to approve the arts initiative MOA as submitted.

XVI. Public Comments II – Non-Agenda Items – No public comments.

XVII. Announcements – There will be another School Committee meeting on Tuesday, June 28th to finalize administrative contracts.

Motion by Mr. Brandle, seconded by Mr. Tsonos and carried by unanimous consent to reconvene in executive session at 10:07 p.m. to discuss the contracts for the Director of Facilities and the Director of Teaching and Learning. Mr. Monteiro stated the Committee was going back into executive session because there was a long list of items to discuss and there was no question about contract renewal.

The Committee reconvened in open session at 11:03 p.m. The Chair reported that no votes were taken in executive session. Motion by Mr. Tsonos, seconded by Ms. Azanero and carried by unanimous consent to seal the minutes of executive session.

Action Items Continued**Contract for Director of Facilities**

Motion by Mr. Brandle, seconded by Ms. Azanero and carried by a vote of 4-1 to approve the contract for the Director of Facilities as submitted. Ms. Beauchaine voted nay.

Contract for Director of Teaching and Learning

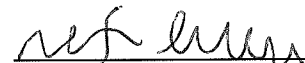
Motion by Mr. Brandle, seconded by Ms. Beauchaine and carried by unanimous consent to approve the contract for the Director of Teaching and Learning as submitted.

XVIII. Adjournment

Motion by Ms. Beauchaine, seconded by Ms. Azanero and carried by unanimous consent to adjourn the meeting at 11:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Sharon Corsi, Administrative Assistant


Max Brandle, School Committee Clerk