

EASTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
Long Range Planning Committee
Special Meeting
April 14, 2016
Minutes

The entire meeting is available online: <https://youtu.be/3qnpMDcJlt0>

Attendance:

Committee Members: Dr. Tom McMorran, Dr. Stephanie Pierson-Ugol, Sue Kaplan, Andy Kachele, Claire Wilkes, Gabriel Rossi, Dan Underberger, Ed Nagy, Patrick Kearns

Public: Amy Traggianese - SSES teacher, Mike Hoffman - Redding BoE member, Paul Coppinger - ER9 BoE member

- I. **Call to Order** – Dan Underberger called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm.
- II. **Approval of April 14, 2016 Special Meeting Minutes:** 5-0. Approved.
- III. **Public and Committee Member Comment** – None
- IV. **Discussion and Possible Action:**

Dr. McMorran showed a 12 minute video by Sir Ken Robinson entitled: *Changing Education Paradigms*. This video is available online:

https://www.ted.com/talks/ken_robinson_changing_education_paradigms

Discuss ensued on how to set the school's environment to foster student creativity. Dr. McMorran distributed "Easton School District Long-Range Planning" notebooks to all committee members and reviewed its contents.

Key points:

1. Goal to get academic scores up but without sacrificing the child's childhood - need a balance between work and play. It's important to have a playful educational environment.
2. Need technology-enabled personalized learning. We are currently using too much technology and 'space.' The future will see more learning in groups with fewer teachers.
3. Must not lose sight of a middle school education.
4. Teachers and the school principal are the #1 and #2 factors in a student's success.
5. Can't close half a building.

The committee members discussed how to move forward. It was stressed that no decisions had yet been made. Communication with the public will be critical. The next meeting (no date set) should begin to discuss the various options.

- V. **Public and Committee Member Comment** – None
- VI. **Adjournment** - Kachele, Wilkes. Approved. Unanimous.
The meeting was adjourned at 9:02PM

Respectfully Submitted by Dan Underberger, Committee Chairperson

INSTR # M2016000267 RECD 04/20/2016 10:32:09 AM
CHRISTINE HALLORAN TOWN CLERK EASTON CT