

*Filed subject to approval*

EASTON BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING

April 18, 2023 – 7:00 p.m.

Helen Keller Middle School Learning Commons

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCRtQ6dze5a8x5XT5LzBnDHA>

Minutes

ATTENDANCE

Board members: Hicks, Parker, Stinson, Wible, Young, DeJesus

Administration: Clapp, Del Conte, Fox Santora, McKinnon, Pierson Ugol, Scrofani

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Hicks called the Easton Board of Education Regular meeting to order at 7:00pm.

CONSENT AGENDA

**MOTION: Move that minutes from the March 9th, 2023 Easton Board of Education Meeting be approved by unanimous consent.**

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENT

None.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Dr. McKinnon reminded the community about the Strategic Plan and encouraged the public to submit feedback and questions. He also noted that both the Easton and Redding budgets passed through the Board of Finance without cuts. Finally, he shared a live dashboard so the community can see how work on the priorities is progressing.

Dr. Pierson Ugol explained the history of the Tri-State consortium. A team from Tri-State – about 15-20 people – will visit the districts with a focus on providing feedback on the strategic plan.

Dr. McKinnon alerted the Board that there will be a zoom presentation about the budget and strategic plan on Thursday, 4/26 at 7pm.

D. Wible discussed the Curriculum Committee's recommendation to adopt the Desmos middle school math curriculum. Dr. Pierson Ugol further explained that the administration recommends adopting the Desmos curriculum. She also recommended that the district purchase print resources and digital resources for the first year and consider that for additional years as needed. Next, she discussed how the district plans to use remaining PD days this year to introduce Desmos to teachers.



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**MOTION: Move that the agenda be amended to add Desmos Math approval as item A in the Discussion and Possible action section of the agenda. (Parker, Wible) Approved 6-0.**

S. Scrofani gave a brief update of the financials and indicated that the district is in a good financial place. She also indicated that health insurance continues to look good.

**DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION:**

**A. Approval of Desmos Math Curriculum for Middle School**

**Motion: Move to accept the 3 years Desmos Math contract as presented (Parker, Young) Approved 6-0.**

**B. School Safety - Visitor Protocols**

Ms. Fox Santora provided an update on the safety protocols at Samuel Staples including visitor protocols. Dr. Clapp provided an update highlighting the small nuances at the middle school.

Ms. Fox Santora also congratulated a former student for his acceptance into West Point.

Then, Dr. Clapp provided an update on career day which brought more than 30 local professionals to share their talents with students. He gave a special thanks to the school counselor for making the day spectacular.

**C. Recommendations from Superintendent for Non-Renewals**

Dr. McKinnon explained the non-renewals notice procedure.

**Motion: Move that the Easton Board of Education determine that the contract of employment for Leah Peregolise, Lisa Hohlweck, Kristin Burnham, and Gada Alkhatib be non-renewed effective July 1, 2023 due to reduction in force. (Stinson, Parker) Approved 6-0.**

**BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Facilities - J. Parker gave an update. He explained that the committee met with members of other town boards and did walkthroughs at SSES and HKMS. There was discussion about the need to deal with the water problems at HKMS. A. Young thanked S. Scrofani for her extra work. R. Hicks mentioned that facilities maintenance was discussed at the budget meetings and that there is interest in continued partnership to plan and pay for maintenance and repairs.

Joint Negotiating – Meeting scheduled for May 4th at 6:30pm..

DEI – Meeting scheduled for May 8th at 6pm.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion: Move that the Easton Board of Education Regular meeting be adjourned. (Parker, Stinson). Approved 6-0.**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:01pm

Submitted and Recorded by Devon Wible  
Secretary, Easton Board of Education