

Special Meeting
Easton Board of Education
John Read Middle School - Community Room
Tuesday, June 11, 2019
6:30 p.m.

Minutes

ATTENDANCE:

Easton Board of Education: Parker, Hicks, Reed, Stinson

Administration: McMorran, Reiss, Kaplan, Fox Santora

Others: 1 member of the public

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Parker called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion: move to approve the minutes from the May 14, 2019 Regular Meeting of the Easton Board of Education and the May 28, 2019 Regular Joint Meeting of the Easton, Redding, and Region 9 Boards of Education (Reed, Stinson). Approved. Unanimous.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: FISCAL REPORT - END OF YEAR FOR 2018-2019

Mr. Reiss presented an outlook on the anticipated unexpended funds at year end as well as the status of the employee health insurance reserve account. Unexpended funds are anticipated to be approximately \$300K, and the health insurance reserve account could see a shortfall of up to \$100,000 depending on the June claims payable. Mr. Reiss provided several recommendations for the use of the anticipated unexpended funds, which included security improvements and parking lot maintenance at Samuel Staples Elementary School (\$44,000), and gymnasium improvements, air conditioning, and special education accommodations at Helen Keller Middle School (\$65,000). Additional funding for a retirement payout of \$12,467.70 and a contribution to the employee health insurance reserve of up to \$150,000 to comfortably cover the expected shortfall of \$100K were also reviewed and discussed by the board.

Motion: move to approve the implementation of various projects as presented using unexpended funds from the 18-19 fiscal year, authorizing the Director of Finance and Operations to expend and transfer funds as required (Stinson, Reed). Approved. Unanimous.



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CHRISTINE HALLORAN
TOWN CLERK EASTON CT

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: HKMS EXTRA-CURRICULAR FUNDING

Heidi Hanson of the Easton PTA offered to donate \$50,564 for the purpose of funding stipends for extracurricular activities at Helen Keller Middle School during the 19-20 school year. The PTA was pleased to make the contribution and expressed that this was a one-time only contribution, and that these expenditures needed to be in the school's annual budget.

Motion: move to accept the PTA's generous gift of \$50,564.00 to fund Helen Keller Middle School extracurricular activities (Reed, Stinson). Approved. Unanimous.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: CONTRACT WITH EASTON CUSTODIAL STAFF

The board negotiating committee has successfully reached an agreement with the union representing the custodians, and the custodial employees have ratified the agreement. Snow removal from the sidewalks, a point of contention in the previous contract, will now be removed by the custodial staff in each building.

Motion: move to approve the collective bargaining agreement between Easton Board of Education and Local 1303-002 of Council 4 AFSCME (Stinson, Reed). Approved. Unanimous.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: EASTON DONATIONS

The Easton PTA gave an update that there were no additional donations to be presented to the Board at this time, although there were some items that were in progress and would be brought forward to a future meeting.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: EASTON BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING JULY 2019

The board discussed whether there was a need for the regular meeting scheduled for July 9, 2019. No pressing discussion items were identified.

Motion: move to cancel the Easton Board of Education Regular Meeting scheduled for July 9, 2019 (Hicks, Reed). Approved. Unanimous.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: EASTON BOARD OF EDUCATION BYLAWS - 2nd READING

Jon Stinson presented a list of nine specific recommended changes which the board discussed and agreed with.

Motion: move to accept the Easton Board of Education Bylaws as presented in 2nd reading with the exception of 9327.1 – Board Member Use of Social Networks (Hicks, Reed). Approved. Unanimous.

PUBLIC COMMENT

PTA member Heidi Hanson, 77 Wilson Road, presented two additional PTA donations: \$4,000 for two water fountains at Samuel Staples Elementary School, and up to \$6,500 for security improvements at Helen Keller Middle School.

Motion: move to accept the PTA's generous gift of \$4,000 for water fountains at SSES and up to \$6,500 for security improvements at HKMS (Stinson, Reed). Approved. Unanimous.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENT

Several board members expressed their appreciation to school administration for a successful 2018-2019 year.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: move that the meeting be adjourned (Reed, Stinson). Approved. Unanimous.

The Easton Board of Education Special Meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Submitted by Jeffrey Parker, Easton Board of Education Chairperson