

*Filed subject to approval*

EASTON BOARD OF EDUCATION SPECIAL MEETING

Held Remotely via Zoom:

<https://zoom.us/j/94136123120?pwd=bytLRnNpODBGWjd4SH15bkVvbHBOZz09>

Meeting ID: 941 3612 320 Password: 06612

May 5, 2021 - 6:00 p.m.

Minutes

ATTENDANCE

Board members: Stinson, Goldstein, Chieda (arrived late), Parker, Wible. Absent: Hicks

Administration: Harrison, Pierson Ugol, Zachery

Others: 6 members of the staff and public, and the recording secretary.

CALL TO ORDER

J. Stinson called the Easton Board of Education Special meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENT

J. Parker asked if there was something wrong with the ER9 email system as he was having difficulty accessing his email. No one else was having any difficulties and it was suggested that perhaps he needs to reset his password.

J. Stinson said that it is with a heavy heart that he acknowledges the retirement of a great educational leader, Susan Kaplan. He recalled a memory of when he first moved to Easton and middle school students on his street spoke fondly of middle school and he thought this was odd, until he met Susan Kaplan. J. Stinson thanked Susan Kaplan for everything she has done at Helen Keller Middle School.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: HELEN KELLER MIDDLE SCHOOL PRINCIPAL SEARCH

Formation of Personnel Search Committee: J. Stinson explained that the BOE needs to establish a search committee for the position of principal, and that this committee will comply with FOIA requirements.

**Motion: move that the Easton Board of Education form a Personnel Search Committee consisting of all members of the board, and charge the committee to review candidates and recommend to the board a finalist for the executive-level employment position of Principal of Helen Keller Middle School. The Personnel Search Committee shall be automatically disbanded upon the execution of a contract between the board and the appointed Principal of Helen Keller Middle School. (Parker, Goldstein). Approved. 4-0.**

Allocation of Funds for a Search Consultant: J. Stinson said that he feels the BOE needs a search consultant given the times we are in now and also because a professional who will be talent-focused is needed.

**Motion: move that the Easton Board of Education allocate up to \$10,000 to retain the services of a search consultant to assist in the process of hiring a new Principal of Helen Keller Middle School. (Parker, Goldstein). Approved. 4-0-1 (Chieda abstained).**

#### DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: SUMMER PROGRAMMING: EASTON EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

J. Stinson explained that the plan for summer programming is similar to one that Redding has used and which has been successful. Dr. Pierson Ugol provided details about the summer programming that included: courses will be enrichment-based and include academics; courses will be three hours per day; the MOA does not specify exact hours; they will facilitate the connection of courses to Park & Rec afternoon sessions; tuition will be based on rate negotiated with teachers; there will be one library class per week; courses will depend on teacher interest and what teachers create; students will be grouped by ages/grades; there will be a building coordinator for each building; the MySchoolBucks system will be utilized for tuition payment; the ESSER II grant will be used to subsidize half of the cost of program, parents will pay the rest; logistics on sign-ups, cut off dates, etc. will be worked out soon; no obligation to pay teachers if no students sign-up for their course. J. Parker said the program needs to be as affordable as possible for families.

**Motion: move that the Easton Board of Education approve the Memorandum of Agreement between the Easton BOE and the Easton Education Association regarding Summer School for 2021. (Wible, Goldstein). Approved. 4-0-1. (Chieda abstained).**

#### PUBLIC COMMENT

Ann Manusky, Morning Glory Road, asked if there had been any discussion about keeping just a principal, instead of a principal and an assistant principal at HKMS; said that the Tri-Board of Education is conducting a Policy Committee with no charge; and, that she paid \$39 for FOIA documents and some of the documents were missing, so she wants the \$39 refunded to her.

#### BOARD COMMENT

D. Wible thanked S. Kaplan for being a dedicated leader and that she is grateful for the work S. Kaplan does. D. Wible said that she hopes that in retirement we get to see you around town.

J. Parker said he wanted to add his thanks to S. Kaplan; that she took over the school at a difficult time and did it graciously.

J. Stinson said that the BOE and District leadership have discussed leadership roles and that the recommendation is that we keep our current leadership roles. He said that every committee of the BOE does have a charge, but that there is not one notebook where all of these charges are kept and he will address this. J. Stinson said that it is the goal and mission of the Easton BOE to operate with as much transparency as possible.

ADJOURNMENT

**Motion: move that the Easton Board of Education Special meeting be adjourned. (Parker, Wible).  
Approved. 5-0.**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:37 p.m.

Submitted by Gretchen Goldstein  
Secretary, Easton Board of Education

Recorded by  
Sarah Ota