

Special Meeting
Easton Board of Education
Helen Keller Middle School- Library Learning Commons
November 9, 2021 - 6:30pm
Minutes
View remotely via:

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

ATTENDANCE:

Board Members: Stinson, Parker, Hicks, Wible, Chieda, DeJesus (on zoom)

Administration: McKinnon

Members of the Public: 3 members of public and Attorney Alfano from Shipman and Goodwin

CALL TO ORDER

J. Stinson called the Easton Board of Education Special meeting to order at 6:33pm

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Bev Dacey, Redding Road, made 2 points: First: Board Policy 9020.1 (a) entitled Advocacy encourages the board to cooperate with parent groups, special interest groups, CABE and others. Board member D. Wible wrote a post on a website that stated that groups of citizens against DEI were organized and the people within those groups were racists. Her 2nd point was she (Ms. Dacey) has spoken out against DEI and therefore is being called a racist by D. Wible. Ms. Dacey is not an elected official but is a citizen of the town and business owner. She considers this description of her slanderous and a form of bullying and it needs to stop.

Dana Benson, Pond Road, read a portion of an article from the Easton Community Gazette entitled False Accusation. The article informed the reader that Parker had been falsely accused of any wrongdoing regarding his handling of some emails and had every right to believe the emails were public documents. Additionally, the Governor's executive order required that all emails be made public and posted on the district's website.

Anne Manusky, Morning Glory Drive on behalf of Maureen Hanley, Andrews Road, stated that all emails sent to public officials were public documents; the board members job is to ensure that all our children receive a good education, and that Jeff Parker has been an advocate for parents for many years and has always responded to parent concerns.

Motion: move that the Easton Board of Education recess the meeting to an Executive Session to discuss the findings of Attorney Alfano surrounding the topic of board member emails as well as educating the board members on FERPA and FOIA process and procedures. Parker, Hicks. Approved. Unanimous.

The meeting recess at 6:45pm.

RECONVENE

The Chair reconvened the meeting in public session at 7:30pm.

J. Stinson stated, "No additional action to take" and that the board would receive additional FERPA and FOIA in upcoming meetings.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENT

J. Chieda stated she was grateful for the training and that it was time to move on, with grace, putting the negativity and finger pointing behind us and redirecting our energy into the making our school's the best they can be.

ADJOURNMENT

**Motion: move that the Easton Board of Education Special meeting be adjourned. (Parker, Hicks)
Approved. Unanimous.**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

Submitted by Jeffrey Parker
Secretary, Easton Board of Education