

EASTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
Budget Workshop Minutes
March 5, 2018

ATTENDANCE

Easton Board of Education Members: Parker, Chieda, Hicks, Shortt, Bindelglass
Administration: McMorran, Fox Santora, Kaplan
Others: 10 members of the public

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Parker called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

David Bussolata, Sunset Road, Easton: Spoke in support of adding an SRO to Easton's schools. Thanked the board for considering efforts to improve school safety.
Beverly Dacey, Redding Road, Easton: Stated concerns about adding security staff at the schools.
Nikki Kaldawy, Staples Road, Easton: Spoke of her concern about losing a main office administrative assistant at Staples, as it is a potential safety concern.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENT

Mr. Parker stated he received a letter from the non-certified personnel union regarding the end of their current contract on June 30, 2018. They would like to open negotiations at the Board of Education's earliest convenience. This process will begin later this spring.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: SCHOOL SECURITY OFFICER/SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER

Each board member expressed their opinions, concerns and questions related to the addition of either an SSO or SRO to Easton's schools.

Motion: move to decide to have either an School Security Officer (SSO) or School Resource Officer (SRO) added to Easton's schools for security purposes. Bindelglass, Shortt. Approved. Unanimous.

Motion: move to add a School Resource Officer (SRO) to Easton's schools for security purposes. Parker, Hicks. Motion Failed. 2-3-0. Mrs. Chieda and Mrs. Shortt voted in favor of the motion. Dr. Bindelglass, Mr. Hicks, and Mr. Parker opposed.

Motion: move to add a School Security Officer (SSO) to Easton's schools for security purposes. Parker, Bindelglass. Approved. 3-2-0. Dr. Bindelglass, Mr. Hicks, and Mr. Parker voted in favor of the motion. Mrs. Chieda and Mrs. Shortt opposed.



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CHRISTINE HALLORAN
TOWN CLERK EASTON CT

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: CONSIDERATION OF 2018-2019 PROPOSED BUDGET

Motion: move to vote on 4.44% operating increase over 2017-2018 Easton Board of Education Operating Budget. Parker, Chieda. Approved. Unanimous.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Beverley Dacey, Redding Road, Easton: Expressed appreciation for the safety conversation. Encouraged the board to make this an ongoing discussion.

Devon Wible, Woodland Drive, Easton: Expressed support for an SRO instead of an SSO. Spoke about the need for a broader look at the effectiveness of tiered interventions. Encouraged the board to look at more than just statistics when deciding whether or not the interventions are working for students.

Kristi Sogofsky, Adams Road, Easton: Stated the current kindergarten class has 97 students and that the addition of a few more students will put next year's first grade classes over 20 per class.

Nikki Kaldawy, Staples Road, Easton: Asked if retirements might offset budget needs. Supports additional security for Easton's schools.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENT

Mrs. Shortt and Mrs. Chieda expressed their disappointment in the decision to put an SSO instead of an SRO in place in Easton's schools. All agreed it was a positive step forward.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: move that the Easton Board of Education meeting be adjourned. Parker, Shortt. Approved. Unanimous.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:58 pm.

Submitted by Jenny Chieda, Easton Board of Education Secretary