



## **EDGARTOWN SCHOOL COMMITTEE**

**Wednesday, November 9, 2022 – 5:30 pm  
Edgartown School Library**

### **AGENDA**

- I. Approval of Minutes from September 14, 2022 and October 12, 2022**
- II. PTA Report**
- III. Finance Report**
  - A. FY24 Budget
  - B. Donation
- IV. Superintendent's Report**
  - A. General Update
  - B. Non-Union Salary Adjustments
  - C. Special Education Update – Hope MacLeod
- V. Principal's Report**
  - A. MCAS Update
  - B. Playground Update - Request vote for Consulting Services
  - C. Eighth Grade Trip - Request vote to approve out-of-state trip
  - D. Improving Ventilation and Air Quality Grant - Request vote to approve grant
  - E. Energy Efficiency Update
  - F. Discussion of Anonymous Tip Line
  - G. Five Year Capital Plan
  - H. Enrollment
  - I. Personnel
    1. New Hire
    2. Resignations
    3. Leave of Absence Request
    4. OYO Literacy/Math Specialist - Request vote to approve position
- VI. Public Comment**
- VII. New/Old Business**
- VIII. Schedule Next Meeting(s)**
- IX. Adjournment**

## EDGARTOWN SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Wednesday, November 9, 2022 – 5:30 pm  
Edgartown School Library

### MINUTES

**Present:** Chair, Kimberly Kirk and Louis Paciello

**Others:** Supt. Dr. Richie Smith, John Stevens, Assistant Superintendent, Hope MacLeod Director of Student Services, Principal Dr. Shelley Einbinder, Mark Friedman, School Business Administrator, Edgartown Police Chief Bruce McNamee, Brooke Leahy, PTA President, Brian Perry 5th and 6th Grade Social Studies Teacher, Celia Mercier 7th and 8th Grade Math Teacher and Kara Gelinis 5th and 6th grade science teacher and 8th grade advisors, Jennifer Fournier 2nd Grade teacher, Gina deBettencourt Food Services Director, Nedine Cunningham Social Studies Teacher, Heidi McDonough PTA member and parent of an 8th grade student.

The meeting was called to order by Kimberly Kirk at 5:31.

#### **I. Approval of Minutes from September 14, and October 12, 2022**

Louis Paciello made a motion to approve the minutes and Kimberly Kirk seconded.

There was no discussion, comments or changes.

The motion passed: 2 Ayes, 0 Nays

#### **II. PTA Report -Brooke Leahy**

The PTA has not had a meeting yet this month. The PTA donated Halloween decorations to the Boys and Girls Club. They are looking into a fundraiser to take place during Christmas in Edgartown. They are looking into an LED version of the announcement board for the front of the school. The next meeting will be on Tuesday, November 15 at the offices of Allied Mortgage in Nevin Square and on Zoom.

#### **III. Finance Report - Mark Friedman**

During his report, Dr. Smith reviewed the budget report summary before Mr. Friedman arrived at 6:30.

#### **IV. Superintendent's Report - Dr. Richie Smith**

Dr. Smith reviewed the Budget report summary which was handed out.

Level serviced budget projected for '24 and will absorb changes including the recent collective bargaining agreement.

A question was asked about the timeline. The answer was 3-4 weeks.

A question was asked about when the salary step increases will be incorporated and the answer was that they are "live" now in the current year.

**A. Non-Union Salary Adjustments.** Dr. Smith proposed a 3% base cost of living adjustment for the non-union salary employees:Dr. Shelley Einbinder, MaryAnn Bartlett, and Darren Belisle.

Dr. Smith proposed a \$4,000 increase for a conferred doctorate acknowledgement for Dr.

Einbinder and all principals who have that degree. Dr. Smith proposed a \$10,000 salary increase

for Darren Belisle and all technology administrators.

A question was asked if all technology administrators received the \$10,000 increase and the answer was yes, except at the highschool.

A question was asked when the last time a COL was added to the administration salaries and the answer was the 2020-2021 school year.

A question was asked about how the amounts were arrived at and the answer was that the amounts were made to be more uniform across the district. Dr. Smith said that he wants to incorporate the evaluation process with the creation of more uniformity across the district.

A question was asked if all the districts were doing the same. The answer was that Tisbury granted a \$5,000 stipend in addition to the 3% for the increase to the principal salary, It is not clear if the stipend will be renewed each year. There was discussion about how the Edgartown district can move forward with the incorporation of increases and what the differences would be between the proposal of Matt D'Andrea in the prior school year and the current proposal.

Kimberly Kirk made a motion to approve the salary increases as recommended by the superintendent for MaryAnn Bartlett and Darren Belisle and Louis Paciello seconded. During the discussion Gina deBettencourt advocated for Darren Belisle's increase. A question was asked about salary adjustments going forward and the answer was that there will be adjustments asked for again in May for the following school year. The motion passed: 2 Ayes, 0 Nays

Louis Paciello made a motion to raise Shelley Einbinder's salary by a 7.5% increase for this school year and Kimberly Kirk seconded. The amount approved was \$146,038.75 There was no discussion, comments or changes.

The motion passed: 2 Ayes, 0 Nays

**C. Special Education Update** – Hope MacLeod presented the October and November newsletters. The newsletters will be posted to the school website.

#### **V. Principal's Report**

**Donation:-** In lieu of Mr. Friedman presenting, Dr. Einbinder proposed accepting a saxophone that was donated to the school by parents of a former student.

Kimberly Kirk made a motion to accept the donation and Louis Paciello seconded. There was no discussion, comments or changes.

The motion passed: 2 Ayes, 0 Nays

**Discussion of Anonymous Tip Line** - Chief Bruce McNamee of the EPD discussed this online product that is being utilized by most schools in Massachusetts. Edgartown would be the first district on the island to use a resource tip line for students, parents, and staff like this one. The pricing is about \$2,500 per year. There was discussion about how to implement this with the help

of the superintendent. Dr. Smith said there will be a discussion with other principals and the trial in Edgartown will be considered a pilot. Dr. Smith asked Chief McNamee to present the information to other island police departments. The school Committee expressed gratitude to the chief for bringing this to our attention. Dr. Einbinder confirmed that the application could be

translated to Portuguese and would be accessible by all.

**A. MCAS Update** Dr. Einbinder discussed and presented a slideshow with current MCAS data from 2022 compared to former school years and compared to state performance. Staff will continue to look at the data and respond with interventions.

**B. Playground Update - Request vote for Consulting Services** A committee has been formed of parents, teachers, community members, and Parks and Recreation. SLR Consulting is a company that was recommended. They can create an initial proposal and concept plan for \$5,000.

Kimberly Kirk made a motion to approve creating the contract and the \$5,000 costs for entering an agreement with SLR Consulting and Louis Paciello seconded. There was no discussion, comments or changes.

The motion passed: 2 Ayes, 0 Nays

**C. Eighth Grade Trip - Request vote to approve out-of-state trip**-The school Committee expressed gratitude for the work that the advisors did in creating the new itinerary and for surveying the families and students. This vote is for the school year 2022-2023 only. There was a question asked about families being allowed to pay the full amount and a mention that parents wanted to have shares created in the fundraising process. Heidi McDonough, a parent, asked what would happen if the fundraising goals were not met. Dr. Smith clarified that a school-sponsored trip has to allow access to the trip for everyone. Students who do not participate in fundraising cannot be denied. Parents can be allowed to pay in the full amount. There was discussion about how parents can pay into individual accounts and the issues of reimbursement. Kimberly Kirk recommended looking into the fundraising process in the future and that the school committee should create a fundraising policy for the district. At present parents will be informed that they can pay for their child's trip if they choose to do so.

Kimberly Kirk made a motion to approve the New York and Philadelphia 8th Grade trip and Louis Paciello seconded.

There was no discussion, comments or changes.

The motion passed: 2 Ayes, 0 Nays

**D. Improving Ventilation and Air Quality Grant - Request vote to approve grant** - John Stevens worked with Shelley Einbinder to submit this grant. This federal grant was discussed. It is for a feasibility study that would help devise systems for improving air quality in the building as well as the air movement efficiency. It could also help the school move toward being more green and away from fossil fuel use. However, this is separate from another study the school may do in regards to fuel use. The money would need to be spent by June 30 but the leftover money can be rolled over. Edgartown should hear about the awards soon. All three down-island schools are writing applications for this grant.

Kimberly Kirk made a motion to retroactively approve the grant application and Louis Paciello seconded.

During the discussion Mark Friedman clarified that the grant will be legally accepted by the high school when and if it comes due to the fact that the high school has the capacity to accept the grant.

The motion passed: 2 Ayes, 0 Nays

**E. Energy Efficiency Update** - Alan Strahler of the town has been working with the school on this which may lead to a feasibility study. Kimberly Kirk proposed creating an ad hoc committee for moving forward and investigating energy efficiency steps including John Stevens, Shelley Einbinder, Louis Paciello and anyone else who would like to be part of the committee. Kimberly Kirk asked that John Stevens be the chair.

Kimberly Kirk made a motion to create the proposed committee and Louis Paciello seconded.

There was no discussion, comments or changes.

The motion passed: 2 Ayes, 0 Nays

Dr. Einbinder clarified that the Green Communities grant will cover the additional costs needed for covering dimmers on LED lights. The grant will also cover the increase for the demand control ventilation.

**G. Five Year Capital Plan** - This plan needs to be presented to the town by December 1. The playground renovation is on the five-year plan but the town has asked the Edgartown School to take the lead on that. It will be proposed for a warrant article this year.

Other items in the five-year were presented by Mark Friedman. The building is now 20 years old so now is the time to make plans for big reinvestments to last for 20-40 years in conjunction with the energy efficiency conversations that are now going on. This will require another school committee meeting to discuss before presenting the plan to the town on December 1. Kimberly Kirk asked to table the discussion until the next November meeting. Kimberly Kirk also wanted to discuss security. Shelley Einbinder said a roof replacement should also be on the agenda for that meeting.

**H. Enrollment** is now at 400 students.

### **I. Personnel**

**1. New Hire** - Lucas Nascimento has been hired as the K-8 music teacher. There are plans for a modified winter concert on December 12.

#### **2. Resignations**

Tara Sykes resigned from the library ESP position.

Rose Deazevedo resigned from her ESP interpreter position.

#### **3. Leave of Absence Request**

Kara Gelinas submitted a request for a leave of absence from December 19-January 13.

Kimberly Kirk made a motion to accept both resignations with much gratitude and Louis

Paciello seconded.

There was no discussion, comments or changes.

The motion passed: 2 Ayes, 0 Nays

Kimberly Kirk made a motion to approve Kara Gelinis' leave request and Louis Paciello seconded.

There was no discussion, comments or changes.

The motion passed: 2 Ayes, 0 Nays

**4. OYO Literacy/Math Specialist - Request vote to approve position** - Shelley Einbinder discussed that there are identified needs for support for students in literacy and math. The savings from the number of unfilled positions this year could be used to pay for hiring this OYO support position.

Kimberly Kirk made a motion to approve the fulltime OYO Literacy and/or Math position allowing the principal to fill it as needed and Louis Paciello seconded.

There was discussion about how the position could be filled by one person and that there is the possibility of sharing the position between two people if there were people who had the qualifications.

The motion passed: 2 Ayes, 0 Nays

**VI. Public Comment** - Gina deBettencourt suggested that the help wanted ads be put in the local newspapers.

**VII. New/Old Business** - There was none

**VIII. Schedule Next Meeting(s)** - Wednesday, November 30, 8 a.m. on Zoom

**The meeting was adjourned at 7:18**