



EDGARTOWN SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Wednesday, February 1, 2023 – 5:30 pm

Location: Edgartown School Library

AGENDA

- I. Approval of Minutes from January 4, 2023**
- II. PTA Report**
- III. Finance Report**
 - A. Donations
- IV. Superintendent's Report**
 - A. General Update
 - B. Special Education Update – Hope MacLeod
- V. Principal's Report**
 - A. Updates
 - Feasibility Study
 - FY24 Joint Meeting of Financial Advisory Committee & Selectboard
 - TipNow Anonymous Reporting System
 - B. Upcoming Events
 - C. Enrollment
 - D. Personnel
 - New Hires
- VI. Public Comment**
- VII. New/Old Business**
- VIII. Schedule Next Meeting(s)**
- IX. Adjournment**



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Minutes

Present: Chair, Kimberly Kirk and member Louis Paciello

Others: Supt. Dr. Richie Smith, Principal Dr. Shelley Einbinder, Hope MacLeod Director of Student Services, John Stevens Assistant Superintendent, Mark Friedman School Business Administrator, Nancy Cole Librarian, Deb DeBettencourt School Counselor, Jennifer Fournier Second Grade Teacher, Reporter: MaryAnn Bartlett AP

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

I. Approval of January 4, 2023 Minutes

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

There was no discussion, comments or changes.

The motion passed: 2 Ayes, 0 Nays

II. PTA Report -none

III. Finance Report

A. Donations:

Dr. Shelley Einbinder presented 2 monetary donations for the 8th grade class.

\$250 anonymous

\$500 Santoro Group

Louis Paciello made a motion to accept the donations with gratitude and Kimberly Kirk seconded.

There was no discussion, comments or changes.

The motion passed: 2 Ayes, 0 Nays

Nancy Cole spoke of a donation from Molly Coogan, the new owner of the Bunch of Grapes bookstore. 15 books were donated to all schools in honor of Dawn Brash the previous owner who had owned Bunch of Grapes for 15 years. The estimated value is around \$300 and Nancy will choose the books.

Louis Paciello made a motion to accept the donation of books and Kimberly Kirk seconded.

There was no discussion, comments or changes.

The motion passed: 2 Ayes, 0 Nays

Mark Friedman presented the General Fund report.

The salary lines are in good shape.

The prices of heating oil are almost double than last year and the line may be over budget by the end of the year.

The maintenance line shows an overage due to the additional elevator costs, but there may be some positive areas by the end of the year so there may be an opportunity to complete some maintenance projects if that happens.

400 School Lunch Fund- the money that comes in is based on a per student formula which explains why there may be changes in the account even though the meals are free. There is talk at the State level of making the free meals permanent.

401 School Choice

Circuit Breaker has monies that need to be spent by the end of the year. If there is a balance at the end of the year it can be used to offset overages in the General Fund.

IV. Superintendent's Report

A. General Update

Dr. Richie Smith acknowledged Shelley Einbinder and Debbie DeBettencourt for stepping in to cover while MaryAnn Bartlett was out on a medical emergency. He also mentioned a very positive vibe in the building which seems like a good shift.

The Edgartown Finance Committee and Selectboard Committee will meet on February 8. Additionally a neighboring town citizen called to say what a nice job the central office admin team did on their presentation there.

Dr. Smith also shared gratitude for John Stevens and all the work he is doing and specifically in reminding schools to pay attention to the severely cold weather this week and that he has been very supportive.

COVID xbb.1.5 has hit the island in bigger numbers. MVYPS continues to work with the Health and Safety Team.

Dr. Smith presented part of his entry plan. This was a document for collecting feedback from stakeholders. The document is called, SWOT Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats. The recent cabinet meeting at the MV Museum covered the values that are instilled at the schools and then also gave feedback to Dr. Smith using the SWOT survey. He asked the School Committee to thoughtfully consider and fill out the survey and return in 3 weeks. Dr. Smith will use the collection of responses to look for themes objectively. This will help create a blueprint for moving forward.

B. Special Education Update – Hope MacLeod

Hope explained that she is often asked about referrals and evaluations and the newsletter this month is on that topic. Hope presented the paper versions of the newsletters and she will also send the electronic version so that everyone can use the links.

There is an IPAC meeting in the evening of February 8 at the Early Childhood Center and there will be a speaker on parent rights and how parents can be good advocates.

Hope also handed out an article about the pitfalls of overidentification and over referral in special education which is predicted to be an issue in all areas of the country due to the pandemic.

V. Principal's Report

A. Updates

Feasibility Study - John Stevens, Alan Strahler, Mark Friedman, Dwight Kaeka and Shelley Einbinder worked together on the Improving Ventilation and Air Quality Grant. John Stevens and Mark Friedman explained we have the grant for \$100,000 and the deadline for completing the Request for Qualifications is the end of February and the bid has to be returned by February 24. He explained the goals of the grant. The money will have to be expended by June 2023 but if there is money left over it can be rolled over into another year if the school requests to use it.

FY24 Joint Meeting of Financial Advisory committee & Selectboard
There will be a final presentation at the Fincom meeting.

TipNow Anonymous Reporting System

Dr. Shelley Einbinder shared information about the new software app that will be rolled out to staff and families about this tip reporting service. This is a pilot program. The tips will go to administrators, school counselors, and the School Resource Officer. The School Committee will be informed when the use of TipNow goes live.

B. Upcoming Events

February 10 is an auction for the 8th grade class at the PA Club.

February 15 is a noon dismissal for PD for staff

February 17 is a fun run

Feb 22 is the Spelling Bee at 9 a.m. in the gym

March 15 the PTA will bring back the Pizza Bingo night with guest callers.

C. Enrollment

405 students as of February 3, 2023 with 7 pending

D. Personnel

New Hires

Sydney Davies was hired as an ESP and is currently working in third grade.

A full time interpreter has been hired as an independent contractor.

A leave of absence request was made by Jean Zdankowski for March 23 - May 5 or possibly May 19.

Kimberly Kirk made a motion to approve the Leave of Absence Request and Louis Paciello seconded.

There was no discussion, comments or changes.

The motion passed: 2 Ayes, 0 Nays

VI. Public Comment - Kimberly Kirk said she was happy to see MaryAnn Bartlett back and she expressed gratitude to Deb DeBettencourt for stepping in to help.

VII. New/Old Business - John Stevens asked about how the Edgartown School is protected from ransomware as Nantucket PS were recently attacked. Darren Belisle said that software was purchased not too long ago to protect the school. John Stevens suggested that the central office discuss the processes in place. Dr. Smith agreed that it would be a good idea. The fact that there are 6 different districts is a benefit to the MVY public schools. There may be a need to institute other verification systems.

VIII. Next Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 7 at 5:00. The date is changed to Tuesday in order to accommodate those who will travel on the 7th grade ski trip.

IX. Adjournment 6:26