



## **EDGARTOWN SCHOOL COMMITTEE**

**Wednesday, July 22, 2020– 8:30am – via Zoom**

### **AGENDA**

- I. Approval of Minutes from June 10, 2020**
- II. PTA Report-Deanna Laird, PTA President**
- III. Finance Report**
  - A. Donation(s)
- IV. Superintendent's Report**
  - A. All Island School Committee
  - B. School Fall Opening Update
- V. Principal's Report**
  - A. Building Task Force Update
  - B. Personnel
    - 1. Resignation(s)
    - 2. New Hires
    - 3. Retirement
- VI. Public Comment**
- VII. New/Old Business**
- VIII. Schedule Next Meeting(s)**
- IX. Adjournment**

Participation in the School Committee meeting is available via Zoom. You will have to download the Zoom app if you don't already have it on your computer or Smartphone.

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Meeting ID: 884 3263 1211

Password: 339541

Phone dial-in: 1-646-558-8656

# EDGARTOWN SCHOOL COMMITTEE MINUTES

Wednesday, July 22, 2020 – 8:30am – Via Zoom

Those present were; Chairperson Megan Anderson, Member Kimberly Kirk, Member Kelly McCracken, Matt D'Andrea (Superintendent), Richie Smith (Asst. Superintendent), Shelley Einbinder (Principal), Anne Fligor (Asst. Principal), Mark Friedman (Interim School Business Administrator), Nancy Dugan (Director of Student Support Services – Pre K-Gr.7), Gina Debettencourt, Megan McDonald, Jennifer Fournier, Diane Smadbeck, Nedine Cunningham, Debra Grant, Sue Costello, Abigail Chandler, Brooke Leahy, Jen O'Hanlon, Claire Crowell, Skylar Menton, Kate Lefer, Ellen Wannamaker, and Kara Leandro.

## **I. Approval of minutes of June 10, 2020**

On a motion by Kelly McCracken, seconded by Kimberly Kirk, the committee approved the minutes of the June 10, 2020 meeting by way of roll call vote.

## **II. PTA Report**

There will be a meeting of the PTA on July 23, 2020.

Dr. Einbinder thanked Deanna Laird and Susan Sanford for their eight years of service and also congratulated the new officers: Brooke Leahy, President; Jen O'Hanlon, Vice President; Michelle Oteri, Treasurer; Claire Crowell, Secretary.

## **III. Finance Report**

### **A. Donation(s)**

1. A generous donation was received by the High School in the amount of \$10,000 from Ernie Boch to go towards the School Lunch Program to help support families with lunch and breakfast. The Edgartown School has been allocated \$2,000.

On a motion by Kelly McCracken, seconded by Kimberly Kirk, the committee accepted the \$2,000 allocation from Ernie Boch by way of roll call vote.

2. In support of school meals served during the COVID-19 closure, Island Grown Initiative donated \$12,387 to the Edgartown School. Other island schools have also received donations from Island Grown Initiative. The amount donated was specifically to the Edgartown School.

On a motion by Kelly McCracken, seconded by Kimberly Kirk, the committee accepted the \$12,387 generous donation by way of roll call vote.

Gina Debettencourt requested that thank you notes be sent to the donors as well as to Morning Glory Farm for all the food they have generously donated during the school closure and for their continued donations.

Mr. Friedman has thoroughly reviewed the FY20 budget. He is in the process of closing out the FY20 files and opening up the FY21 budget. There isn't much activity in July and August. The first true look of the FY21 budget will be in September when final reconciliations of staffing are made.

There are different grants being offered at the State level. Leah Palmer and Sheryl Taylor, the new Grant Coordinator, are working with Mr. Friedman in applying for these grants, one of which is a Technology grant. The amount of which is unknown at this time. At the end of the month they will apply for the School Reopening Grant, which are monies that have been set aside from the CARES Act.



#### **IV. Superintendent's Report**

##### **A. All Island School Committee (AISC)**

The Committee will meet in the first week of August to vote on the return to school plan.

##### **B. School Fall Opening Update**

The Commissioner of Education has issued guidance regarding the reopening of schools in the fall. He has requested that districts prepare 3 models of instruction: in-person, hybrid, and remote. The Island-Wide Task Force is working to put these plans together to be presented at the beginning of August. The Task Force has been broken down into sub-committees: Teaching and Learning, chaired by Richie Smith; Special Education and ELL, chaired by Hope McLeod, Nancy Dugan, and Leah Palmer; Social/Emotional Learning, chaired by Dakir Warren; Health and Wellness, chaired by Katherine Coogan; Dr. Stevens, a pediatrician; and Dr. Zack, the district physician; Technology, chaired by Darren Belisle; Food Service, chaired by Mercedes Ferrera; and Transportation, chaired by Dr. D'Andrea and Pete Steadman, the Charter School Principal. The sub-committees meet frequently and the full committee meets weekly. There is a meeting today at 4pm. The Task Force is following guidance from the State, looking at what other districts are doing, and looking at the advice of the health care professionals to make a decision that will be in the best interest of the students and the schools. Dr. D'Andrea has a meeting today at 11:30am with the Commissioner of Education. What happens at the State level helps to inform what we're doing at the local level. By July 31, the district must submit their preliminary return to school plan. By August 10, a larger and more formal plan must be submitted to the Department of Education.

D'Andrea touched on a few other items:

- \*The HVAC systems in all the schools will be looked at on July 23. They will begin developing cleaning protocols. The Health and Wellness sub-committee is partnering with the Board of Health. All decisions are being run by Matt Poole, Edgartown Board of Health. He disseminates out to all the other Boards of Health.

- \*They are looking at some Grant opportunities, one for Technology as an example. This Grant will allow for the purchase of devices and internet for families.

- \*Working with the attorney to look at any challenges that might arise with personnel. Meetings are taking place with the Teachers Union to make sure that they are on the same page.

- \*Weekly forums are being held. They are geared towards parents but anyone who would like to can join. This is an opportunity to share updates, receive input, and ask questions. The first meeting was Tuesday, July 21. The next forum will be Tuesday, July 28.

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

##### **A. Building Task Force Update**

The Edgartown School has formed their own building-level Task Force and is working closely with the Island-Wide Task Force. The following have volunteered their time over the past few weeks: Jennifer Fournier, Debra Grant, Nedine Cunningham, Nancy Cole, Mary Ellen Guyther, Bridget Mello, Nicole Barlett, Gina Debettencourt, Dwight Kaeka, Maria Mackenty, Kara Leandro, Anne Fligor, and Dr. Einbinder. The 3 specific areas that have been explored are the use of outdoor space, the handling of arrival/dismissal, and in-building traffic flow.

Member McCracken inquired if there was any credibility to additional enrollments. Dr. Einbinder replied that the school has received notice of a few students moving here from other states to enroll their children.

Gina Debettencourt asked if there was a plan in place for children coming in from other states to quarantine before starting school. Dr. D'Andrea does not have a final answer or know what that will look like but that it is part of the conversation.

Dr. Einbinder replied to Member Kirk's question regarding classroom spacing that she is using the calculations provided by the State to see how many students fit 3' and 6' apart. The Task Force will make the final decision.

**B. Personnel**

**1. Resignation(s)**

Dr. Einbinder received the following resignations:

- i. Arianna Coppola Gr. 6 All
- ii. Lorna Ashe – ESP Gr. 1

**2. New Hires**

Dr. Einbinder has made recommendations for several new hires for the following positions: Special Education, ELA, Social Studies, ESP Interpreter, ELL, and a Cooks Helper. Some have met with Dr. D'Andrea and others are in their final stages. The names were withheld but will be announced at the next School Committee meeting.

**3. Retirement**

Dr. Einbinder announced the retirement of Assistant Principal, Anne Fligor.

On a motion by Kelly McCracken, seconded by Kimberly Kirk, the Committee accepted the resignations of Arianna Coppola and Lorna Ashe by way of roll call vote.

On a motion by Kelly McCracken, seconded by Kimberly Kirk, the Committee accepted the retirement of Anne Fligor with gratitude by way of roll call vote.

**VI. Public Comment**

Abigail Chandler, parent and MVRHS Music Department Chairperson, inquired about a decision or discussion on the hiring of the Oak Bluffs/Edgartown band teacher. Dr. Einbinder explained that the position was originally posted and then put on hold until further guidance was received from the State. Dr. D'Andrea confirmed that they are still awaiting guidance from the Commissioner of Education regarding band and chorus.

**VII. New/Old Business**

None

**VIII. Schedule Next Meeting(s)**

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 11, 2020 at 8:30am via Zoom.

**IX. Adjournment**

Respectfully submitted,

Ken Romero  
Secretary to the Committee