



EDGARTOWN SCHOOL COMMITTEE

**Wednesday, March 13, 2024 – 5:30 pm
Edgartown School Library and Via Zoom**

AGENDA

Please note: Some business will consist of a discussion and possible vote to take action

- I. Approval of Minutes from February 1, 2024 and February 28, 2024**
- II. PTA Report**
- III. Finance Report**
 - A. Expenditure and Fund Balance Reports
 - B. Donations: Outdoor Learning Campus – First Joint Donation
- IV. Principal's Report**
 - A. Principal's Update
 - B. 2023-2024 School Improvement Plan – School Advisory Council
 - C. Discussion of School Choice Policy Language
 - a. Voluntary Exit Interviews
 - b. Maximum Cap of 18 Students
 - D. Enrollment
 - E. Personnel
- V. Superintendent's Report**
 - A. General Update
 - B. Special Education Update – Hope MacLeod
- VI. Public Comment**
- VII. New/Old Business**
 - A. 7th Grade Trip to New Hampshire
 - B. 8th Grade Trip to New York/Philadelphia
- VIII. Schedule Next Meeting(s)**
- IX. Adjournment**

Join Zoom Meeting

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EDGARTOWN SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Wednesday, March 13, 2024 – 5:30 pm
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Minutes

Present: Chair, Louis Paciello and members Kimberly Kirk and Kelly Scott
Others: Supt. Dr. Richie Smith, Assistant Superintendent John Stevers, Principal Dr. Shelley Einbinder, Hope MacLeod Student Services Director, Mark Friedman, School Business Administrator, Brooke Leahy PTA President, Nedine Cunningham 8th grade social studies teacher, Deb Grant Kindergarten teacher, Jennifer Fournier First Grade Teacher, Gina deBetencourt Food Services Director, Deb DeBettencourt School Counselor, Nancy Cole School Librarian, Darren Belisle Technology Administrator, Robin Davies ESP, Beth Zeller, Angela Rankow, Maggie and Alex Harrison, Amy Heil, Natalie Deharo, R. Kristen Brown, Karen Bressler

The meeting was called to order at 5:38 p.m.

I. Approval of Minutes from February 1, 2024

Kelly Scott made a motion to approve the minutes and Mr. Paciello seconded.

There was no discussion comments or changes.

The motion passed: 3 Ayes, 0 Nays

II. PTA Report - Brooke Leahy reported that 3 students won in the Reflections program that the PTA participated in for the first time this year: John Curelli, Maya Wallace and Lucille Morrison. There are plans to have a celebration at the school for the participants and if possible to display the entries. The next meeting is Tuesday, March 18 at 8:30 in the school.

III. Finance Report - Mark Friedman reported on the below:

A. Expenditure and Fund Balance Reports

B. Donations: Outdoor Learning Campus – First Joint Donation Shelley Einbinder presented this and noted that the town also needs to accept the donation. Once the Selectboard accepts the first one the rest of the donations just need to be presented to the School Committee.

John Stevens and Shelley Einbinder each contributed \$250 to begin this fund for a total of \$500. Louis Paciello said he would match the \$250.

Kelly Scott made a motion to accept the \$500 donation and Louis Paciello seconded with gratitude.

There was no discussion comments or changes.

The motion passed: 3 Ayes, 0 Nays

IV. Principal's Report - Dr. Einbinder Reported on the below:

A. Principal's Update: Dr. Einbinder met with Richie Smith and John Stevens as well as staff to develop a plan to address concerns which includes:

- Leading conversations on Professional Development Day about Improving School Climate, Instructional Practices, Collaborative Problem Solving, and Increasing Family Engagement
- Offering two sessions of After School Clubs to provide additional enrichment activities that challenge our students
- Meeting with the School Advisory Council to ensure that the goals for this year are specific and measurable
- Highlighting several recent school events that were attended by parents, such as Honor Roll Breakfast, Spelling Bee, (Congratulations to our finalist Jake Stanton,) and our 3rd Grade Theater Improv.
- A School-Wide Assembly focused on kindness
- Inviting parents to attend school-wide community meetings following monthly Fun Runs
- Sending Edgartown Newsletters each week to families and posting them on our school website
- Hiring additional staff to increase supervision including bus monitors, lunch/recess monitors, and an early morning lobby monitor
- Continuing to interview additional ESPs
- Securing parent volunteers to help at lunchtime in the cafeteria. Parents were asked to let Shelley know if they would be interested in helping out, even if it is only for one hour, one day a week.
- Working with the Mid-Atlantic Equity Consortium to conduct an Equity Audit

B. 2023-2024 School Improvement Plan – School Advisory Council
Dr. Einbinder thanked the people who participated in the SAC meeting. Deb DeBettencourt also presented.

Target Area 1. Social Emotional Learning and Culture

Staff training has been implemented: Collaborative Problem Solving, Responsive Classroom, Safety Care training and Connection-building.

Target Area 2. Instructional, related to Assessment, Curriculum and Models including: Analyzing data for remediation and instruction, piloting two literacy curriculums and piloting 6 co-teaching teams.

Target Area 3. Facilities
HVAC study, Phase 1 of the Outdoor Learning Campus project and Phase 2 of the Kindergarten playground project.

Target Area 4. Community Equity and Positive Family Engagement including: evening events such as the Math Family Night and a year-long calendar of events as well as Parent Teacher Conferences.

Kelly Scott asked how we are reaching out to Brazilian families. Dr. Einbinder said that interpretation is offered at all events and now even at the School Committee meeting. Also, Children's Day is a day-long event that celebrates the Brazilian population that has taken place over the last couple of years.

Kimberly Kirk made a motion to approve the School Advisory Plan created by the SAC and Louis Paciello seconded with gratitude.

The discussion included Kelly Scott proposing that an update each month should be added to the School Committee monthly agendas.

There were no further comments or changes.

The motion passed: 3 Ayes, 0 Nays

C. Discussion of School Choice Policy Language - a discussion was had about these topics:

- a. Voluntary Exit Interviews
- b. Maximum Cap of 18 Students

D. Enrollment - Total number is 380 students.

E. Personnel - Shelley Einbinder noted that a bus monitor and an early morning lobby monitor have been hired. Other support positions are still open.

Robert Culbert officially retired on March 6, 2024 and is finishing the same role as a long term sub for the remainder of the year.

Louis Paciello made a motion to accept Robert Culbert's retirement as of March 6, 2024 and Kimberly Kirk seconded with gratitude.

There was no discussion comments or changes.

The motion passed: 3 Ayes, 0 Nays

Dr. Smith presented information that MaryAnn Bartlett resigned from her role as assistant principal effective June 30, 2024.

Kelly Scott made a motion to accept MaryAnn Bartlett's resignation as of June 30, 2024 and Kimberly Kirk seconded with gratitude.

There was no discussion comments or changes.

The motion passed: 3 Ayes, 0 Nays

V. Superintendent's Report

A. General Update Dr. Smith said thank you to all the parents who came to meet with him and he sees it as a positive change in support of the children.

Dr. Smith, John Stevens, Hope MacLeod, Leah Palmer, Mark Friedman, Kim Garrison, teacher leaders within the schools and others such as members of the S.A.C. are working with Shelley to build on what is needed and respond to parent concerns.

B. Special Education Update – Hope MacLeod noted the Edgartown School's progress on Think:Kids Collaborative Problem-Solving professional development. For the Level 1 portion staff and administrators are participating and 5 teachers who completed Level 1 are now going through Level 2 training to become trainers themselves - 2 of these were Edgartown Teachers. Some teachers can take an asynchronous video class as well.

Hope also stated that the IEP's will be following new formats beginning next year. The law and the process stays the same but the paperwork and documentation will look different and teachers are receiving training on that now in order to prepare. Student voice will now be included and the plan needs to be driven by data. It is mandatory to adopt the new format beginning the school year 2024-2025. There will be additional training coming too.

Hope MacLeod informed the school committee that she would always let them know if there would be a request to use funds for a residential placement.

VI. Public Comment

A parent mentioned that she enjoys the Edgartown Newsletter. She also asked who is running for school committee and when the voting would take place. She encouraged parents to join the English Language Learners Parent Advisory Group. She asked who could join the Playground committee and the School Advisory Council.

There was discussion about updating the School Advisory Council information on the web site. There was discussion about the composition of the S.A.C as well as the meeting times.

A parent brought up a concern about communication and Dr. Einbinder offered to speak with her after the meeting.

Dr. Smith thanked Louis Paciello for his service on the School Committee.

VII. New/Old Business

A. 7th Grade Trip to New Hampshire

Kelly Scott made a motion to approve the 7th grade trip to New Hampshire and Louis Paciello seconded with gratitude.

There was no discussion comments or changes.

The motion passed: 3 Ayes, 0 Nays

B. 8th Grade Trip to New York/Philadelphia

Kelly Scott made a motion to approve the 8th grade trip to New York and Philadelphia and Kimberly Kirk seconded with gratitude.

There was no discussion comments or changes.

The motion passed: 3 Ayes, 0 Nays

VIII. Schedule Next Meeting: Tuesday, April 2, 2024 at 5:30 in the Edgartown School Library and via Zoom.

IX. Adjournment The meeting was adjourned at 7:28