

APPROVED MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, October 6, 2022, 7:00 PM
EPPING SCHOOL BOARD
Epping Town Hall/ Epping TV Channel 22/Zoom

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Heather Clark called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm with the pledge of allegiance.

In attendance: Chair Heather Clark, Vice Chair Ben Leavitt, Member Robin O'Day, Member Julie Knight, Member Jen Jacoby, Superintendent Furbush, Business Administrator Christine Vayda, Student Carly Sanborn, and Student Jacob Twombly.

SCHEDULED TOPICS

a. EMHS Goals 22-23, Principal Chris Mazzone

Principal Mazzone spoke about the goals that were outlined for the year. The first goal references the Portrait of a Graduate. The goal is to address each of the characteristics in the Portrait at the administrative, teacher, and student levels. This includes having the Graduate Portrait "compass" posted and easily accessible to students as well as having the morning announcements address one of the characteristics on the compass.

Mr. Nekton spoke about the dashboard currently being created for teachers that will allow them to submit lessons that address a characteristic and also view other lessons from other teachers that have done the same. He feels this will be a great resource to improve instruction.

Susan spoke about the parent/teacher/student conferences and how they are now incorporating a self-reflection aspect where the students have a chance to be active participants in the discussion.

Principal Mazzone stated the second goal set was related to curriculum guidance and assessment. The goal is for each teacher to develop and submit two pieces of evidence per quarter that demonstrate integration of the work/study practices. This can then be incorporated into the parent/teacher conferences.

The third goal set was based on the culture and climate within the building. The goal is to make sure there are one to two positive action lessons each week. This goal directly ties in to the culture and climate work already happening in the District.

There was some discussion following this topic on expanding these goals to describe how they will impact the building by the end of the year.

Nature's Classroom

Susan spoke about a few things that are changing this year. There is a new 7th grade team, and they are hoping to have students return to Camp Cody for Nature's Classroom to allow the new team to settle in. Susan asked the Board for their approval to have the students attend. The proposed dates of attendance are May 30th - June 2nd. The cost per student this year is

\$375, a \$50 increase from past years. They are looking into fundraising opportunities to help offset this cost.

Member Robin O'Day made a motion to accept the Nature's Classroom field trip from May 30th to June 2nd of 2023 for the 7th Grade. Seconded by Vice Chair Ben Leavitt. VOTE: 5-0. Motion carries.

b. EES Goals 22-23, Building Administrators Jill Lizier and Mandy Murphy

Jill and Mandy outlined the 2022-2023 goals set for EES. The first goal relates to the portrait of a graduate. The goal is that by Spring 2023 EES students and staff will recognize, utilize and reflect on the District work/study practices through the use of common school language and student-led conferences. They have implemented school-wide morning meetings to recognize students who demonstrate work/study practices. The students are nominated by the staff.

The second goal is an instructional goal for student-led conferences. The goal is for students to reflect on their academic growth and identify next steps in the student-led conferences.

The third goal is a culture and climate related goal. The focus of the goal is being a professional learning community. To achieve this goal, one staff meeting per month will be dedicated to giving staff PLC time. Also, staff will be asked to take a PLC survey to self-reflect and rate themselves.

c. School Hours versus Days Discussion

Superintendent Furbush discussed the topic of hours versus days and gave a brief history of the requirements. He noted the minimum requirements currently are 945 hours for grades K-6 and 990 hours for grades 7-12. Epping is well over the minimum and this allows them to hold more in-service days. These days help teachers to catch up on their needs. He mentioned that each District can do things differently as long as they are meeting the minimum requirements set.

There was discussion by the Board about what would be best for students. The example given is that less in-service days and more school days may lead to better academic performance.

Superintendent Furbush discussed a recent meeting he attended that focused on HB-1661. The signing of this bill gave every CTE center the task of aligning all calendars within 10 incidences of each other. Each incidence is a day when the calendars are not the same. The proposed calendar follows the new legislation.

Carly spoke about being an SST student and how the majority of Epping students still go to SST when they have class on days Epping does not.

Robert Hodgman asked if making the in-service days half days would help with the incidences under HB-1661. Superintendent Furbush answered that unfortunately the half days still count as incidents.

The Board discussed the option of increasing the number of student days in the school year. The Principals in attendance stated their opinions on whether or not the additional days

would make a significant impact. They made the point that if the same high level of quality education is in those additional days it would be beneficial but there are also many important things covered during the in-service days.

There was general discussion about the proposed schedule.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Robert Hodgman pointed out some incorrect dates for the Budget Work Sessions - the days are correct. There was the first Budget Work Session before this Board meeting. There may be an additional session before 10/19.

POLICY

a. ~~BEDH – Public Comment and Participation at Board Meetings – 2nd/3rd Read~~

None

PERSONNEL

None

REPORTS

a. Student Reports

Carly discussed what the different classes are working on. Project Search had their first seminar yesterday, and they appreciated being able to carpool. Jacob and Carly discussed athletics. Carly gave Jacob a shoutout for getting a hat trick in the most recent soccer game and for surpassing the soccer goal record. Carly and Jacob discussed the Homecoming activities. They mentioned the Spirit Week dress up days. The Class banners will be presented soon. Carly announced the new Freshmen Class Officers. At the football game, they will be collecting food cans for Tackle Hunger.

b. Principal Reports

Principal Mazzone said that the student voice has been incredible. They will be having a conversation about AP students' reassessments soon. In the handbook, it mentions Honors and AP students for this topic, and it should be Running Start and AP instead. This mistake will be rectified after the conversation happens. He also discussed the SST student lunch situation; this is still something they are working on and will hopefully have more grab-n-go options available soon. Running Start credits will now be offered for Pre-Calc. The Administration has started to have conversations about collaborating with other districts and opening certain classes up to external students and vice versa. They have started working on a master schedule. He said that parents have been happy with the District's updates and communication, but they want to start to communicate and summarize some of the more recent societal issues to families in order for them to be aware (i.e. vaping). EMHS currently has 43 regular education teachers and six special

education teachers. They are currently supporting efforts aimed at retaining teachers. He mentioned how many teachers that they'll be observing this year.

Jill and Mandy said that the first school-wide morning meeting was held and went very well. The next meeting will be on a Wednesday at the end of October. The first field trip of the year was the 3rd grade trip to the NH Farm Museum. The 4th graders have been taking on "leader" roles during lunch with the Kindergarteners to help and support them. The PTO Raise Praise fundraiser has raised approximately \$8,400 to date and they are hoping to reach their \$20,000 goal. Tutoring notices were sent out to parents and there are currently 11 students signed up.

c. Superintendent Reports
None

FINANCIAL BUSINESS & DISTRICT SERVICES

a. Financial Report

Christine said that they are working through the budget process. She completed an exercise that Joe Trombley had created. Christine explained why she drastically increased the rate in the budget. Ben said that they are still adjusting certain metrics within the budget. Christine will join Ben at the next Budget Committee meeting.

b. Affiliated Agreements

The Affiliated groups are working on creating their own EIN numbers.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. Public Minutes of September 15, 2022

Member Jen Jacoby made a motion to approve the Public Minutes of the September 15, 2022 meeting as amended. Seconded by Vice Chair Ben Leavitt. VOTE: 5-0. Motion carries.

MANIFEST

a. Payroll deposited on September 16, 2022

Vice Chair Ben Leavitt made a motion to approve Payroll deposited on September 16, 2022 in the amount of \$338,088.52. Seconded by Member Robin O'Day. VOTE: 5-0. Motion carries.

b. Payroll deposited on September 30, 2022

Vice Chair Ben Leavitt made a motion to approve Payroll deposited on September 30, 2022 in the amount of \$269,124.06. Seconded by Member Robin O'Day. VOTE: 5-0. Motion carries.

c. Accounts Payable deposited on September 14, 2022

Vice Chair Ben Leavitt made a motion to approve Accounts Payable deposited on September 14, 2022 in the amount of \$9,600.00. Seconded by Member Robin O'Day. VOTE: 5-0. Motion carries.

d. Accounts Payable deposited on September 23, 2022

Vice Chair Ben Leavitt made a motion to approve Accounts Payable deposited on September 23, 2022 in the amount of \$216,358.87. Seconded by Member Robin O'Day. VOTE: 5-0. Motion carries.

e. Accounts Payable deposited on September 29, 2022

Vice Chair Ben Leavitt made a motion to approve Accounts Payable deposited on September 29, 2022 in the amount of \$160.00. Seconded by Member Robin O'Day. VOTE: 5-0. Motion carries.

Robin had a question about Rosetta Stone; it will be used for ESOL students.

BOARD COMMENTS/OTHER

Julie was excited to see the tutoring available to elementary school students. This will be getting rolled out at EMHS as well. The State is offering tutoring now too. Julie asked about Out of the Blue: Compass News; Superintendent Furbush explained it. It will be used as a communication tool.

Jen said that she thinks the calendar decision should come from the Superintendent and Administration.

Ben said that the Elementary PTO Monster Mash will be on 10/28. He also said that negotiations are going well. He said that he has the web link to the NHSB Budget Webinar and will share it with the Board. He said that there is another webinar coming up to go over the Superintendent Review process.

Robin talked about the Delegate Assembly that she recently went to.

There was discussion about the Budget Work Session schedule. Heather mentioned that Tempo is doing their annual pie and cookie fundraiser. A generous donor said that they will match up to \$3,000. She also encouraged people to attend Homecoming.

NEXT MEETING TO BE SCHEDULED

a. October 20, 2022 regular meeting

NONPUBLIC SESSION: Non-Meeting is **scheduled** for October 6, 2022.

ADJOURNMENT

Vice Chair Ben Leavitt made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:39 pm. Seconded by Member Jen Jacoby. VOTE: 5-0. Motion carries.

Respectfully submitted,

Dagny Wilkins

School Board Secretary