

Easton School District No. 28  
Meeting of the Board of Directors  
5-12-2020  
*School Board Meeting held via Zoom*

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Amy Grove at 5:35 PM.

**Attendance:** Amy Grove, John Jensen, Jen Phillips, April Simonson

**Approve Agenda:** Superintendent Dehuff added the minutes from the 4-28-20 board meeting to the agenda and a response from the Board of Directors to previous communication from the EEA to the agenda. John Jensen made a motion to approve the agenda with the additions mentioned above. April Simonson seconded the motion and the motion carried.

**Staff:** Dawn Bechtholdt, Marilyn Fudge, Patrick Dehuff, Freida Ellison, Marchel Allenbaugh, Jenny Jensen, Julie Miller, Lyn Cox, Becky Houle, Sara McCoy, Phil Derrick, Carol Shaprio, Mary Forry, Gretchen Jenkins, Ofelia Todd. Brian Todd joined the meeting at 6:40 pm.

**Board Members Absent:** Chris Helgeson is on a leave of absence.

**Guests:** Maria Ramsey

**Approve Minutes:** April Simonson made a motion to approve the minutes from the school board meeting on April 28, 2020.

**Communication to the Board:** The Board of Directors drafted a response to the EEA pertaining to a previous "Communication to the Board." John Jensen made a motion to approve the letter of response. Jen Phillips seconded the motion and the motion carried.

**School Closure Update:** Superintendent Dehuff gave updated information regarding the school closure due to the COVID-19 virus. We continue to move ahead researching ways to provide remote instruction and support to our students. We are learning from this closure to be prepared should the school remain closed at the start of 2020-2021 school year. We want our students to have a high level of learning, without overwhelming them or their families. We are moving ahead with the grading criteria and developing a continuous learning plan for Easton School District.

Principal Bechtholdt mentioned that some teachers have guest speakers confirmed to speak (via zoom) to their students. Ms. Badda had former Easton School graduate, Kendra Strahm who graduated from Eastern Washington University with a photography major, speak to her students. The art kits will be arriving soon, and will be shared with students. The teachers will have access to their classrooms next week. Mrs. Bechtholdt asked if next school year's registration information could be placed on the website. Julie Miller, District secretary said that she starts registration for students in August. Ms. Bechtholdt mentioned that we have had staff discussions on the topic of grading and administration has decided on a grading scale going forward of A, B,

C, and incomplete for the remainder of the school year. A student's grade for 2<sup>nd</sup> semester cannot be less than it was on the last day that Easton School was open, but students do have the opportunity to improve their grades. We will try to avoid incompletes, if possible. Staff will meet with parents when a student is at risk for getting an incomplete to discuss ways for the student to engage and bring up their grade from an incomplete. Easton School staff meets over zoom every Tuesday to discuss how the remote instruction and support to students and their families are going.

**Board Business:** The Board of Directors were asked to approve three CTE courses. These classes include Introduction to Woods, taught by Dave Allenbaugh; Office Use Specialist, taught by Tracy Van Lone; and Introduction to Computer Programming (TEALS) taught by Marchel Allenbaugh. There was some discussion amongst Board members regarding the possibility of offering Culinary Arts and moving the timeframe of some of the CTE classes so there would be more opportunities for our students to take them. For example, Introduction to Computer Programming (TEALS) and Introduction to Woods are both offered during the first period of the day. Principal Bechtholdt mentioned that Board approval was not necessary for Culinary Arts since it was previously approved and she will review the request to adjust the schedule to provide more opportunities for students to attend CTE classes. Jen Phillips made a motion to approve the three CTE courses listed above. John Jensen seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Superintendent Dehuff and Business Manager Freida Ellison researched the possibility of offering a bonus to teachers who are retiring. This is being considered by the district because of the difference in pay between new teachers and ones that are on the high end of the salary schedule. The State eliminated the Salary Allocation Model (SAM), which adjusted the revenue of school districts based on where a school district's teachers were on the salary schedule. Freida Ellison made contact with the State Auditor's office, who advised that they would look to see if that provision was in the employee's current contract if they were conducting an audit and discovered a retirement bonus. Superintendent Dehuff contacted the district attorney who advised that it would be a violation of RCW 28A.400.220 to provide a bonus to retiring teachers unless the retiring employee's contract has a provision for it. Since none of our current employee contracts have this provision, a bonus for retirement will not be offered.

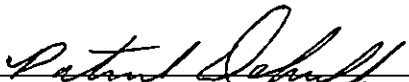
Resolution #454 is the adoption of the 2020-21 Reduced Education Program, to help bridge the gap between anticipated revenues and expenditures for the upcoming school year. The 2020-21 Reduced Education Program includes the following provisions:


1. Cost shifting of a portion of wages and benefits, and a portion of contracted technology services from the General Fund to the Capital Projects Fund for personnel who are directly involved in the planning, implementation, and fiscal management of Capital Projects.
2. Cost shifting of educational subscription services from the General Fund to the Library Fund when those subscriptions can be utilized by students in the library.
3. Elimination of one paraprofessional position.

4. Reduction of the principal position from 1.0 FTE to .63 FTE

April Simonson made a motion to approve Resolution #454. John Jensen seconded the motion and the motion carried.

**Meeting Adjourned:** Jen Phillips made a motion to adjourn the meeting. April Simonson seconded the motion and the motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 6:44 PM.

  
Patrick Dehuff, Superintendent

  
Amy Grove, Board Vice-Chair