

Easton School District No. 28  
Meeting of the Board of Directors  
Zoom Meeting  
July 28, 2020

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Chris Helgeson at 5:30 PM.

**Board Members Attendance:** Chris Helgeson, John Jensen, Jen Phillips, April Simonson.

**Staff:** Patrick Dehuff, Freida Ellison, Dawn Bechtholdt, Tracy VanLone, Marilyn Fudge, Julie Miller, Jackie Tate, Gretchen Jenkins, Cece Badda, Jenny Jensen, Mary Forry, Gretchen Jenkins, Cathy Hammerberg, Rachel Henderson

**Guests:** Sarah Conner, Maria Ramsey, Warren Hopkins

**Approve Agenda:** Prior to approving the agenda, Superintendent requested an addition to the agenda of the 2020-21 budget as an action item. April Simonson made a motion to approve the agenda for tonight's meeting with the addition of the 2020-21 budget as an action item. Jen Phillips seconded the motion and the motion carried.

**Board Minutes:** John Jensen made a motion to approve the minutes from the board meeting on June 23, 2020. Jen Phillips seconded the motion and the motion carried.

**Communication to the Board:** There is no communication to the Board.

**Public Comment:** None

**Reports:**

**Financial:** Business Manager, Freida Ellison reviewed the budget status report. Ms. Ellison reviewed each fund and explained the expenses, revenues, and the balance for each fund. The enrollment trends remain unchanged since March, 2020. These reports are attached to the minutes.

**Budget Hearing:** Business Manager, Freida Ellison discussed the proposed 2020-21 budget. She shared concerns of having a decrease in local levy collection due to levy caps that unfairly penalize small schools, reduction in funding from the salary allocation model, and a decrease in enrollment. Ms. Ellison also shared the 4-year financial projections for the district and reiterated the need to monitor our financial status carefully this coming year, decrease expenditures where we can, and increase student enrollment. People who attended the meeting via Zoom were unmuted during the budget hearing so they could ask questions if they wanted to. One board member asked Ms. Ellison if she has an idea what the feds have proposed for funding of schools. Ms. Ellison has not heard about any changes in federal funding yet.

**Resolution #455:** Resolution #455 is the adoption of Easton School District's 2020-21 budget. April Simonson made a motion to approve resolution #455. Jen Phillips seconded the motion and the motion

carried.

**Staff Report:** None

**Principal Report:** Dawn Bechtholdt discussed the work that she and Superintendent Dehuff have been working on since the 2019-20 school year ended. She shared information about meetings with some staff members regarding possible reopening plans and demonstrations from vendors of learning management systems.

**Superintendent Report:** Superintendent Dehuff discussed the planning meetings that were happening this week regarding the upcoming 2020-21 school year. We have surveyed students, parents/guardians, and staff to gather their feedback regarding the remote learning that occurred in the Spring of 2020 after Easton School was forced to shut down, and about the start of the 2020-21 school year. Three planning meetings (via zoom) are scheduled this week. The first meeting was yesterday, July 27, 2020, and another meeting is scheduled for tomorrow, July 29<sup>th</sup>, and another on Friday, July 31<sup>st</sup>. Dr. Dehuff mentioned the importance of gathering input from students, parents/guardians, and staff from surveys and planning meetings as we plan for the upcoming school year. He said that there was good discussion and questions posed during our planning meeting yesterday and anticipated more questions and input in the meetings to come later this week.

**Board Report:** None

**Board Business:**

**Policy #3225, School Based Threat Assessment:** At our previous board meeting, Policy #3225 was presented to the Board as a first read. This policy is recommending by Washington State School Directors Association (WSSDA) and OSPI. John Jensen made a motion to approve Policy #3225. April Simonson seconded the motion and the motion carried.

**Resignations:** The board was presented with two resignations. Lyn Cox submitted her resignation. Ms. Cox has accepted a position with another district. Chris Helgeson made a motion to accept Lyn Cox's resignation. John Jensen seconded the motion and the motion carried. Sara McCoy submitted her retirement effective October 1, 2020. April Simonson made a motion to accept Ms. McCoy's retirement effective October 1, 2020. Jen Phillips seconded the motion and the motion carried.

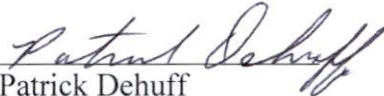
**Easton School Reopening Plan:** As mentioned in the superintendent report, there are three planning meetings regarding the reopening of Easton School scheduled this week. The final decision on how to reopen (all students back, hybrid model, or remote learning) is a decision that the Board of Directors will make, in conjunction with public health guidance. The board will be provided with a draft plan for reopening that will include plans for social distancing, health screenings, cleaning and transportation, nursing services, transportation, meals, learning management system, etc. April Simonson shared her thoughts about the reopening of Easton School. Superintendent Dehuff stated that he wants all staff in the building if the district starts the school year in a remote learning choice. The final plan for the reopening of Easton School has to be approved two weeks prior to the first day of school for the 2020-21 school year.


**Consent Agenda:** Jen Phillips made a motion to approve tonight's consent agenda. John Jensen seconded the motion and the motion carried.

**Regular Meeting Adjourned to Closed Session:** Jen Phillips made a motion to adjourn the regular meeting to go into a closed session to discuss contract negotiations. John Jensen seconded the motion and the motion carried.

**Closed Session:** The closed session to discuss contract negotiations started at 7:50 pm. The estimated time for the closed session was 20 minutes.

**Adjourn Regular Meeting:** The closed session ended at 8:10 pm and the regular meeting resumed. John Jensen made a motion to adjourn the regular meeting. April Simonson seconded the motion and the motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:12 pm.

  
Patrick Dehuff  
Superintendent

  
Chris Helgeson, Board Chair