

Easton School District No. 28
Meeting of the Board of Directors
December 15, 2020
ZOOM

The meeting was called to order by Chris Helgeson at 5:51 PM.

School Board Attending: John Jensen, Jen Phillips, April Simonson, Chris Helgeson

Staff Attending: Dawn Bechtholdt, Patrick Dehuff, Marilyn Fudge, Freida Ellison, Julie Miller, Jackie Tate, Becky Houle, Jenny Jensen, Gretchen Jenkins, Cece Badda, Ofelia Todd

Board Members Absent: None

Guests: Dana Meehan, Phillip Meehan, Kaylin Aper Dr. Larson, Madi Aper, Charity Sawyer, Terri Campbell

Approve Agenda: John Jensen made a motion to approve tonight's meeting. April Simonson seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote of the board.

Board Minutes: John Jensen made a motion to approve the November 24, 2020 minutes. April Simonson seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous vote of the board.

Communication to the Board: Superintendent Patrick Dehuff emailed it prior to the board. Chris Helgeson confirmed receiving it. It was a forwarded email. A MOU was drafted between the certificated union and the administration. This was worked on throughout the summer. We knew that we would begin the school year with all remote. We were lucky we didn't have too, we began the year remotely, but started hybrid with the elementary, part time. Secondary started right after the first quarter. It is good to have students back in the building. Easton students will have the option to attend face to face, or continue remotely. The teachers may elect to have all students, or not. It is up to the teacher to have all students or not. Secondary teachers have the same option. The elementary rooms have all students in the classroom, with the exception of K-1. A MOU is a lot of information, we all want to be smart, stay small. We want to keep school open, and not have to teach remotely again. Easton school is doing great. The parents, kids and staff are continuing to work diligently to keep the school with students in the building. A parent contacted the board asking why her K-1 student is not 4 days a week. She stated the closure in the spring students lost instruction. We do not want to go backwards. Dr. Dehuff will contact this parent to tell her the discussion. The parent that is asking this is on the ZOOM. Dr. Dehuff explained the MOU to Charity Sawyer, who is the parent questioning why. Dr. Dehuff explained the MOU to Mrs. Sawyer. Board director John Jensen stated that little kids are struggling more than high school. After Christmas break, we need to start a path on getting the kids back 4 days. Charity Sawyer asked why is the kindergarten class the only that currently does not have the students not doing 4 days when the rest are? Board director April Simonson requested this on the agenda for January's workshop.

Public Comment: Phillip Meehan questioned the board and the administration regarding the open board position. Mr. Meehan applied to the board in October 2020. Mr. Meehan was interviewed at the previous board meeting. Mr. Meehan was asked by several parents, and community members to apply. Mr. Meehan was told from the board they were waiting for more applicants. Since being informed by the board, several community members have approached him as to why there are administrators and teachers contacting them to apply for the board position. There have been teachers that have sent home board applications with their students. Mr. Meehan is an advocate for children, all children. Is the reason others are being contacted to apply because of his complaint against a teacher last year? Is it because of being a member of the Easton Fire department. Mr. Meehan is familiar with the Washington State laws for serving on a board. He stated that he is very capable to be appointed as a board member. . My children, as well as all other students need to be represented.

Dr. Larson said that we are close to the Christmas break for all schools. The bump after the Thanksgiving break is slowly decreasing. With the Christmas holiday coming, Dr. Larson is concerned when the schools start again. The trend currently for positive cases continuing to come from people continuing to sit with others that are not wearing masks. We are still not seeing secondary transmission where masks are on. This applies to schools as well. We are seeing more staff than students test positive. Schools are still safe for students, and teachers. People are becoming lazy, going to work when sick, not wearing a mask. We continue working to educate people on that. Dr. Larson is still not comfortable with schools open. Cle Elum is doing a drive by testing on January 3rd, Sunday. All schools are rapid testing. There will be an open public meeting will be on December ***, held virtually with Rick Elliott, leading. He will review the steps that they will be taking (1A, 1B etc) Merderm approved? No, this has not been approved as of today. This is similar to Pfizer. 73% of the population in Washington are going for the vaccine. The Pfizer vaccine stays at hospitals because of the temperature that it is required to be. The medermin vaccine can travel to vaccinate people. They will contact the school to set up time for staff who chose to vaccinate. There is a 21 day waiting period between shots. The discussion for spring sports is still being discussed.

Reports: Freida Ellison reviewed the budget status reports. Ms. Ellison also requested that it be considered to stop payroll being paid prior to the end of December.

Staff: Attached to Minutes

Student Report: Kaylin Aper and Madison Aper joined the meeting to report for the students. When asked how they felt the hybrid is working, Madison replied she likes the hybrid. They are happy to not be full time remote! The secondary students have a better attitude. Though they lie to the hybrid, they would like to go back to normal, but will take what they can get. Kaylin would be relieved to receive the vaccine.

Principal Report: Attached to Minutes

Superintendent Report: you know about the community grant, suncia and shoemaker help with hotspot and fees., great example. Donation of a 3d printer. Math and art. Order of laptops , HS need laptops. Got laptops and chrome books from the state. Donation from county freida 69216.92 from county to help with covid.

Board Report: None

Board Business: Procedure 5000 – Selection of staff. Dr. Dehuff emailed you the policy to review prior to the meeting.. The changes in policies are recommended by WSSDA, procedures are administrative. The policy allows the district screening of individuals etc. Posting shows a need, shows a job description. Ms. Mccoy retired, Mrs. Krechman moved grades and Mrs. Allenbaugh changed grades. This reviews posting and closing date. This also shows how to apply, etc. and how to talk a bit about the Easton school. There are required qualifications for teaching, and now remote learning. We need to utilize the standard application, website, Universities and advertise in the paper. There is certain information that is protected when interviewing. We reviewed the hiring questions, hiring panel, etc., how do we screen applicants. We have to be careful when interviewing.

Consent Agenda: Jen Phillips made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Chris Helgeson seconded the motion. The motion passed by a unanimous vote of the board.

Adjourn to Executive Session: At 8:00 pm the board adjourned to an executive session. The meeting is to review applicants for the open board position.

Re-adjourn meeting:

Meeting Adjourned:

Patrick Dehuff
Superintendent

Chris Helgeson
Board Chair