

EASTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
Long Range Planning Committee
Special Meeting Minutes
December 1, 2014

Attendance:

Committee Members: Regina Bobroske, Bettina Grob, Adam Horowitz, Bernard Josefsberg, Vida Peskay, Gabriel Rossi, Tom McMorran

Administration: Stephanie Pierson-Ugol

Others: none

- I. **Call to Order** - Regina Bobroske called the meeting to order at 7:03pm.
- II. **Approval of November 3, 2014 Special Meeting Minutes – Horowitz, Grob – Approved, Unanimous.**
- III. **Discussion and Possible Action:**
 - A. **Discussion with Tom McMorran and Stephanie Pierson-Ugol on K-12 Continuum and Future of School:**
 - Stephanie talked about the importance of focusing on middle school, where there are the most opportunities for innovation and disruptive strategies around schedules, structure of class periods, movement, and differentiation. The middle school years are when we start to lose learners.
 - Tom shared a resource “This We Believe” about Middle school, available at www.nmsa.org, as well as a Harvard Education Letter article “From Cells and Bells” to Learning Communities about the how physical structure impacts learning. There are opportunities to be creative with space and technology within the classroom as well as within the building. Classrooms as learning communities.
 - Tom also shared a theory of Richard Elmor from the Harvard School of Education on Achievement vs. Attainment.
 - A goal we should consider is that each student should be assisted in learning in the way that they do best and have greatest opportunity to succeed.
 - Focus on developing creative thinkers.
 - Factors to consider include space, personnel, curriculum, plan of study
 - B. **Other Districts:**
 - Dr. Josefsberg briefly reviewed presentations from Redding Long Range Planning meeting regarding how other districts are addressing declining enrollment. The committee will review in detail and we will have further discussion with Jonathan Costa at 12/9 meeting.
 - Consistently a complex issue
 - Need to reference and understand the statutes around consolidation/regionalization. Resources include Tom Mooney, CAFE and state senators.

C. Staffing Projections: Principles, Parameters and Processes:

- Classroom staffing is tied directly to enrollment
- This staff is supported by specialists and support staff.
- Have to parallel staffing to arrangement in place vs. innovation.
- Consider innovation within existing resources and possibly with declining resources.

D. Brainstorming and Action plan will be focus of January meeting

IV. Public Comment: None

V. Board Member Comment: None

VI. Adjournment

Motion: move that the Easton Long Range Planning Committee adjourn the meeting. Peskay, Horowitz. Approved. Unanimous.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15PM

Respectfully Submitted by Regina Bobroske, Committee Chairperson

Recorded by Regina Bobroske