A meeting of the East Bridgewater School Committee was held on Monday, December 14 2015, at 7:00 PM in the Dr. Judith Riordan Performing Arts Center in the East Bridgewater Jr/Sr High School. In attendance were Chair Jennifer Kitchenham, Co-Chair Gordon McKinnon, Theresa Maltz, Aimee McAlpine, Superintendent Elizabeth Legault, Assistant Superintendent Gina Williams, and recording clerk Joanne Benner. Mrs. Pennington was unable to attend.

Also in attendance were: Board of Selectman Martin Crowley, Bill Dowling, and Dave Sheedy, Athletic Director Thomas Kenney, Director of Specialized Services Danielle Carrigo, IEP Coordinator Cindy Trinidad, Principal Paul Vieira, Jeff Ghiloni, student musicians and athletes, and community members.

Motion to open meeting at 6:32 PM followed by Executive Session: McKinnon/Maltz Vote: 4 in favor

Upon return to open session at 7:15, Mrs. Kitchenham began with The Pledge of Allegiance.

Special Presentations

1. Superintendent Legault was given essays written by several of the top ranking students in the class of 2016. She reviewed the academic records, read the essays and decided upon the student that she felt best exemplified the criteria to receive the 2015/2016 Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents Academic Excellence Award. It was with pleasure that Ms. Legault called Delaney Patterson to the stage to receive the award. Delaney wants to study abroad in France intending to double major in French and international law. She has served as a Eucharistic Minister, been involved in community service, National Honor Society and is a member of the band.

2. The Board of Selectman, Superintendent Legault, Assistant Superintendent Williams, and Athletic Director Tom Kenney heralded the Jr/Sr High School student athletes for their accomplishes to date. The girls’ soccer team, the track team, and the football team all had a fantastic season with many students being chosen for MIAA competitions, All Scholastic Athletes, Boston Globe athletes, and Coach Tarpey as football Coach of the Year.

Superintendent Legault asked Mr. Ray Ponte to come to the stage and along with the Board of Selectman, Superintendent Legault, and Assistant Superintendent Williams the student musicians were recognized for their excellence. Students were chosen to be a part of the Southeast District Band after individually auditioning in front of judges. Mr. Ponte was very proud of the band’s performance of National Anthem at Gillette Stadium

Mr. Sheedy said it is a wonderful evening to recognize the kids, and as a result of Superintendent Legault’s leadership, we were all brought together. He is very happy to say he is a proud member of the town of East Bridgewater.

Ms. Legault took a moment to recognize the accomplishments Athletic Director, Tom Kenney brought to our district. He ensured students were outfitted with beautiful uniforms, brought the “safe zone” to EB, reached out to local businesses to sell signs to raise funds, and was instrumental in bringing the new scoreboard to the stadium. She said it has been a pleasure working with the talented and gifted athletic director.
The Superintendent thanked the Board of Selectman for coming and sharing the in the presentation with her. At this time a five minute recess was called.

**Report of the Student Advisory Council** – Page Veazie reported that winter sports have begun and the track team has its first meet today. The basketball team has a double header in Abington and the hockey team plays in Bridgewater on Wednesday. NHS has completed and delivered the items collected in the food drive, Tri-M is having a fundraiser and will sing Christmas carols for $10.00. The senior class lock-in is scheduled for 1/29/16, drama is working on their spring production, and Student Senate collected 99 units of blood at their blood drive.

**Correspondence Received** – Fire Chief Harhen sent a letter to Superintendent Legault about the ongoing concern of hover boards catching fire. The School Committee supports Chief Harhen’s request to not allow them inside the schools.

**Report of the Standing Committees** – Mrs. McAlpine is stepping down from the Operational Review Committee and Mrs. Pennington is being appointed in her place.

**Superintendent Legault’s Community Corner:**

1. On December 23rd the Superintendent’s Office is hosting a Holiday Open House from 12:00-3:00 PM; all are welcome to stop by. Light refreshments will be served.

2. Winter sports try-outs have begun. The track team is at the Reggie Lewis Center today, hockey is starting tomorrow night, and there will be a winter concert for grades 3-6.

3. Names have been added to the flow chart as requested by the Committee. The district will be transitioning from iPass to SchoolBrains for our data reporting. This program will work cooperatively with the others we use and will make the state reporting a more expedient.

**Reports and Discussions:**

1. Time was scheduled to review the Superintendent’s evaluation process and for her to share in what has been happening. The Superintendent said she is the instructional leader of the district. In January she will go to each school, speak with the staff and ask, “Where you feel you are now and how would you like to see things progress?” Ms. Legault is going to go into the classrooms with the principals as they do their walk-throughs to give teachers an opportunity to know she is present and to observe the principals. Management and operations are ongoing daily with the building leaders carrying out the vision of our school district. When we go into our cabinet and principal meetings everyone is given a chance to speak. The principals have received her evaluation request and conversations continue on what we are doing and where we are going. A watchful eye is being kept on the finances particularly after what has occurred in the past. We are allocating account funding properly and financially moving slow; a freeze had been implemented until the end of January. Family and community engagement is a high priority for us; we are here to partner with and support our parents. Every week Superintendent Legault gives a brief to the School Committee on what has been going on while also sharing information with parents and the community. The new superintendent induction program is supportive of her and Mr. Marini, her mentor, is very helpful. An entry plan will be formulated in January with district goals and a strategic plan.

2. School Finance update – All revolving fund balances remain strong as well as the operational accounts. We are closely monitoring spending to ensure we work within the budget and properly use the funding as appropriated to the line items. A freeze has been implemented in order for us
to be able to properly assess where we will be at the end of January. At that time, if the accounts remain in good standing, it will be lifted.

3. Building Committee update – We continue to have electrical issues that are being addressed by Brian Kiely. We are waiting to hear from Simon Tempest when to reschedule the meeting that was supposed to be held tonight but was canceled.

4. Report of Assistant Superintendent, Mrs. Gina Williams – There is a pressing topic of whether to stay with MCAS testing or move to PARCC. Lots of conversation has occurred amongst the districts especially since it needs to be decided by the December 18th deadline. Mrs. Williams recommends remaining with MCAS as does the building administrators, department chairs, and reading specialists. We do not have the proper technology in place to move to PARCC testing and should not put the staff and students into a situation to take the test until we do. PARCC will not be used in Massachusetts until 2016 when MCAS and PARCC will be merged.

   A motion to remain with MCAS to give teachers and students more preparation for the PARCC testing was made by:
   Motion:  Maltz/McAlpine  Vote: 4 in favor

5. Report of the Director of Specialized Services, Dr. Danielle Carrigo – The Specialized Services Department is working closely with families in the community. A family professional development site is being developed, SEPA meetings are regularly held, and they are reaching out to families that may need support or food. The first reading of the new school restraint policy will be done this evening and Dr. Carrigo is looking forward to its implementation. In the New Year we may have students that were placed in outside programs returning to our school.

6. First reading of the proposed new school committee policy on Physical Restraint and Behavior Support policy. The laws pertaining to physical restraint have changed dramatically. For East Bridgewater the biggest change will be moving from a single person supervisory escort to a two person escort. Students will no longer be forced to sit or placed onto the ground. Time out is considered a restraint and will now need to be documented. Any restraint that occurs for longer than a half hour needs to be approved by the building principal. The assistant principals will be trained and then come back to their buildings to do training. The Policy Committee will read it and if they have any questions will bring them forward at the next meeting.

7. A letter of intent to retire was received from Mrs. Pamela Farley, Middle School Special Education teacher effective, June 30, 2016. Superintendent Legault accepts Mrs. Farley’s letter of intent to retire and thanks her for her many years of dedication to the students of East Bridgewater.

8. A letter of intent to retire was received from Mrs. Ann Marie Giampietro, Central School teacher effective, September 2, 2016. Superintendent Legault accepts Mrs. Giampietro’s letter of intent to retire and thanks her for her many years of dedication to the students of East Bridgewater.

9. A letter of intent to retire was received from Ms. Linda Sullivan, Middle School secretary effective August 31, 2016. Superintendent Legault accepts Ms. Sullivan’s letter of intent to retire and thanks her for her many years of dedication to the students of East Bridgewater.
EAST BRIDGEWATER SCHOOL COMMUNITY MISSION STATEMENT
The East Bridgewater Public Schools provides a comprehensive curriculum that prepares students to be critical thinkers, problem solvers, and effective communicators ready to assume their positions as responsible productive citizens.

Action Items:

• Action is required to accept the minutes from the School Committee meeting held on November 19, 2015.
  Motion: this motion was tabled until next meeting

• Action is required to approve accounts payable warrant 24V dated 12/9/15.
  Motion: McKinnon/Maltz  Vote: 4 in favor

• Action is required to approve payroll warrant 24P dated 12/9/15.
  Motion: McKinnon/Maltz  Vote: 4 in favor

  Motion to adjourn at 9:20 PM: Maltz/McAlpine  Vote: 4 in favor

Respectfully submitted by,

Joanne M. Benner
Recording Clerk