

EASTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
EASTON, MA

RICHARDSON OLMSTED SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, October 18, 2022

Minutes of the RICHARDSON OLMSTED School Council Meeting, October 18, 2022, Meeting convened at 6:00pm. Present by roll call: Chris Getchell (principal), Kristen Maffeo, Meredith Lamb, Lauren Loomis, Rita Pastore, Jennifer Gilabert, Joanna Silverman, Monica Lawson, Amy Cormier

Call Meeting to Order: Chris Getchell officially called the meeting to order at 6:02pm.

Vote to Approve Minutes of May 17, 2022 and September 27, 2022 - Vote was called to order to approve both sets of minutes, seconded, and approved by all members in attendance.

1. Review SIP Goal #3: How to develop an RO Equity Team?
 - Goals and vision of this team
 - The idea was brought forward to have equity and equal access for all. We need to figure out a way to connect with families that the school typically doesn't hear from. Chris Getchell wants to hear the perspectives from everybody, but particularly those from lower socioeconomic, minority, different family structures, etc.
 - The thought is to have an in-person meeting to welcome them to the school and establish connections. This would be initially for parents/guardians to start, and then maybe extend it to families. However, some students translate for their parents and the thought of not having to find babysitters or care for kids can be a big obstacle. A suggestion was made to possibly have a few survey questions teachers can talk through with parents/guardians at conferences. Example of a question to ask: "What hinders you as a parent from getting involved?" Once we have that information, then maybe we find what would best serve those families.
 - What is the "event" we would like to have? Consider having a school social, but then also other events that are just for parents. Have people available in the hallway to talk, interpreters, etc.
 - Start with parents/families and staff or include students?
 - Strategies on soliciting and listening to the school experience of those we don't always hear from
2. Feedback Opportunity for RO Playground Proposal on Oct. 21
 - The new concept of the playground is that it is not just for RO, but for the betterment of the town. Traverse is a company seeking feedback from staff and

others on what all interested parties would ideally like to see for the outdoor space - that is currently happening. We expect to have that plan by December. Boosterthon funds will help support the costs of the plan, but there may be a need for additional fundraising. Ideally we want to create more green space, space for PE outside, outdoor classrooms, a quieter outdoor space, eating area that extends outside of our current cafeteria - those are just some of the ideas for this space.

- There is nothing this school council needs to do currently, but Chris wanted to make sure to include the council in the conversation to keep us informed and to be ready to support our efforts to fundraise and create this playground. A question was asked about using FEEE to help support this effort, but it was stated that this group no longer exists.

3. Other - opportunity for members to comment freely or ask questions or share an idea:

- Note of appreciation by Joanna Silverman that the school did not assign homework during the Jewish high holidays. Her son really appreciated being able to just spend time with his family without having to worry about doing school work.
- Rita mentioned her communications with Raising Multicultural Kids (RMK).
- Meredith Lamb also commented that when RO had math nights that was also a great school based night.
- Fourth grade is also trying to connect with Stonehill to do activities with the athletes. Since covid, RO is trying to rekindle that relationship, and maybe possibly looking at other avenues to have Stonehill help.

Adjournment:

Rita Pastore motioned to adjourn, Lauren Loomis seconded the motion, with a roll call vote of 9-0 the meeting adjourned at 6:56pm.

Minutes Recorded by,

Kristen Maffeo