

EASTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
EASTON, MA

EASTON MIDDLE SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, February 16

Minutes of the EASTON MIDDLE School Council Meeting, February 16, Meeting convened at 6 p.m. Present by roll call: Faculty members: Luke Carroll, Michelle Goldman, Suzanne Lynn; Parent members: Jen Daly, Elizabeth Dudley, Kessena Goncalves, Lisa Tabbeh; Community Member: Chris Mills

Meeting was called to order at 6:04 p.m..

Approval of meeting minutes from February 2, 2023

Chris Mills moved to accept the minutes. Lisa Tabbeh seconded the motion. Minutes were approved by a vote of 8-0.

Handbook Changes:

The proposed EMS Handbook Changes will be voted on by the School Committee at its next meeting, with the recommended changes having been made by the School Council.

Update on EMS School Goals:

School Goal #1: By June 2024, the Easton Middle School will establish a new school-wide approach to improving the behavior of all students and reducing student behaviors in the following areas: chronic absenteeism, discipline referrals, bullying, cyberbullying, harassment and any behaviors negatively impacting students' civil right and protected groups.

Update/current progress on action strategies:

- Student behavior following the 2020-21 school years saw increases in student behavior issues, bullying, cyberbullying and other issues.
- One School One Book: continuing to choose anti-bullying theme while targeting a text appropriate to each grade
- The Harbor with Mike Smith, produced by Jostens, are character building videos focused on bullying, cyberbullying. The videos can be selected and used in focus with discussion questions.
- ADL Program working on recruitment for the current new recruits for Peer Leadership Program; students will be selected, trained and then empowered to visit grade 6 classrooms to run workshops.
- *Lost and Found* book provided to faculty as first step in implementing CPS behavior program; faculty and students participating in training. Trained faculty members would eventually help train the rest of the staff.
- Katie Greer program held for students in September; her return visit will hopefully reach a wider community audience than the turnout this fall.

- Handbook committee reviewed attendance, dress code and behavior items. The changes await final approval from the School Committee.

EMS Update:

- **STEM Week** held Feb. 14-16; Grade 6 worked on a Lunar Colony; grade 7 worked with Kinetic Sculptures and grade 8 learned about Surgical Techniques.
- **Pack-the-Gym** held Feb. 9, with a rally before the boys' and girls' basketball games, which was well-attended.
- Student Council is discussing a **school dance** for the spring
- **Night of the Arts** is happening March 16
- **National Junior Honor Society Volleyball Tournament** March 1
- **National Junior Honor Society Induction** March 8
- **Darrell Green**, a former NFL football player will present to EMS and OA April 25 with character building and anti-vaping message
- **Changing Minds**, a mental health awareness program, featuring a young adult speaker on May 23
- **Katie Greer**, cyber-safety expert, returns to Easton for a community evening presentation March 2
- There is a **Wednesday after school character education program** (I Love Me Program) funded by Easton's Raising Multicultural Kids, by Jacquie Williams students invited through the counseling center
- EMS is continuing to look for avenues to address bullying concerns, through grade level programs and time during Focus block

The next meeting will be Thursday, April 27 at 6 p.m.

Adjournment:

Vote to adjourn the meeting by a roll call vote of 8-0. Meeting adjourned at 6:52 p.m.

ED/ CM 8-0

Minutes Recorded by

Suzanne Lynn