

**EAST STROUDSBURG AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION
EDUCATION PROGRAMS & RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETING**

May 10, 2023

VIA Zoom

7:00 P.M.

Minutes

- I. The Chairperson,** Dr. Damary Bonilla, called the Education Programs & Resources Committee meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance. Secretary Devyn Kolcun called the roll.

- II. Board Committee Members Present:** Dr. Damary Bonilla, Rebecca Bear, Debbie Kulick, Jason Gullstrand

- III. School Personnel Present:** William Vitulli, William Riker, George Andrews, Steven Lurry, Carissa Johnson, Annamarie Bauer, Eric Forsyth, Brian Baddick, Jessica Reese, Kristen Long, Trenee Lurry Maki King, Erin Dreisbach, Mary Olszewski, Tabitha Bradley, Marialena Casciotta, Heather Piperato, Taylor Forgione, Devyn Kolcun

- IV. Community Members Present:**

V. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES

RECOMMENDATION BY THE COMMITTEE: Dr. Bonilla asked for a motion to approve the agenda for May 10, 2023, with members of the Committee reserving the right to add to the agenda and take further action in the best interest of the District. A motion was made by Debbie Kulick and Jason Gullstrand seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.

RECOMMENDATION BY THE COMMITTEE: Motion was made by Debbie Kulick and seconded by Rebecca Bear to approve the minutes for the April 12, 2023, meeting. The motion was carried unanimously.

VI. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

a. BE ALLiance Update - Trenee Lurry

Trenee Lurry starts her presentation by going over days in May that are acknowledged including, Mental Health Awareness Month, Older Americans Month, Cinco De Mayo, International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia, and Biphobia, World Day for cultural diversity, and Memorial Day. Dr. Bonilla is thankful that Trenee shares the list on what is celebrated as sometimes we are not aware of certain ones and giving the details behind them as well. Debbie Kulick would like to add that the week of May 21 would be EMS Week. Mrs. Lurry also adds that Teachers Appreciation Week as well. Rebecca Bear shares that this month is also Shavuot which is when we received the ten commandments. Mrs. Bear also adds Lag BaOmer which is when the plaques ended.

**Presentation available by going onto esasd.net

b. Mental Health Awareness Month/Green light Campaign - Erin Dreisbach

Dr. Vitulli introduces Eric Dreisbach who will be going over how we as a district are recognizing Mental Health Awareness Month. Ms. Dreisbach starts off her presentation by going over the Green Light Campaign that we are participating in and how it coincides with Mental Health Awareness. Erin goes over that they have changed the lighting on the main entrances outside the buildings and also all buildings have been participating in the 31-day challenge. The 31-day challenge is up on the district webpage that shows what each day you are supposed to participate in that is supposed to help the Mental Health Stigma. Ms. Dreisbach shares that signs and pins have also been distributed in order to help with this campaign as well. Dr. Bonilla thanks Ms. Dreisbach as this conversation feels very important to share now more than ever with some of the circumstances that communities and our society have faced. Dr. Bonilla also shares that being able to see the signs about Mental Health Awareness helps spread the word to someone struggling that will help them feel safe and welcome within the community.

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c. Special Education Evaluation Process - Dr. Olszewski

Dr. Olszewski starts her presentation with a video that they had put together on the evaluation process. Maki King, an 8th grade teacher at Lehman, shares her experience evaluating students through this program. Mrs. King shares that once a parent requests for their child to be evaluated she has 10 days to respond which includes generating a request form for the parents to fill out. Maki adds that after she sends the request, she does like to speak with the school staff and teachers if they are involved or speaking with the parents to see what the needs are of the student. Mrs. King shares that not only does she look at the assessment part of the process but as well as looking at a rating scale and classroom observations. Dr. Olszewski thanks Maki for all of her hard work that she puts through this process. Dr. Bonilla thanks both for the presentation and the process of the events as it was nice to know how it goes and for the community to also understand how this evaluation happens. Debbie Kulick adds that she believes it is a good thing that up front how long this process takes so it can manage the expectations. Rebecca Bear shares that she has worked with Maki King this year and that she took the time with her to explain why certain steps were being taken. Ms. Bear also shares that being able to go through this process has helped her own daughter reach high honors for the first time and that they were able to work together to figure out how she learns better to be able to achieve this accomplishment. Jason Gullstrand shares that he loved the video that was shared and also that it is a little hard to find on the district webpage about the special education program. Mr. Gullstrand also shares that he appreciates everything everyone is doing with this and setting up the process for the parents and students.

**Presentation available by going onto esasd.net

d. New Math Curriculum - Elementary - Multiple Presenters

Dr. Vitulli introduces Dr. Bradley who will be providing information on the new math resource that we have decided to pilot. Dr. Bradley starts the presentation by introducing Kristen Long, Jessica Reese, and Taylor Forgione all who took part in helping facilitate picking of the new math resource and helped along the way. Dr. Bradley shares a slide on all the staff that had helped along with the process along the way, including setting up presentations and meetings to be able to share the information throughout. Kristen Long starts by going over the process steps on which they took to pick a final math resource. Mrs. Long shares that they first looked into a need for providing a new math resource and since the

current resource that the district uses, GoMath, is being discontinued at the end of the 23-24 school year they needed to start looking into what is going to replace that resource. The second step that they took was really looking at the district philosophy which would be making sure that the same great math tools that take place in the resource were also in the new ones that they had been looking at. Mrs. Long shares that after searching through each resource that they had pulled to be a contender they went through the ESASD rubric on which helped be able to look at exactly what they are looking for in a math resource. She then shares when they got down to the final two resources that were being decided on, they were able to bring in caregivers, administrators, and teachers throughout the district to listen to presentations on each to help give input on which resource should be the pick. Kristen Long shares that the math resource that they ultimately decided to go with is from McGraw Hill called Reveal Math which will be the resource for the K-5 grades. Dr. Bradley introduces Dr. Reese, the principal at JM Hill, to go over the piloting process for Reveal Math. Dr. Reese shares that they do have a good mix of regular ed and special ed teachers who are able to help with piloting this curriculum. To look at if this pilot program is successful, they will be looking at the NWEA testing results, CBA Benchmarks, and put out a pre and post survey to teachers where they can fill out how the pilot process went. Dr. Bonilla appreciates the presentation on explaining the new curriculum as it made it super easy to follow through and understand. Dr. Bonilla also adds that she likes that we include all the people that came together to make the final decision as it will give a comprehensive lens. Dr. Bradley thanks the math coaches, Taylor Forgione and Tammy Cykosky, for their dedication towards this and helping out when needed. Dr. Bonilla shares that this allows teachers to not only share what they see as the frontline for students and that it is empowering for them as well as they have the ability to be a part of.

****Presentation available by going onto esasd.net**

e. “What Really is Child Accounting?” - Eric Forsyth

Dr. Vitulli introduces Eric Forsyth and Annamarie Bauer who will go over what all Child Accounting is. Anne Bauer starts the presentation by sharing all the staff that work together in the office with Ms. Bauer and what exactly Child Accounting is. Eric Forsyth provided some information on enrollment numbers vs. average daily membership (ADM). Anne Bauer continues to go over ADM and why it is important for the school district. Ms. Bauer includes the funding that is provided based on these numbers within the district. Ms. Bauer shares what individuals in their department provide to this process and what daily tasks they take. Anne Bauer provides what data is tracked in their office which includes Brick and Mortar, ESACA, Outside Charter Schools, Out of District Placements, and IU20. The Child Accounting office works closely with the district and building staff to make sure that all the data they receive and track is accurate. Ms. Bauer shares that annually there is a data governance plan that is developed and shared with the stakeholders. In addition to this plan, the Director of Child Accounting facilitates monthly data quality meetings with the building leaders. These meetings are an opportunity to discuss future goals, processes, and provide key information to ensure all the data. Dr. Bonilla appreciates that Ms. Bauer and Mr. Forsyth were able to synthesize to the extent that the meeting was able to follow along and putting the information into the visuals is helpful to be able to understand. Debbie Kulick adds that she appreciates the detail that explained everything and appreciates everyone who works in the Child Accounting office. Jason Gullstrand shares that one of the great things about this committee is being able to bring in other offices and groups to be able to understand what each department does and being able to showcase the data and what they do is nice to see. Rebecca Bear thanks Anne and Eric for all they do and would like to know how they collaborate with the school buildings. Mr. Forsyth responds that they have weekly virtual touch base meetings with the buildings to be able to have anyone come in and ask any questions about the data that they are responsible for at their specific building. Ms. Bauer adds that they also open up the google classroom that has step by step instructions for them to follow and review online. Dr. Bonilla

adds that she appreciates the clarity so when these items are brought up in conversations outside of the meeting it helps address how the district is making a positive difference for our students.

**Presentation made available by going onto esasd.net

VII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – LIMITED TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

Dr. Bonilla opens up the meeting to public discussion. There are no questions or comments from the public.

VIII. PREVIOUSLY SUBMITTED TO THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

- A. McGraw Hill Reveal Math Pilot - Not to Exceed \$15,000.00 (VII.a.)**
- B. BrainPOP 23/24 Renewal - 1 year - \$8,788.64 (VII.b.)**
- C. 95% Phonics Booster Renewal - \$5,925.50 (VII.c.)**
- D. Hitech Instruments - microscopes - \$16,465.00 (VII.d.)**
- E. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt - \$125,929.00 (VII.e.)**

RECOMMENDATION BY THE COMMITTEE: Motion to move item a, b, c, d, and e to the Board of Education was made by Debbie Kulick and seconded by Jason Gullstrand. The motion was carried unanimously.

IX. ADVISORY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE AND THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

X. NEXT MEETING - June 14, 2023

RECOMMENDATION BY THE COMMITTEE: Motion to adjourn was made by Debbie Kulick and seconded by Rebecca Bear. The motion was carried unanimously.

XI. ADJOURNMENT: 8:22 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Devyn Kolcun