

FILED IN EAST LYME
CONNECTICUT
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Debra Blais
EAST LYME TOWN CLERK

East Lyme Board of Education
Academics, Athletics, and Activities (AAA) Committee Meeting
May 13, 2014

MINUTES

Members Present: Robert Kupis (Acting Chair), Tim Hagen, Jill Carini

Members Absent: Candice Carlson, Jaime Barr Shelburn, Joe Arcarese

Administrators Present: Brian Reas (Asst Supt), Dr. Karen Costello (Admin for Program Improvement), Michael Susi (ELHS Principal), Deb Kelly (HS Curriculum and Instructional Leader - Counseling Dept)

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Rob Kupis.

Professional Development: The topic of how best to conduct Staff Professional Development is a reoccurring topic when discussing and setting the annual school calendar. Concerns are raised about the use of half days from a perspective of allowing staff to focus fully on PD topics as well as educational challenge of half days for the children. Dr. Costello led the discussion on how Professional Development is handled during the school year. A minimum of 18 hours per year is needed for certification and the district delivers a range 3.5 days to 5.5 days of PD per staff per year. The use of half-days provides a means for accomplishing the PD within the number of contractual days for the teaching staff while assuring 182 student days.

Dr. Costello, Michael Susi and Deb Kelly described several examples of Professional Development programming. Half sessions work very well for focusing on one topic of development at a time. Special attention is given to building connectivity from one topic to the next. Regional PD days also provide excellent opportunities for the special areas to have engagement with other districts.

Overall, the committee was impressed with the creativeness in the PD programming and recommended that Dr. Costello prepare a short presentation for the full Board. At the next AAA meeting, the committee would like to review the presentation prior to presenting it to the full Board.

Equity Budget Issues with Athletics and Extra Curricular Activities: In response to budget discussions, the Board expressed interest in understanding the equity of funding across athletics and extra-curricular activities. Mr. Reas and Mr. Susi led a short discussion on the complexity of the task since each activity is unique and used the golf team as an example. The Committee recommended the discussion of this topic continue at the next AAA meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,
Robert Kupis
Robert Kupis
Acting Chair