## ERVING SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

# WEDNESDAY, February 16, 2022

**Erving Senior & Community** 

Center

7:00 p.m.

1 Care Drive, Erving, MA

**Present:** Jennifer Eichorn, Chair, Catherine Mclaughlin, Katelyn Mailloux-Little, Erik Semb, Members; Jenifer Culkeen, Superintendent of Schools; Lisa Canditio, EES Principal; Brittanie Mimitz, Minute Taker; Becky Alan, Rinky Black, Gale Dubriul, EES staff members; Aubry Kojan, Joe Niebala, Jessica Niebala, Scott Nicholas.

#### **MINUTES**

- A. The meeting was called to order at 7:02p.m. by Jenn.
- **B.** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.
- C. Public Hearing-

#### **Mask mandate - Public Discussion**

- Jenn began the mask discussion with a reminder to be kind and respectful to all.
- Becky Alan an EES staff member stated she believes masks should stay on for now. There are vacation clusters of COVID and Immunocompromised students and staff members to consider. In a survey 53% of staff members voted to keep masks on and 47% would like masks removed.
- Jessica Niebala and Aubry Kojan shared their opinions and concerns regarding masks and keeping them on with The School Committee. Both parents expressed their readiness for masks to be optional for students and staff at EES.
- Katelyn read the comments from the Class Dojo survey that was sent out to families and staff members.

#### **End of Public Hearing**

## School Committee Discussion and Vote-

- Lisa stated that the staff will be tested Monday Morning for COVID as a precaution. They will be sent home with tests.
- It was reported that Jeff McAndrews from the Board of Health confirmed that the COVID cases in Franklin County are dropping dramatically. Franklin County is up to almost an 80% vaccination rate. Exact information and more data can be found on the DESE website.
- Katie suggested that masks remain on for two weeks after February vacation as a precaution. It will also give the community time to lay out a full plan. Masks will continue to be mandatory on buses and in the Nurse's office.
- A motion was made by Erik to continue with the EES Face Covering policy through March 15th, 2022. The Policy will be lifted as of March 16, 2022 with details to be discussed at the March 15, 2022 School Committee Meeting. The motion was seconded by Katie. AIF.

## **D.** Future Business

- Next School Committee Meeting Date: Tuesday, March 15, 2022 7:00 p.m.
- Erving Policy Committee: Tuesday, March 15, 2022 6:30 p.m.
- E. A motion was made by Erik to adjourn the meeting at 7:39p.m. The motion was seconded by Katelyn. AIF.

Respectfully submitted, Brittanie Mimitz Minute Taker

\* Enclosures