A monthly business meeting of the Barrington School Committee was held on Thursday, January 10, 2019 in the School Committee Room. School Committee Chair Dr. Megan Douglas called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Present were Dr. Douglas, Ms. Sevetson, Ms. Bae, Ms. Clancy, Mr. McCrann, Ms. Kuo, Mr. Messore, Dr. Dillon and Mr. Fiore.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

Ms. Josephine Kuo, Student Representative to School Committee, led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Achievement Recognition**

Hampden Meadows students James Rocco and Andrew Ratliff performed with the State Ballet of Rhode Island in Coppélia.

Barrington High School Future Business Leaders of America participated in the

Annual State Fall Leadership Conference at Johnson & Wales University.

Hampden Meadows School Art Department was awarded a Carter SPARK grant via the Rhode Island Foundation. This grant will be used to build a class set of multi-plain stop motion tripods.

Barrington High School senior Maddie Cox was a recipient of the WPRI 12 Cardi’s Furniture - Hometown Sports Hero Award. Maddie plays both Field Hockey and Ice Hockey.

Barrington Middle School teacher Kristin Meystre and her 7th grade class were presented the Certificate of Appreciation from the United States Central Command for student letters written to United States Service Members during the holidays.

**Public Comments**

Ms. Amanda Colby read a letter from her AP class relative to student stress. Ms. Sarah Quinlan read a second letter from the AP class on student stress relative to academic achievement and class schedules. Ms. Elizabeth Harris, Barrington High School English Department thanked the Administration and School Committee for allowing her students to be a part of the democratic process to address the challenges students face.

Mr. Michael Seward, Barrington Parks and Recreation inquired about the turf fields at Barrington Middle School. Mr. Messore reported that he has spoken to other community members regarding this topic. It was also discussed at the last Building Committee meeting. Mr. Messore has had discussions with the Town Manager, Jim Cunha and feels that this is a topic that is a community concern. Mr. Messore stated that he not only would like to look at the fields town wide but to reassess the fields at the High School. It has been expressed by both the Town Council and the School Committee to look for a way to collaborate with the Town and Parks & Rec and look at the utilization of the fields, the upkeep of fields and the opportunities of reseeding or even turfing the fields. Mr. Seward will share with Mr. Messore some general information on the proposed turf fields for distribution to the School Committee and made a request to add the topic to the next meeting agenda.

Ms. Catherine Horn, Barrington Parks and Recreation Committee requested the presentation given at the Barrington Middle School Building Committee meeting be shared with the community.

Superintendent Report

Mr. Fiore reported the monthly expenditures for November 2018, including areas that require attention relative to health insurance, HVAC expenses, and out of district tuition. He reported that the budget, overall, is on track for the year.

**Ms. Sevetson moved and Ms. Clancy seconded the approval of the monthly expenditures for November 2018 in the amount of $5,861,528.04. The motion passed 5-0 with Dr. Douglas, Ms. Sevetson, Ms. Bae, Ms. Clancy and Mr. McCrann voting in the affirmative.**

Mr. Fiore provided the Barrington Middle School Building Committee update. Mr. Fiore also stated our project is qualified for additional funds from the state. Today, the Administration signed a letter of intent for $1.2 million for the OPM cost reimbursement.

This past week, we gave a tour of the project to a delegation from Rhode Island Department of Education (RIDE) and received positive feedback.

Discussion ensued relative to the Barrington Middle School Building Project bond and funding of the turf fields. Ms. Clancy reported that the BMS Building Committee had discussed the issue, determining that the bond had been issued to support education. The turf fields does not impact education and, instead, the fields are a community concerns.

Mr. Fiore reported there was no additional information on the FY19 Budget beyond the monthly expenditures for November, 2018.

Personnel

**Ms. Sevetson moved and Ms. Clancy seconded the recommendation of the Superintendent relative to the appointment of Mr. Noah Provost, Teacher Assistant, Primrose Hill School. The motion passed 5-0 with Dr. Douglas, Ms. Sevetson, Ms. Bae, Ms. Clancy and Mr. McCrann voting in the affirmative.**

**Ms. Sevetson moved and Ms. Clancy seconded the recommendation of the Superintendent relative to the appointment of Mr. Sina Anvar, Assistant Wrestling Coach, Barrington High School. The motion passed 5-0 with Dr. Douglas, Ms. Sevetson, Ms. Bae, Ms. Clancy and Mr. McCrann voting in the affirmative.**

**Ms. Sevetson moved and Ms. Clancy seconded the recommendation of the Superintendent relative to the appointment of Mr. AJ Farina, Head Wrestling Coach, Barrington Middle School. The motion passed 5-0 with Dr. Douglas, Ms. Sevetson, Ms. Bae, Ms. Clancy and Mr. McCrann voting in the affirmative.**

**Ms. Sevetson moved and Ms. Clancy seconded the recommendation of the Superintendent relative to the appointment of Ms. Holly Morris, Assistant to the Athletic Director, Barrington High School. The motion passed 5-0 with Dr. Douglas, Ms. Sevetson, Ms. Bae, Ms. Clancy and Mr. McCrann voting in the affirmative.**

**Ms. Sevetson moved and Mr. McCrann seconded approval of requests for Home Schooling as presented; student names were not identified in public session. The motion passed 5-0 with Dr. Douglas, Ms. Sevetson, Ms. Bae, Ms. Clancy and Mr. McCrann voting in the affirmative.**

Mr. Messore provided the Strategic Plan update, including an overview of Employee Satisfaction Survey results, next-steps include review of survey results with Administrators. The Administrators will share the results with their staff. He reported the Administration will receive the results of Parent Satisfaction Survey in the next couple of weeks. The Administration will update the Committee on specific results of the survey. There will be a general data release to the Committee and the community.

Transportation Update

Mr. Fiore gave a follow-up on transportation topics from the fall sessions. The Wampanoag Trail stops have been moved off the Trail. A protocol has been established for Safety Reviews for bus stops requested by community members: a representative from the police department, the vendor’s safety office, our transportation coordinator and/or other administrators review the site in question and reach back to the community member with the determination. Special Education Transportation has seen increased run times since last school year. Starting January 22nd, we have contracted another minibus through the vendor so that all students can be at school before their start time. In December, a count was taken to determine the average capacity of the regular buses. At no point were any buses over their capacity. The future goal is to document all the transportation protocols. The transportation policy will also be reviewed in that context.

Discussion ensued about the capacity of the buses and the safety of the buses. Mr. Fiore stated that there will be another survey taken in the spring.

Medically Recommended School Start Time Initiative Update

Mr. Messore gave an update on what the district has been doing regarding the work that was last reported to the School Committee from the Start Time Ad Hoc Committee in November, 2016. Mr. Messore looked at the challenges and solution chart that was embedded in the report. At the present time, the district has a three tiered bus schedule. A concern was child care before and after school. The elementary schools now have child care provided by Bayside Y and Springboard. Mr. Messore also review the two tier system and what the impact there would be on sports, enrichment and clubs.

A discussion ensued relative to the transportation cost, the scheduling for the high school students, and the athletic teams. Mr. Messore stated the next step would be talk to the transportation company regarding the cost and logistics and he will push to have a report for the Committee at the next business meeting.

2019-2020 School Calendar Update

Mr. Messore will review the surveys that came in regarding the school calendar last year. The proposed calendar for the next school year is typically presented to the Committee in February. In developing the proposed calendar there are certain dates which need to be followed (i.e., contractual obligations, elections, and federal holidays). Mr. Messore will provide to the Committee a proposed calendar for the 2019-2020 school calendar at the February business meeting.

Alternative Calendar for Make-up Days Update

The State has approved a calendar change for the district. Starting in January 2019, the school day will be extended by 5 minutes. There will be no transportation issue with the adjustment. This additional time will accumulate at the end of the year equal to one day of instructional time. Right now, there are 181 days in the calendar; with the added time, we will have 182. If there are two snow days this year, the student will still have 180 days and will have met their instructional minutes.

Dr. Dillon stated the reason that the Governor agreed to let the District use just minutes were due to all the other layers that are in place. The extra instructional time is incorporated in the student schedule during instructional time and not during lunch or recess.

Mr. Messore also stated that teachers will pick up 6 hours of professional development and this will help the teachers with the new certification requirements.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE BUSINESS

Student Representative to the School Committee Update, Ms. Josephine Kuo

The January 1st regular decision deadline for seniors has just passed and although most seniors have completed their applications, there are some deadlines mid-January but so far it is looking good.

The BHS Parent Association hosted a Q & A forum entitled “What I Wish I Had Known.” Parents of middle and high school students were able to ask high school students about the social atmosphere, the extra-curricular opportunities and any academics concerns they had.

The School Improvement Team meeting recently met to work on their SMART goal for the SEL strategic plan pillar. They reviewed essays written by AP Language and Composition students in Ms. Harris’ class. The team discussed the stress and pressure related to no-retakes, as well as the adoption of the AP class test strategy for all students. At the next School Improvement Team meeting, they will discuss the assessment policies currently implemented throughout the District.

The seniors had a cap and gown assembly so that the seniors could order their cap and gown for graduation in a few months. The upcoming event will be a “Last Sports Night” for the high school students. This event will be hosted by the Class of 2019 and will take place at the Barrington Middle School.

The first Senior Project deadline is this January 16th. The Student Council is planning a “Lib Dub” Video for the school. This is a music video where you can lip synch to different songs. The goal of the council is to include everyone in the school to promote school unity, as well as raise money for a local charity.

Approval of Bid for the Consultant Services Special Education Program Evaluation

**Ms. Sevetson moved and Ms. Clancy seconded to accept the recommendation of the Administration to award the bid for Futures Education, LLC deemed by the Administration to be the lowest, qualified, evaluated bidders, as identified by the Director of Administration and Finance. The motion passed 5-0 with Dr. Douglas, Ms. Sevetson, Ms. Clancy, Mr. McCrann and Ms. Bae voting in the affirmative for the motion.**

A discussion regarding the work sessions format for the upcoming budget work session. Some suggestions were to have those attending the session to give their email address so that materials can be sent out to them. Also, having people write down their comments so that more comments can be heard.

A discussion ensued for revisions of the School Committee calendar for the remainder of the 2018-2019 school year.

**Ms. Sevetson moved and Ms. Clancy seconded to change the School Committee meeting schedule by adding the governing principles to the 17th, changing reports to updates on March 14th, as well as, adding SRO update and Strategic Plan update. The motion passed 5-0 with Dr. Douglas, Ms. Sevetson, Ms. Clancy, Mr. McCrann and Ms. Bae voting in the affirmative for the motion.**

A discussion ensued on how to implement the initiatives regarding the Strategic Plan for the District. The Committee will move forward with the schedule change as the initiative and will report back at the next business meeting.

Policy Second Reading: New School Committee Member Orientation Policy. Ms. Clancy read the policy. The committee made a few edits.

**Ms. Sevetson moved Ms. Clancy seconded to accept the New School Committee Member Orientation Policy. The motion passed 5-0 with Dr. Douglas, Ms. Sevetson, Ms. Clancy, Mr. McCrann and Ms. Bae voting in the affirmative for the motion.**

Policy Second Reading: School Committee Membership. Ms. Bae read the policy.

**Ms. Sevetson moved Ms. Clancy seconded to accept the School Committee Membership Policy. The motion passed 5-0 with Dr. Douglas, Ms. Sevetson, Ms. Clancy, Mr. McCrann and Ms. Bae voting in the affirmative for the motion.**

**Ms. Sevetson moved to table the first reading of the Public Comment at School Committee Meetings Policy until the next business meeting. Ms. Clancy seconded. The motion passed 5-0 with Dr. Douglas, Ms. Sevetson, Ms. Clancy, Mr. McCrann and Ms. Bae voting in the affirmative for the motion.**

Policy First Reading: School Committee Authority, Legal Status, and Duties. Ms. Kuo read the policy. The Committee provided comments to the policy.

Policy First Reading: School Committee Organization, Officers, and Officer Responsibilities. Mr. McCrann read the policy. The Committee provided comments to the policy.

Dr. Douglas informed the Committee that a number of policies regarding communication will be archived. The Policy Committee will be drafting a new policy for communication as relates to the School Committee.

There were 21 policies that are being archived, due to either being considered redundant with state or federal law, redundant with the approved School Committee governing principles, covered by new comprehensive policies, or in need of full revision to be appropriate and relevant.

**Ms. Sevetson moved to archive the list of policies. Ms. Clancy seconded. No discussion.** **The motion passed 5-0 with Dr. Douglas, Ms. Sevetson, Ms. Clancy, Mr. McCrann and Ms. Bae voting in the affirmative for the motion.**

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Kristen Kreuzkamp, 10 Agawam Road discussed student’s stress. Ms. Kreuzkamp was happy to hear that student’s stress is being looked at. She feels it is very important for students to get more sleep.

Mr. Willem Hawthorne, junior at BHS. Mr. Hawthorne would like to see the scheduling of Advisory be looked at. He doesn’t feel the time is being optimally utilized.

Mr. Terrance Boylan, 140 Lincoln Avenue. Mr. Boylan is a parent of a 4th grader at Hampden Meadows and a sophomore at the High School. He expressed to the School Committee that Tracey McGee and Kristen Mitchell are doing a great job and are very committed to their work. Mr. Boylan discussed his concerns regarding cybersecurity and viruses in our school system. Mr. Boylan has offered to sit on a committee regarding cybersecurity.

Mr. Messore stated that the District is in the process of doing a full upgrade of the District’s connectivity for next year.

CONSENT AGENDA

School Committee Minutes: November 1, 2018

School Committee Minutes: November 29, 2018

School Committee Executive Session Minutes: December 3, 2018

School Committee Executive Committee Minutes: December 13, 2018

School Committee Executive Session Minutes January 3, 2019

**Ms. Sevetson moved and Ms. Clancy seconded to approve the Consent Agenda with the exclusion of November 28 and December 13 minutes. The motion passed 5-0 with Dr. Douglas, Ms. Sevetson, Ms. Clancy, Mr. McCrann and Ms. Bae voting in the affirmative for the motion.**

DISCUSSION ITEMS

There will be an updated school calendar discussion, as well as budget discussion and updates regarding the topics noted above.

The next business meeting will be February 13, 2019

**Ms. Sevetson moved and Ms. Clancy seconded to adjourn the Work Session at 10:09 p.m. and to convene in Executive Session pursuant to Rhode Island General Laws 42-46-5 (a) (1) for Sessions pertaining to Superintendent Evaluation. The motion passed 5-0 with Dr. Douglas, Ms. Sevetson, Ms. Bae, Ms. Clancy and Mr. McCrann voting in the affirmative.**

**The executive session was adjourned at 10:45 pm and the minutes were sealed.**

**Dr. Douglas announced no votes were taken.**

**Ms. Sevetson moved and Ms. Clancy seconded to adjourn the regular meeting at 10:46 pm. The motion passed 5-0 with Dr. Douglas, Ms. Sevetson, Ms. Bae, Ms. Clancy, and Mr. McCrann voting in the affirmative.**