

Minutes of School Committee Meeting 2.13.2019

A business meeting of the Barrington School Committee was held Wednesday, February 13, 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. Severson, Ms. Clancy, Ms. Bae, Mr. McCrann, Ms. Kuo, Mr. Messoro, Dr. Dillon and Mr. Fiore.

Pledge of Allegiance

Dr. Douglas led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ACHIEVEMENT RECOGNITION

The High School Jazz Ensemble performed at the Jazz Festival.

Sowams School was a recipient of a Barrington Education Foundation SPAR-Q grant. The grant will provide each classroom with a surf desk.

Mr. Messoro recognized all the Barrington High School Athletic teams for their outstanding members and all their accomplishments.

Mr. Messoro also recognized the Scholastic Art Award winners.

Ms. Holly Morris, BHS Athletics, was named MAX field hockey state coach of the year.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Carrie Newton, 307 Rumstick Road addressed the committee about a situation with a substitute teacher at Hampden Meadows school and then at the Middle School. Ms. Newton had concerns that there wasn't any communication out to the parents.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

FY20 BUDGET

Mr. Fiore gave a budget presentation for FY20. The goals are to achieve excellence in learning and teaching and incorporating the District strategic plan, provide a safe and secure environment for the students, support curriculum and instruction, support one to one technology and start our budget process with zero based budgeting. The external factors that we do not have control over are pension expense, medical insurance, special education costs and the state funding formula. The life insurance and the utilities multi-year contracts were extended at the current rates.

Mr. Fiore reviewed the projected revenue for the schools. The majority of the revenue comes from our local appropriation. Mr. Fiore also discussed the FY20 proposed budget additional resource requests and reviewed the variances from the FY19 budget. Mr. Fiore reviewed each line item and the increase or decrease these lines would have.

A discussion among the Committee ensued with emphasis on the instructional coaches and the transportation cost, as well as the ELA curriculum cost. Mr. Fiore discussed the capital request that is being made regarding the facilities assessment. Mr. Fiore has started the process with RIDE to possibly receive money to offset the capital fund request of \$100,000. Dr. Dillon discussed the importance of the instructional coaches for the elementary level. The most critical area is to have the students literate by the time they are in grade 3 and we don't have the same level of support for the teachers. The data from our own teachers feel that the number one support that has helped with the ELA curriculum is to implement, with fidelity, the instruction coach.

SCHOOL SCHEDULE INITIATIVE 2019-2020

Mr. Messore met with the administrators to see if a two tier system would impact their learning time. All administrators stated that it would not. The District will be working with the transportation company regarding the two tier system to look at the times and schedule of runs. Mr. Messore is working with Mr. Finn, Athletic Director, to develop the athletic schedule. The website will be revamped and updated. Mr. Messore will also talk to the coaches to discuss the new scheduling. Once the transportation numbers are more secure, Mr. Messore will develop a plan to explain the roll out to the community, too.

2019-2020 SCHOOL CALENDAR

Mr. Messore presented the next year's draft calendars for discussion. The student's will begin the Tuesday after Labor Day. March 30th would be a PD day and this would be senior project read day. April 28th will be a primary day which will be a PD day for the teachers. The last day of school would be June 23rd.

Mr. Messore also shared a second option utilizing a March break. Also with this calendar the February vacation would only be a two day break. In this option, the student would go 65 days from the March vacation to the end of school.

The suggestion from the Committee was to possibly have a four day weekend in February and keep the April vacation. This would allow the students to get out of school earlier in June.

MONTHLY EXPENDITURES, DECEMBER 2018

Mr. Fiore reported the monthly expenditures for December, 2018. Mr. Fiore reported that he continues to keep an eye on the health insurance, workmen comp, HVAC expense at the high school, and transportation cost. Right now, the District is running close to remaining on budget.

Ms. Severson moved and Ms. Clancy seconded the approval of the monthly expenditures for December, 2018 in the amount of \$4,097,813.52. The motion passed 5-0 with Dr. Douglas, Ms. Severson, Ms. Bae, Ms. Clancy and Mr. McCrann voting in the affirmative.

ATHLETIC FIELD WORKSHOP UPDATE

On February 6th, the Town Council organized a workshop to discuss the field use fees and the accessibility of fields for a number of our community athletic programs. The Town has a large amount of children that utilize the fields starting at a young age. Some of the discussion was on what the future is on the town fields and the care and maintenance of the fields. The outcome of the workshop was that there needs to be a clear plan as far as what direction we head in as a school department and as a town. This isn't just a school issue; it is a whole town concern. The Town Council President wants to spearhead a task force with the District, Parks and Rec, and DPW to develop a long range plan.

Through the facilities committee the District is looking at the schools fields and how they are maintained and cared for.

There was a discussion on how the School Committee would be involved with the task force. At this time, the School Committee will bring their suggestions, including involvement of Parks and Rec, Facility Advisory Committee, Athletic Advisory Committee (at the high school), and DPW, as well as the importance of a clear charge and timeline, to the Town Council for their meeting in early March. At the next School Committee meeting in March, the Committee will confirm their involvement.

BARRINGTON MIDDLE SCHOOL BUILDING COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Fiore updated the Committee regarding the Middle School project. At the last meeting, the discussion was the possibility to use sod instead of seeding the fields. The architect will be giving a report at the next meeting on how feasible that will be and the cost associated to it. There is permanent power and doing most of the work indoors now. The District just wrapped up the FF & E bid. Ms. Clancy is working on setting up a meeting with RIDOT regarding the road work on Lincoln and Middle Highway. The commissioning agent has been at the project and has been testing the systems throughout the project.

PERSONNEL ASSIGNMENTS

Ms. Sevetson moved and Ms. Clancy seconded the recommendation of the Superintendent Relative to the appointment of Mr. Jon Barnes, Assistant Girls Indoor Track & Field Coach for the High School. The motion passed 5-0 with Dr. Douglas, Ms. Sevetson, Ms. Bae, Ms. Clancy and Mr. McCrann voting in the affirmative.

Mr. Messoro also recognized the resignations of Julie Fraser, Assistant Girls Lacrosse Coach, Lindsey Stebenne, Assistant Field Hockey Coach, and the Co-chair for the Enrichment program at Hampden Meadows, Mary Ellen Dwyer and Kimberly Hutchinson.

HOME SCHOOL APPROVAL

Ms. Sevetson moved and Mr. McCrann seconded the approval of request for Home Schooling as presented. The motion pass 5-0 with Dr. Douglas, Ms. Sevetson, Ms. Bae, Ms. Clancy and Mr. McCrann voting in the affirmative.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE BUSINESS

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

Since the last School Committee meeting the high school students had midterms. The sports night event was successful. The 2nd draft deadline for the senior project has just passed.

There was a BHS School Improvement Team meeting today. The team discussed the upcoming freshmen students and ways they can help them get acclimated to the high school. Also discussed was getting information about AP out to the parents and students.

For upcoming events, the Student Council will host a trivia night, the Interact Club will be sponsoring a carnation fundraiser for the students, and the Science Olympiad Team will host the spoon game.

Review and Discussion of the January 31, 2019 Community Forum and the February 7, 2019 Work Session

Feedback regarding the forum and the work session was discussed among the committee members.

Advisory Committee Mid-Year Updates

As the written updates were all available prior to the meeting and the Committee did not have any questions, Dr. Douglas suggested posting the updates that were received by the advisory committees. Dr. Dillon will be posting the updates on the Barrington Schools website.

Discussion of topics for upcoming Legislative Breakfast on February 28, 2019

Dr. Douglas asked the Committee for suggestions for topics at the breakfast. Ms. Clancy stated that it would be a good opportunity to discuss the RIDOT work with the legislators. Mr. Messoro would also like to discuss the intersection of Middle Highway and Old County Road. The topic of standard based curriculum, gun control, SROs and un-funded mandates were also discussed.

Update of RIASC information, meetings and legislative agenda

Dr. Douglas gave an update of the meeting that she attended in early February.

Discussion of Studer coaching session

Dr. Douglas wanted to let the Committee know that she, along with Mr. Messoro and Melissa Matarazzo, the Studer coach, will be having some phone conferences. Melissa suggested that another member of the Committee come to the conferences. The Committee expressed interest in a more group-based model of coaching, which Dr. Douglas will discuss with Ms. Matarazzo.

Ms. Severson moved Ms. Clancy seconded to move the policy reading to the next business meeting. The motion passed 5-0 with Dr. Douglas, Ms. Severson, Ms. Bae, Ms. Clancy and Mr. McCrann voting in the affirmative.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment

CONSENT AGENDA

School Committee Executive Session Minutes: November 1, 2018

School Committee Minutes: January 3, 2019

School Committee Executive Session Minutes: January 3, 2019

School Committee Minutes: January 10, 2019

School Committee Executive Session Minutes: January 10, 2019

Ms. Sevetson moved and Ms. Clancy seconded to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion passed 5-0 with Dr. Douglas, Ms. Sevetson, Ms. Clancy, Ms. Bae and Mr. McCrann voting with the affirmative.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

The Committee will be extending the February 25th meeting to discussion of the FY20 budget. The February 28th meeting will be a work session and a business meeting will be added to the agenda to discuss and vote on the FY20 budget. A Health & Wellness initiative will be presented to the Committee at the March business meeting.

Ms. Sevetson moved and Ms. Clancy seconded adjournment of the business meeting and to convene in Executive Session pursuant to Rhode Island General Laws 42-46-5(a)(2) for sessions pertaining to collective bargaining with National Education Association Barrington and pursuant to Rhode Island General Laws 42-46-5(a)(2) for sessions pertaining to collective bargaining with United Steelworkers AFL-CIO-CLC. The motion passed 5-0 with Dr. Douglas, Ms. Sevetson, Ms. Clancy, Ms. Bae and Mr. McCrann voting in the affirmative.

The executive session was adjourned at 10:30 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 10:31 pm. The motion passed 5-0 with Dr. Douglas, Ms. Sevetson, Ms. Bae, Ms. Clancy, and Mr. McCrann voting in the affirmative.

