

**Minutes of School Committee Meeting 3.28.2019**

A work session was held on Thursday, March 28, 2019, in the Barrington High School Library. School Committee Chair Dr. Megan Douglas called the work session to order at 7:03 p.m. Present were Dr. Douglas, Ms. Severson, Ms. Bae, Mr. McCrann, Ms. Kuo, Mr. Messoro, Dr. Dillon and Mr. Fiore. Not present was Ms. Clancy. The following members of the Barrington Public Schools (BPS) Administrative team were present: Dr. Andrew Anderson, Mr. James Callahan, Mr. Joseph Hurley, Ms. Tracey McGee, Ms. Patricia Tolento and Ms. Tracey Whitehead.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

Ms. Kristen Matthes, Pupil Personnel Services Director, led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**STRATEGIC PILLAR: Student Success and School Improvement Plans**

Mr. Messoro introduced the update on School Improvement Plans and Processes aligned to the Student Success Pillar relative to progress on the 2018-2019 primary target areas of focus, including gap closure and student engagement.

School Committee members, Administration, and Building Administrators broke into two groups: Group 1: grades K-5; Group 2: grades 6-12; for listening sessions and group discussion followed by a five minute question period. The building administrators reported on their school's progress relative to closing gaps in reading and math for students with disabilities; student engagement opportunities; and professional learning opportunities for teachers to increase student success.

**SUPERINTENDENT REPORT**

**TWO-TIER SCHEDULE UPDATE**

Mr. Messoro provided an update on the two-tier schedule, including tentative start and end times by school; preliminary bus run times for K-5 and 6-12; and tentative athletic practice schedules. He reported on the BPS Transportation Coordinator's ongoing work with the transportation vendor (Ocean State); collaboration with Bayside Y on tentative swim practice schedule; and ongoing work with building administrators relative to schedule changes to meet program needs. Discussion ensued relative to bus requirements, K-5 enrichment opportunities, and after school child care.

**FY20 BUDGET**

Mr. Fiore provided an update on the FY20 Budget, including a synopsis of two recent Committee on Appropriations meetings: one meeting to finish BPS presentation relative to expenditures and 3.9% increase on the tax levee; and second meeting for a presentation from the Pension Board. He reported there are no significant changes to the budget. Discussion ensued relative to retirements and their impact on the budget and hiring processes.

Minutes of School Committee Meeting 3.28.2019

TRANSPORTATION UPDATE

Mr. Messore provided an update on transportation, including a meeting with BPS Transportation Coordinator relative to the status on bus drivers and bus monitors. He reported the district has 10 bus drivers and 9 bus monitors, and Administration will continue its search for a bus monitor for the late bus.

PERSONNEL- RETIREMENTS

Mr. Messore announced the retirement of Ms. Janet Brock, World Language, Barrington High School, and recognized her service to the district.

Mr. Messore announced the retirement of Mr. Emmett Donegan, Biology Teacher, Barrington High School, and recognized his service to the district.

HOME SCHOOL APPROVAL

**Ms. Severson moved Ms. Bae seconded to approve the home schooling requests. The motion passed 4-0 with Dr. Douglas, Ms. Severson, Ms. Bae and Mr. McCrann voting in the affirmative.**

SCHOOL COMMITTEE BUSINESS

FIELD TRIP APPROVAL

Mr. Messore reported the Barrington High School FBLA National Leadership Conference field trip request form was incomplete, and requested the Committee defer the approval until the next School Committee meeting. The consensus was to defer the approval of the field trip request.

POLICY SECOND READING: Public Comment at School Committee Meetings

Ms. Severson read the policy. A discussion ensued relative to minor edits.

**Ms. Severson moved and Mr. McCrann seconded to approve the Policy for Public Comment at School Committee Meetings. The motion passed 4-0 with Dr. Douglas, Ms. Severson, Ms. Bae and Mr. McCrann voting with the affirmative.**

APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION (CTE) PROGRAMS

Dr. Douglas introduced a Resolution in support of Career and Technical Education (CTE) Programs as it relates to rejecting bill H-5266 that was submitted to the RI House of Representatives.

Ms. Bae read the resolution. A discussion ensued relative to minor edits to the resolution.

**Minutes of School Committee Meeting 3.28.2019**

**Ms. Severson moved and Mr. McCrann seconded to approve a Resolution in support of Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs in comprehensive high schools. The motion passed 4-0 with Dr. Douglas, Ms. Severson, Ms. Bae and Mr. McCrann voting in the affirmative.**

Dr. Douglas requested the resolution be distributed to local legislators, including distribution to district legislators and the House Committee on Health, Education and Welfare, the General Assembly, and other School Committees.

**AD HOC ADVISORY ATHLETIC FIELD COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP**

Dr. Douglas provided an update relative to the Ad Hoc Advisory Athletic Fields Committee membership that will include two School Committee members, one to serve as co-chair, Superintendent of Schools, BPS Facilities Director, Coach and student. The Administration sent out a request to the community for interested volunteers who are able to interpret relevant research. They will review the responses to determine the most qualified candidate, and report back to the Committee once the candidate has accepted to serve on the ad hoc committee.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**Ms. Severson moved and Mr. McCrann seconded to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion passed 4-0 with Dr. Douglas, Ms. Severson, Ms. Bae and Mr. McCrann voting with the affirmative.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Dr. Lisa Daft of 5 Robbins Drive, asked about the 40-50 minute bus runs. Mr. Messoré stated the longer run times are due to the two-tier system.

Ms. Leslie Saylor of 15 Meadowbrook Drive, asked about the 5 minute bus unloading and number of buses and how the Administration will measure the success of start time change. Mr. Messoré provided the Administration's rationale for bus unloading and measuring of start time success.

Ms. Alison Ashley of 17 Puritan Avenue, expressed concern with newly proposed changed start time relative to K-3 schools. She read a prepared statement.

Ms. Anne Gasbarro of 7 Collins Court, expressed concern with the change to Middle School students bus pick up.

Ms. Gina Pine of 479 New Meadow Road, expressed concern with the earlier start time for K-3 students; and for K-5 students safety relative to the shortage of bus monitors.

**Minutes of School Committee Meeting 3.28.2019**

Dr. Michael Johnson of 28 Old Chimney Road, commented on the benefits of a later start time; and suggested to the Committee and Administration an educational forum relative to later school start time.

Mr. C.J. Hilty, BHS student, commented on the polarization of the community over school start time, and would like to see an end to the discussion.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS**

Discussed future discussion items, including an update on the technology plan at the next business meeting on April 11. Additional topics included the creation of an opportunity for an educational forum with sleep experts, experienced administrators, and possibly others at the end of April; an update from our school librarians; previously discussed topics including the Health and Wellness recommendations regarding school lunch, the first reading of the Diversity, Inclusivity and Equity policy recommendations, and security updates; and the discussion and possible vote to amend the school schedule vote from 2016.

**Ms. Sevetson moved and Mr. McCrann seconded to adjourn the meeting at 9:33 p.m. 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 (NEAB). The motion passed 4-0 with Dr. Douglas, Ms. Sevetson, Ms. Bae and Mr. McCrann voting in the affirmative.**

**The executive session was adjourned at 9:28 pm and the minutes were sealed.**

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

**Ms. Sevetson moved and Mr. McCrann seconded to adjourn the regular meeting at 9:59 pm. The motion passed 4-0 with Dr. Douglas, Ms. Sevetson, Ms. Bae, and Mr. McCrann voting in the affirmative.**

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