

**Minutes of School Committee Meeting 4.11.2019**

A business meeting of the Barrington School Committee was held Thursday, April 11, 2019 in the School Committee room. School Committee Chair Dr. Megan Douglas called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. Present were Dr. Douglas, Ms. Severson, Ms. Clancy, Ms. Bae, Ms. Kuo, Mr. Messoro, Dr. Dillon and Mr. Fiore. Absent was Mr. McCrann.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Dr. Douglas led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ACHIEVEMENT RECOGNITION**

April 8 - 12 is Volunteer Appreciation Week and an opportunity to recognize and celebrate all of our BPS volunteers and Volunteer Coordinator Anita DiMatteo for their service to our student. BPS hosted a Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast to show our gratitude to all of our school volunteers on April 10, 2019.

Nayatt and Hampden Meadows participated in the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society Pennies for Patients program to raise money to support lifesaving cancer research.

Hampden Meadows students participated in this year's Valentines for Veterans project to help recognize the men and women of our Armed Services.

Nayatt received a SPAR-Q grant from Barrington Education Foundation for Kindergarten students to access the Roger Williams' "Zoomobile Homes Around the World" to expand Deeper Learning.

Hampden Meadows 5<sup>th</sup> grade student Iris Yang is a member of the Ocean State Ice Theatre's Novite Team and will be representing the United States in a figure skating competition in Epinal, France.

Barrington Middle School student Eli Terrel is the winner of the National Geographic "GeoBee" Rhode Island State Competition and will represent the Ocean State at national competition in Washington, DC in May.

Barrington High School senior Annika Kelly won the Rhode Island's 2019 "Who Wants to be a Mathematician."

Barrington High School senior Maile Somera is the Rhode Island Interscholastic League Female Student-Athlete of the Year and recipient of the Honorable Monsignor Robert Newbold Scholarship.

Barrington High School Debate Team won its fourth straight state championship held on March 30 at Barrington High School.

**Minutes of School Committee Meeting 4.11.2019**

Barrington High School Science Olympiad Team won the State Competition for its 10th consecutive year and will be representing RI at the Science Olympiad Nationals at Cornell University in May.

Barrington High School students Christina Curran, Ariadne Dulchinos, Joshua Guertler, Claire Martel, Sinead Monaghan and Zi Jun Weng received several awards for their performance at the Science and Engineering Fair.

Barrington Middle School 8<sup>th</sup> grade students from Ms. Scanlon's Health classes and Mrs. Polando's Entrepreneurship classes collaborated to produce videos for submission into East Bay Regional Coalition's Mental Health Awareness Video Contest. Mia LeRoux, Kseniia Skosyrskiaia Max Bleakney, Nolan Gaus, Nathan Rego and Shane Pilson are the winners of the video contest with their video "The 5 Health Habits."

Nayatt Librarian Cherylann Bertoncini was awarded a \$500 classroom grant from the 2019 Chris and Gloria Heisler Memorial Classroom Grant Program.

Ms. Paula Degnan, Music Teacher at Hampden Meadows was recognized by the Rhode Island Music Education Association.

Barrington High School Principal Joseph Hurley was recognized by Rhode Island Interscholastic League and awarded the School Administrator of the Year, and received The Jacob Ludes III Leadership Award by New England Association of Schools and Colleges.

Dr. Paula Dillon has been selected to participate in Stanford EdLEADers Program cohort by Stanford Graduate School of Education.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

**SUPERINTENDENT REPORT**

**TECHNOLOGY PLAN UPDATE**

Mr. Messore introduced Director of Technology Mr. David Burrows who presented the Technology Plan update. Mr. Burrows provided a review of the technology plan for the 2018-2023, including Seesaw student engagement platform, Richer Picture Individual Learning Plan (ILP) platform, K-3 clever badges, copy machines, display upgrades in the BHS 200s rooms, and data on Barrington High School usage broken down by database. He reported on the work for the 2019-2020 school year, including ongoing work on 1:1 program and 5-year purchase cycle. Mr. Burrows provided a summary of current priorities, including upcoming Spring Testing and mandated Spring reporting; BMS building project; and BHS

**Minutes of School Committee Meeting 4.11.2019**

Computer Science program expansion. He reported 2019-2020 initiatives, include 1:1 device deployment, website and mobile application development, and training relative to Department of Justice grant. HE also announced the rollout of a new website platform. Discussion ensued relative to size of the technology group, Civil Rights data collection, and purchasing cycle.

Dr. Douglas recognized Mr. Burrows and the IT team for their dedication and hard work.

**FY20 BUDGET UPDATE**

Mr. Fiore provided an update on the FY20 Budget, including last week's Committee on Appropriations meeting when the School Department was charged to run a hypothetical budget scenario to reduce an additional \$500,000 from operating expenses. He reported the Administration reviewed the operating expenses focusing on deferring new initiatives and current non-Basic Education Plan (BEP) offerings. Mr. Fiore reported all of the reviewed options have a direct impact on student support, academics and activities across all grade levels; and where possible, ROI criteria was used to evaluate the potential impact. He presented three areas for potential cuts, including new initiatives; academics; and athletics; and provided a breakdown of each reduction and its impact to student learning, social emotional support, and athletics. Mr. Messore explained the reasoning behind each reduction or elimination. Mr. Messore emphasized the district did not support these potential cuts and is only fulfilling the COA request. The School Committee and Administration discussed several related topics, including social emotional support; RULER; enrollment; classroom sizes; long term effects of reductions; and impact to tax levy. Dr. Douglas reiterated the potential cuts are not being supported by the Committee.

**SCHOOL SECURITY UPDATE**

Mr. Messore provided an update on school security, including School Resource Officer report, a list of security questions from the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC), district security protocols and procedures, and Department of Justice Safety grant to fund updates to the PA systems, increase number of security cameras, safety devices, and Crisis Go Safety Classroom suite tied to first responders and applicable training. Discussion ensued on the Crisis Go Safety Classroom platform relative to individual student crisis, parent notification, reporting, building upgrades, bathroom areas; and crisis manual updating.

**BARRINGTON MIDDLE SCHOOL BUILDING COMMITTEE REPORT**

Mr. Fiore provided the Building Committee report including that the project is 90% complete, exterior work planned for Fall, potential for seed vs. sod, demolition of existing building by Fall, and ongoing discussions with the state relative to intersection work. Mr. Messore reported on plans for an Open House to provide the community with an opportunity to visit the new building pending receipt of a Certificate of Occupancy.

**Minutes of School Committee Meeting 4.11.2019**

PERSONNEL

Appointment

**Ms. Sevetson moved and Ms. Clancy seconded the recommendation of the Superintendent relative to the appointment of Mr. Robert Cardin, Assistant Coach, Boys Volleyball, Barrington High School. The motion passed 4-0 with Dr. Douglas, Ms. Sevetson, Ms. Bae and Ms. Clancy voting in the affirmative.**

Resignation

Mr. Messore announced the resignation of Ms. Denise Miller, Administrative Assistant to Superintendent, Barrington Public Schools.

Retirements

Mr. Messore announced the retirement of Ms. Patricia Beauchemin, School Social Worker, Barrington Public Schools and recognized her service to the district.

Mr. Messore announced the retirement of Ms. Donna Hartmann, School Psychologies, Barrington Public Schools and recognized her service to the district.

Mr. Messore announced the retirement of Mr. Richard Hopper, Special Educator, Hampden Meadows School and recognized his service to the district.

**SCHOOL COMMITTEE BUSINESS**

**STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE TO THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE UPDATE**

Ms. Kuo reported on the high school students' activities since the last School Committee meeting, including the completion of Lip Dub video last week for student capsule and to fundraise for Hasbro Hospital; this week the juniors completed SATs, sophomores completed PSATs, and this morning AP registration. Upcoming events will include a BHS School Improvement Team meeting in the week after school vacation, and Senior Project presentations will take place on May 1.

**FIELD TRIP APPROVALS**

Dr. Dillon introduced the Barrington High School Computer Science League ALL Star Competition field trip request to Wayne, NJ on May 24 - 25, 2019. Last year, the international competition was held at BHS, and this year there will be 16 teams competing in the event.

**Ms. Sevetson moved and Ms. Clancy seconded the approval of the Barrington High School Computer Science League ALL Star Competition, Wayne, NJ on May 24 - 25, 2019. The motion passed 4-0 with Dr. Douglas, Ms. Sevetson, Ms. Bae and Ms. Clancy voting in the affirmative.**

**Minutes of School Committee Meeting 4.11.2019**

Dr. Dillon introduced the Barrington High School Science Olympiad field trip to Cornell University, Ithaca, NY on May 30 - June 2, 2019. This year the Science Olympiad team won its 10th straight year state championship and will be participating in the competition at Cornell University in 23 different events, including physics, chemistry, earth space and science, biology and engineering.

**Ms. Sevetson moved and Ms. Clancy seconded the approval of the Barrington High School Science Olympiad at Cornell University, Ithaca, NY on May 30 - June 2, 2019. The motion passed 4-0 with Dr. Douglas, Ms. Sevetson, Ms. Bae and Ms. Clancy voting in the affirmative.**

**REVISED 2019-2020 SCHOOL CALENDAR APPROVAL**

Mr. Messoro made a recommendation for a revision to the 2019-2020 School Calendar relative to changing the Senior Project Reading date to March 2, 2020.

**Ms. Sevetson moved and Ms. Clancy seconded the approval of the Revised 2019-2020 School Calendar. The motion passed 4-0 with Dr. Douglas, Ms. Sevetson, Ms. Bae and Ms. Clancy voting in the affirmative.**

**DISCUSSION: OPPORTUNITY FOR EDUCATIONAL FORUM (TWO-TIER SCHEDULE INITIATIVE)**

Dr. Douglas introduced the discussion for educational forum relative to the two-tier schedule initiative that was a suggestion at the last School Committee meeting. She reported the format will be a speed dating style with individual tables to address specific topics, including transportation with Mr. Messoro; athletics with Mr. Finn and Mr. Hurley; sleep with sleep specialist; mental health with child psychologist; roll-out of school start time change with administrator from another district with later start times; and student for their perspective. Ms. Sevetson requested Mr. Messoro to include in the transportation discussion the alignment of K-5 schools. The Committee and Administration discussed various methods and the timing of communication of the forum, including a Superintendent email to community, flyer, BPS website, and notice in the Barrington Times.

**DISCUSSION: HEALTH AND WELLNESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION RE: NUTRITIONAL GUIDELINES, INCLUDING CHOCOLATE MILK**

Dr. Douglas introduced the discussion relative to the Health and Wellness Advisory Committee topics on nutrition as it relates to school lunches and offerings, and lunchroom culture. She reported that a Chartwells regional representative gave a presentation to the Committee relative to criteria used for snacks that is based on USDA guidelines. The representative made a recommendation that the district adjust guidelines specific to BPS to make appropriate snack choices. The Health and Wellness Committee charged the Nutrition subgroup to review and research nutrition guidelines for a recommendation to the School Committee. She reported the Committee made a recommendation of a trial to remove chocolate

**Minutes of School Committee Meeting 4.11.2019**

milk from the K-5 schools for the 2019-2020 school year, and a recommendation to decrease the 35% of sugar by weight to 25%, and additional recommendations regarding lunch time, lunch service, and food presentation. Dr. Douglas explained the information provided is for discussion and will allow time to review and give feedback prior to the May meeting. A discussion ensued.

**AMEND SCHOOL SCHEDULE VOTE FROM 2016**

Dr. Douglas introduced the discussion and proposed vote to amend school schedule from March 2016 in support of the two-tier schedule for the upcoming school year.

**Ms. Sevetson moved and Ms. Clancy seconded to amend the School Schedule from 2016 to Two-Tier System for 2019-2020 school year. The motion passed 4-0 with Dr. Douglas, Ms. Sevetson, Ms. Bae and Ms. Clancy voting in the affirmative.**

**DISCUSSION: MEMORIAL DAY PARADE PARTICIPATION**

Dr. Douglas introduced and discussion ensued on School Committee participation. Ms. Sevetson agreed to represent the Committee and walk with the Town Council in the parade.

**POLICY FIRST READING: POLICY ON RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCE PRACTICES AND ACCOMMODATIONS**

Dr. Dillon reported on the revamping of the existing policy on Religious Observance Practices and Accommodations in response to the removal of the select religious holidays section on the school calendar.

Ms. Kuo read the Policy on Religious Observance Practices and Accommodations. Discussion ensued relative to edits to the policy and prior to the policy second read at the next School Committee meeting on May 9.

**POLICY FIRST READING: DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSIVITY POLICY**

Dr. Dillon introduced the Diversity, Equity and Inclusivity policy as a result of the work of the new DEI Advisory Committee relevant to a policy in place in a neighboring district to support BPS in drafting our context in celebrating and accepting our diverse students and staff.

Ms. Sevetson read the Diversity, Equity and Inclusivity policy. Discussion ensued relative to edits to the policy and prior to the policy second read at the next School Committee meeting on May 9. Dr. Dillon reported the policy will be introduced to the Diversity, Equity and Inclusivity Advisory Committee at its next meeting.

**Minutes of School Committee Meeting 4.11.2019**

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Ms. Mary Roberts of 11 Adams Avenue and President of National Education Association Barrington (NEAB), commented on the proposed budget relative to cuts and later start times.

Mr. CJ Hilty, BHS student, read a statement relative to his concerns with increased cameras presence in schools relative to student privacy and non-essential content filtering on 1:1 devices.

Mr. Nahum Mitnik of 187 New Meadow Road commented on the proposed budget relative to staff cuts versus two-tier bus system.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

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

**DISCUSSION ITEMS**

The next Community Forum on April 25 will be on school scheduling followed by brief business meeting for an update on FY20 budget. At the next business meeting there will be a discussion relative to a resolution on Article 12; presentation by media specialist on library services; special education update; and executive session to discuss security protocols.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no announcements.

**Ms. Sevetson moved and Ms. Clancy seconded to adjourn the business meeting at 9:36 pm and to convene in Executive Session pursuant to Rhode Island General Laws 42-46-5(a)(2) to discuss litigation before the Commissioner and to conduct a work session on collective bargaining with National Education Association Barrington (NEAB). The motion passed 4-0 with Dr. Douglas, Ms. Sevetson, Ms. Bae and Ms. Clancy voting in the affirmative.**

**The executive session was adjourned at 10:08 pm and the minutes were sealed.  
Dr. Douglas reported that no votes were taken in Executive Session.**

**Ms. Sevetson moved and Ms. Clancy seconded to adjourn the regular meeting at 10:09 pm. The motion passed 4-0 with Dr. Douglas, Ms. Sevetson, Ms. Bae and Ms. Clancy voting in the affirmative.**