

**SCHOOL COMMITTEE  
BARRINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
BARRINGTON, RHODE ISLAND**

**Page 1**

**Minutes of School Committee Meeting 05/19/2016**

A regular meeting of the Barrington School Committee was held on Thursday, May 19, 2016 in the Administration Building. School Committee Chair Kate Brody called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Present were Mrs. Brody, Dr. Shea, Mr. Alessandro, Mrs. Clancy, Ms. Odjakjian, Mr. Messore, Mrs. Dillon, and Mr. Tarro. Absent was Mr. Guida.

Mrs. Brody introduced School Committee members present at the meeting: Dr. Robert Shea, Mrs. Anna Clancy, and Mr. John Alessandro, and Student Representative Katharine Odjakjian. Mr. Patrick Guida was absent. Mrs. Brody also introduced the Administration and Central Office Staff present: Superintendent Michael Messore, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction Paula Dillon, Director of Administration and Finance Ronald Tarro, and Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent Elizabeth Levesque.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

Ms. Odjakjian led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Achievement Recognition**

Mr. Messore announced the following achievements across the district:

Barrington High School Senior Vivian Tian is a winner of a National Merit \$2,500 Scholarship.

Barrington Middle School 8<sup>th</sup> Grader Clement Hilty has been selected as a Broadcom MASTERS nominee in the national middle school science competition.

Barrington High School Junior Yiran Jia was awarded a National Scholastic Art Competition Silver Key for her mixed media titled “Suffering Meal”, created as part of her Advanced Placement 2D Studio Art portfolio.

**Student Representative to the School Committee Recognition**

Mrs. Brody led the Committee farewell and gift presentation to Ms. Katharine Odjakjian, Student Representative to the School Committee for the 2015-2016 academic year. Ms. Odjakjian thanked the Committee and Administration for the opportunity to serve in this important role as it has served as a valuable learning experience. Each Committee member, along with Mr. Messore, expressed their appreciation to Ms. Odjakjian for her service and for sharing the student voice. Ms. Odjakjian will attend Tufts University in the fall.

**Information and Proposals**

Mr. Messore introduced Ms. Denise Alves and Dr. Kristen Westmoreland from the Barrington Adult and Youth (BAY) Team who provided an update on initiatives, challenges, and partnerships and work groups within the community. Ms. Alves introduced Mary Berkery, Caroline Connelly, and Noelle Cooke, Barrington High School (BHS) juniors and members of SADD (BAYouth/Students Against Destructive Decisions) who presented Mrs. Joanne Royley, BHS Student Assistance Counselor, with a proclamation of honor and appreciation. Mrs. Royley, along with BHS Principal Mr. Joseph Hurley and BHS English Teacher and Department Chair Mr. Kevin Blanchard provided an overview of the March, 2016 survey results from the 863 students that participated in the Stanford University Challenge Success Survey of Adolescent School

**SCHOOL COMMITTEE  
BARRINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
BARRINGTON, RHODE ISLAND**

**Page 2**

**Minutes of School Committee Meeting 05/19/2016**

Experiences. Mr. Hurley and the Committee expressed appreciation to the BAY Team for providing the funding for BHS participation in the comprehensive survey. The Challenge Success survey ([www.challengesuccess.org](http://www.challengesuccess.org)) supports the work of educators to identify problems and implement best practices and policies in areas such as curriculum, assessment, homework, school schedule, and a healthy school climate. The data is used to help schools guide decisions about policies and practices that are effective and which are in need of improvement. Mr. Hurley highlighted next steps to share the survey results and use the survey data to identify opportunities for improvement. The Committee agreed to review the survey data and discuss at the next regular School Committee meeting. Dr. Shea also requested a presentation on the survey results at the next Health and Wellness Committee meeting on June 1, 2016.

**General Public Discussion and Information**

Mr. Frank Lucas, of 5 Sakonnet Drive, urged the Committee and Administration to act on his request to make a change in the bus stop near for his children and neighboring children because of a recent situation involving police activity at a neighbor's home. Mr. Messore reported that he has communicated with the district's Transportation Coordinator and is currently working with the bus company on the request.

**Old Business from Superintendent and Staff**

Mr. Tarro reported that at the May 12, 2016 Joint Meeting of the Committee on Appropriations, School Committee and Town Council, the Barrington Town Council accepted, with a majority vote, the School Committee's request to submit a resolution to the General Assembly for a bond referendum on the November, 2016 ballot for an amount not to exceed \$68.4 million for the construction of a new Barrington Middle School (BMS). On May 17, 2016, the Council on Elementary and Secondary Education approved \$3.4 million in additional Immediate Health and Safety repairs under the five-year plan and approved the BMS building project application as supported by the School Building Authority of the Rhode Island Department of Education. Mr. Tarro also introduced the new BMS building project website, [www.bmsproject.org](http://www.bmsproject.org). Mr. Messore provided an update on the May 17, 2016 PTO joint meeting forum on the BMS building project and reported next steps for additional community engagement. Mrs. Brody reported that Representative Joy Hearn D-66 has provided the House Bill number 8227, for the enabling legislation and that the bill has been referred to the House Finance Committee, but has not yet been assigned a hearing date.

Mr. Tarro reported on the May 3, 2016 Committee on Appropriations (COA) meeting that included review of the FY17 proposed operating budget. The meeting was attended by Mr. Tarro, Mr. Messore, Dr. Shea, and Mr. Guida. At the meeting, the COA recommended further reduction of the budget by \$64,800. The Committee discussed options to address the budget variance while maintaining current programs. Following discussion, the Committee recommended that the Administration include the \$64,800 variance in the salary line item. The adjusted operating budget amount is \$47,966,398 with a net impact of 1.25% to taxpayers. Budget documents are available for review on the district website. Mr. Tarro noted that the Town Clerk has received a motion, to be presented at the Financial Town Meeting on May 25, 2016, to reduce the school operating budget by \$120,000.

Mr. Messore noted that the deadline to submit an interest form for the School Start Times (SST) Ad Hoc Advisory Committee is May 20, 2016. Dr. Shea and Mrs. Clancy volunteered to participate in the population process with the blind scoring of the interest forms. The first meeting of the SST Ad Hoc Advisory Committee is targeted for June.

**SCHOOL COMMITTEE  
BARRINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
BARRINGTON, RHODE ISLAND**

**Page 3**

**Minutes of School Committee Meeting 05/19/2016**

Mr. Messore provided an update on the Strategic Plan and introduced the rationale for consideration of District Strategic Objectives. Discussion with the Committee included its feedback relative to the Strategic Plan and plans to hold a goal setting workshop in the summer of 2016 to be facilitated by Mr. James Marini, former Superintendent of Schools in Newton, Massachusetts and consultant with the New Superintendent Induction Program, Massachusetts District Governance Project.

**Old Business from School Committee**

No old business from the School Committee was presented at this time.

**New Business from Superintendent and Staff**

Mr. Messore announced the resignations of Mr. Timothy Hall, Barrington High School, Boys Ice Hockey Head Coach, and Ms. Alexandra Sickel, Barrington High School, Social Studies Teacher.

Mr. Tarro reported that the district is projected to end the fiscal year under budget.

**Dr. Shea moved and Mrs. Clancy seconded to approve the monthly expenditures for April in the amount of \$3,670,140.43.**

Mr. Alessandro asked for clarification on the contracted services line item.

**The motion passed 4-0 with Mrs. Brody, Dr. Shea, Mr. Alessandro, and Mrs. Clancy voting in the affirmative for the motion.**

Mrs. Dillon reported on the P21 Framework for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning District visit on May 5, 2016 as part of round two in the process for recognition as a 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning Exemplar Program. The group visited all six schools and met with several community partners including Mrs. Clancy, representing the School Committee. Mrs. Dillon noted that the feedback from the group was positive relative to the documentation of evidence of learning at every school in the district and that trend words included support, learning, community, collaborates and communicates. Mrs. Dillon reported the following quote from the visiting team; "this is a special place." If Barrington Public Schools is selected for the third round, an additional site visit would occur in October, 2016. 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning Exemplar status for the district would include increased partnerships and grant opportunities.

Mrs. Dillon reported on the May 19, 2016 district visit by Monica R. Martinez, Ph.D. from Stanford University on deeper learning strategic planning. This first of three collaborative meetings included participation by three school districts, Barrington, Bristol Warren, and Middletown, and 60 participants representing all grade levels.

**New Business from School Committee**

Dr. Shea provided the Committee with a proposed reorganization plan for the Health and Wellness Committee as requested by the Committee. Faculty and Barrington High School students were given the opportunity to express interest in membership on the Health and Wellness Committee. Discussion ensued on

**SCHOOL COMMITTEE  
BARRINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
BARRINGTON, RHODE ISLAND**

**Page 4**

**Minutes of School Committee Meeting 05/19/2016**

communication, openness of the current meetings, and next steps that may include a revision to the Health and Wellness policy based on its reorganization. Dr. Shea reiterated his concern for a change to the current model as it could alter the opportunity for open dialogue.

**Mr. Alessandro moved and Mrs. Clancy seconded to approve the Health and Wellness Committee reorganization plan as proposed. The motion passed 3-1 with Mrs. Brody, Mr. Alessandro, and Mrs. Clancy voting in the affirmative for the motion. Dr. Shea opposed.**

The School Committee policy revision on Technology Resources Responsible Use was presented and read aloud by the Committee for a first reading. Mr. Messore noted the opportunity to update the current policy as use of technology expands in the district. Mrs. Brody added that the District Strategic Plan identifies the goal of revitalizing policies in place and that the policy had been adopted in 1996, amended in 2000 and revised in 2001 and 2013. Following a brief discussion, the Committee agreed to ask that Counsel revisit the policy for clarification on the use of video. The policy will be presented for a second reading and approval at the next regular School Committee meeting scheduled for June 2, 2016.

Mrs. Brody introduced the School Committee policy on Non-School-Sponsored/Non-Sanctioned Travel as consistent with current best practice; it was presented and read aloud by the Committee for a first reading. The policy supports risk management on field trips that are neither school sponsored nor approved by the School Committee. Following discussion, Mr. Messore noted that he would review the policy statement on approval to ensure that the policy incorporates current specific language relative to best practice. The policy will be presented for a second reading and approval at the next regular School Committee meeting scheduled for June 2, 2016.

**Decision Items**

**Dr. Shea moved and Mrs. Clancy seconded to approve the consent agenda. The motion passed 4-0 with Mrs. Brody, Dr. Shea, Mr. Alessandro, and Mrs. Clancy voting in the affirmative for the motion.**

**Discussion Future Agenda Items**

Mr. Messore reported that the next regular School Committee meeting scheduled for Thursday, June 2, 2016 will feature a Bullying Policy update.

Mrs. Brody requested that the next meeting agenda include discussion of the Challenge Success Survey results after the Committee has had an opportunity to review the comprehensive data that was introduced at this meeting.

Mrs. Brody asked the Committee if, per past practice, it would be in favor of a School Committee narrative to be submitted at the Financial Town Meeting. The Committee was in agreement; Mrs. Brody requested that the Committee submit its feedback on content to Mr. Messore

**Announcements**

The Financial Town Meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 25, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. at Barrington High

**SCHOOL COMMITTEE  
BARRINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
BARRINGTON, RHODE ISLAND**

**Page 5**

**Minutes of School Committee Meeting 05/19/2016**

School.

**General Public Discussion and Information**

Dr. Megan Douglas, of 25 Rumstick Road, parent, raised several points including consideration for PTO funds to help make the student experience better at Barrington Middle School (BMS), using the drone video produced by the Sunrise Show for incoming the Grade 8 orientations program for Barrington High School as a resource to provide the community with information about the current status of the BMS physical plant, consideration for publicizing the results of the Challenge Success Survey and use of a similar survey for students at BMS, and the hope that increased communication and clarity will not hinder the current format of the Health and Wellness Committee meetings.

Mr. Anthony Arico, Jr., of 166 Lincoln Avenue, recommended that Committee members attend the upcoming House Finance Committee meetings relative to the Barrington Middle School building project. Mr. Arico also raised concern relative to State approval of an alumni raffle event; the Barrington Boosters Club had been approached for sponsorship of the event.

**Dr. Shea moved and Mrs. Clancy seconded to adjourn the regular meeting at 11:05 p.m. The motion passed 4-0 with Mrs. Brody, Dr. Shea, Mr. Alessandro, and Mrs. Clancy voting in the affirmative for the motion.**