

REGULAR SESSION MINUTES
September 17, 2015

A meeting of the Swampscott School Committee was held in room B129 at Swampscott High School commencing at 7:00 p.m. with the following members present: Ms. Carin Marshall, Chairman, Ms. Amy OConnor, Vice Chairman, Ms. Suzanne Wright and Ms. Gargi Cooper. Also present: Ms. Pamela Angelakis, Superintendent of Schools and Ms. Lois Longin, Director of Curriculum and Instruction and Mr. Evan Katz, School Business Administrator. Mr. Ted Delano was absent.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was none.

COMMITTEE COMMENT

Ms. Cooper commented on curriculum night at Hadley and the Middle School. She stated she was amazed at how Hadley looks inside and she also loved the team presentations. At the Middle School she was also impressed by the team teaching presentations and the tools provided to parents by teachers. She also commented on the joint meeting between the Board of Selectmen and School Committee and stated she felt it was helpful to highlight the initiatives on both sides. She also felt they should try to keep doing it twice or three times a year. She also commented on an email she sent regarding signage and the policies of schools and towns surrounding the issue of the no dogs on school property policy. She also felt the policies should be looked at to match each other's intent. Ms. Angelakis stated she would speak to Rose Cheever regarding how signage could be addressed.

Ms. Wright also commented on the joint meeting with the Board of Selectmen. She agreed with Ms. Cooper and felt it was great for everyone to be on the same page, especially going into budget talks. She added she was looking forward to facilities consolidation as well. She also commented on Hadley and was recently there to drop off leftovers from the senior class breakfast and Mrs. Phelan was excited to show off the building and that her pride in the building is really contagious. She also passed along information from the Friends of Marblehead Public Schools and a speaker they will be having on October 13th. She said she would get more information to possibly share with the District families.

Ms. OConnor agreed with all on the joint meeting and also wanted to make people aware of a speaker series at the Brookwood School on October 8th.

Ms. Marshall also felt the meeting went well and also would like to continue them going forward. She also updated on Clarke School and felt that all was going smoothly around that construction. She further mentioned that her daughter recently started a Middle School sport and felt that ran very smoothly.

CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION:

It was moved by Ms. Wright and seconded by Ms. OConnor to approve the Consent Agenda containing the Regular Session minutes from August 27, 2015; the Executive Session Minutes from August 27, 2015 and Warrants # 16-09, 16-10 and 16-11.

Ms. OConnor questioned a warrant item for Mayberry Shoe Company. Mr. Katz stated he would need to see the bill but suspected it was athletic. Ms. Marshall stated it could be removed from the vote if needed. Ms. OConnor said she was comfortable with it and was sure it went through the proper procedures. Ms. Cooper commented she was unable to view the warrants drop box and Mr. Katz stated he would look into it.

VOTE ON MOTION: The motion passed 4-0.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

SHS Dual Enrollment

Ms. Angelakis gave some background to the dual enrollment program at the High School. She thanked Mr. Rozmiarek, Ms. Barnum and Ms. Mackey for looking into alternatives due to the closure of Marian Court and she was happy to report they will be offering one course in the fall through North Shore Community College. Mr. Rozmiarek explained it would be a night course held at the High School and the fall class would be Criminal Justice. He further explained the District would pick up the cost of the program and students would be responsible for books and materials. He explained the class would allow students to earn college credits along with credit at the High School. Ms. Cooper questioned whether this would be possible for classes the High School couldn't offer such as AP biology. Ms. Angelakis explained that program was being offered through virtual high school and the dual enrollment program was being utilized for classes offered outside of the core courses. Ms. Cooper asked Mr. Rozmiarek to clarify the virtual high school program. Ms. OConnor requested to put it on an upcoming agenda so the Committee could hear more about virtual high school.

Field Trip – HS Cross Country Trip – overnight

Ms. Angelakis invited Coach Joe Tenney forward to speak about the proposed trip. Mr. Tenney gave the Committee and overview of the agenda for the trip. There was discussion regarding transportation and chaperones for the trip. Ms. OConnor questioned the cost and fundraising. Mr. Tenney explained the costs and fundraising. Ms. OConnor stated she looked forward to hearing the outcome of the trip.

MOTION: It was moved by Ms. OConnor and seconded by Ms. Wright to approve the HS Cross Country Field Trip. The motion passed 4-0.

Personnel Report

Ms. Angelakis referred to the updated reports distributed in the packets. Ms. OConnor questioned how the budget worked out with retiring teachers and new hires. Ms. Angelakis said she will be looking into the differences.

MCAS/PARCC – update

Ms. Angelakis stated a lot of information has been coming in through Listserve and that she expected the MCAS results to be released on September 24th and 25 and PARCC to be released on November 17th. She explained that the DESE Board would then be determining whether the state will go with MCAS or PARCC.

Human Recourses Position – update

Ms. Angelakis updated on the Human Resources coordinator position. She explained that she had recused herself due to some internal candidates and that Mr. Katz, Ms. Longin and Mr. Castellarin worked on the search committee and had forwarded the names of the finalists to her for review. Ms. Angelakis explained some office space issues and said she would welcome any suggestions on space. Ms. Cooper questioned where the position would fall within the organizational chart. Ms. Angelakis explained the position was confidential non-union and will work closely with payroll and the two confidential secretaries in her office.

Capital Projects – update

Ms. Angelakis gave an update on the three major capital projects which the District had received articles for.

She explained that work at the Clarke School was ongoing and that the opening of school was successful. She updated that an engineering firm would be looking at Hadley to work out the details on the replacement of the boilers and that third on the list was the Hadley roof. She thanked Mr. Castellarin, Mr. Baker, Mr. Katz and Mr. Dragani for managing the projects.

Professional Development – Lois Longin - update

Ms. Longin updated on summer PD projects which staff had performed as well as the ALICE training. She also updated on the Readers Workshop Literacy program which will be moving up to K-6 from K-4 last year. Ms. OConnor asked for a quick overview of the Readers Workshop program. Ms. Longin explained the program to the Committee. Ms. Longin further updated on the continuing work on the science curriculum. Ms. Cooper requested a presentation on the curriculum at some point in the future. Ms. Angelakis stated that could be done. Ms. Longin also spoke about the curriculum review process and explained they would be adding health and wellness as well as Physical Education. She also explained the UBD model, “understanding by design” in which teachers will use the concept of looking at the end product and working backwards. She thanked Mrs. Phelan, Ms. Mackey, Ms. Ganci and Mr. Calichman for their work and stated they will be giving a presentation to staff on September 29th. Ms. Longin also reported on a new web based programs which teachers can track professional development and DDMs called Teachpoint. Ms. Longin reported on the upcoming November 3rd full day of professional development day and stated she would give a more updated agenda at a later time. Lastly, Ms. Longin spoke about the RETELL course which the state requires teachers to be trained. She advised that Nell Donato was trained and will be teaching that class. Ms. Angelakis thanked Ms. Longin for the update and recognized there was a lot going on in the way of PD. Ms. OConnor thought it would be great to share a lot of this information with the families in the District as a way to get the word out on all the work that is being doing on early release and days off. Ms. Angelakis said she would bring that up to the Leadership Team.

Ms. Angelakis also reported that she had not heard back yet regarding the request for a bench for Pat Moore to be placed at the Middle School. She stated she would bring that back when she received more information.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Chemical Health Policy Revised – first read

Ms. Marshall gave background on the policy and turned the report over to Ms. Wright. Ms. Wright explained that the document proposed by Ms. Angelakis’ group, the old chemical health policy, District Handbook, MIAA policy as well as other District policies were all reviewed. She explained that they were in agreement that summer violations were out of the school’s purview and they felt that simpler and more concise was better. She explained that the draft which was presented spoke of empowering students to make good choices and that the intent of the policy needs to be more educational versus subjecting punishment. Ms. Cooper added they needed to work on the steps for each penalty and there was further discussion regarding that topic. Ms. Angelakis agreed that it brings up the issue of policy versus procedure. She also suggested consulting with the High School team. Ms. Wright stated they had set an additional meeting and invited those parties as well. Ms. Marshall stated she would like to get input from the High School team as this was just a first read.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:

Walkers and Riders, Policy EEAA –vote requested

Ms. Wright stated the proposed change related to mileage for student transportation. Mr. Katz felt there may be some confusion on what the policy covered and Ms. Wright stated she would check with Mike Gilbert and put it on the agenda for a future meeting.

Policy Against Harassment – Policy ACH – vote requested

Ms. Wright stated the change highlight in green was just a reflection of a change to job title.

MOTION: It was moved by Ms. Wright and seconded by Ms. Cooper to amend Policy ACH to substitute the word Assistant Superintendent to Administrator of Student Services. The motion passed 4-0.

Ms. Wright requested to put policy EEA on for the next agenda.

Ms. Cooper updated on the website. She stated she had added a link for email replies with automatic reply. She stated she would be working on other pieces of the website as well.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: At 8:50 p.m. it was moved by Ms. OConnor, seconded by Ms. Wright and voted by roll call vote to enter into executive session for the purpose of Collective Bargaining. Ms. OConnor – yes Marshall – yes; Ms. Wright – yes; Ms. Cooper – yes.

Respectfully submitted,



Pamela R.H. Angelakis, M.A., M.Ed.
Superintendent of Schools
/pan

10/2/15

Date: