



**MINUTES of the “48th District School Committee”  
SPECIAL 2013 Meeting**

Membership: Francis J. Fistori, Avon; Germano John Silveira, Braintree;  
Vice Chairman Aidan G. Maguire, Jr., Canton; Chairman Joseph A. Pascarella, Dedham;  
Mr. Robert A. McNeil, Holbrook; Mr. Fess Joyce, Milton; Mr. Kevin L. Connolly, Norwood;  
Mrs. Marybeth Nearen, Randolph and Mr. Charles W. Flahive, Westwood.

**Tuesday, January 22, 2013**

**SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS PRIOR TO SPECIAL MEETING**

- **Policy Subcommittee: at 5 p.m. in Boardroom #402**
  - **Review of Sections J and K with forthcoming recommendations to the full committee.**

**Warrant Subcommittee: at 6:30 p.m. in Boardroom #402**

- **Agenda: Pre-meeting review of warrant and related invoices. This subcommittee meets before all meetings of the DSC that contain warrant(s). The full committee receives warrant information prior to the meeting.**

The Blue Hills Regional Vocational School Forty-Eighth District School Committee **Special Meeting** was called to order at **7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 22, 2013** at the Blue Hills Regional Vocational Technical School, William T. Buckley District School Committee Board Room 207A, 800 Randolph Street, Canton, Massachusetts. Chairman Joseph A. Pascarella presided.

**1. ROLL CALL and PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE \***

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Messrs. Fistori, Flahive, Maguire, McNeil, Mrs. Nearen and Messrs. Pascarella and Silveira

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Messrs. Connolly and Joyce

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Mr. Charles J. Gisondi, Treasurer

Ms. Rachel E. Rudin, Student Representative to the DSC, School Year 2012-13

Mr. James P. Quaglia, Superintendent-Director

Mr. Michael J. Barrett, Assistant Superintendent-Director

Mr. David W. Proule, Business Manager

Mr. Tom F. Cahill, Activities Director

Mr. Gene Mastro, Facilities and Grounds Director

Mr. Thomas G. Cavanaugh, Dean of Students

Mrs. Deborah Corvini, SPED Director

Sgt. Scott Connor, Canton Police Department

Officer Ken Berkowitz, Canton Police Department

\*On occasion, individual(s) attending the meeting do not sign the attendance sheet.

Chairman Joseph A. Pascarella announced that the District complies with the revised Open Meeting Law in effect, as of July 1, 2010. This meeting is being recorded in person by the recording secretary. All documents referred to within the meeting are in the Meeting-Record File. Meeting minutes are recorded electronically as well as by person.

2. **Public Comment** - Members of the Canton Police Department were present to speak in executive session regarding school security protocols.
3. **Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes** - Chairman Pascarella moved for the approval of the following District School Committee Special Meeting: Tuesday, January 8, 2013. A motion was made by Vice-Chairman Aidan G. Maguire, Jr., to approve the minutes

of the Special District School Committee Meeting conducted on Tuesday, January 8, 2013 as presented. Motion was seconded by Member Fran Fistori. Motion was taken to a vote, without discussion and it was **UNANIMOUSLY**

**VOTED:** to approve the minutes of the Special District School Committee Meeting conducted on Tuesday, January 8, 2013 as presented.

**Communications** – The District School Committee receives regular flow of emails which provide the Committee with an accurate synopsis of what is happening within the District School. All email correspondences are archived.

**Mr. James Hardy @ MASC** – Mr. Hardy has provided a number of dates that he is available to facilitate in-house training for the Committee. Members are requested to contact Joanne with their availability for the following dates:

4. **Student Representative Report** – Ms. Rachel E. Rudin was recognized by Chairman Pascarella. Ms. Rudin reported:

- **Class Projects/Programs** – Ms. Rachel Rudin reviewed the current class projects:
  - **Freshmen** – “Valentine Grams” will be circulated throughout the school to students and staff of the senders’ choices.
  - **Sophomores** – “Semi-Formal Dance” at the Knights of Columbus in Randolph on March 8<sup>th</sup> with a “masquerade theme”.
  - **Juniors and Seniors** – Are working fervently and cooperatively together on the “Senior/Junior Prom”. With hopes that this prom will be the “best, ever yet”.
- **Advisors** – Ms. Hedges and Ms. Feeney are attending an “Advisors’ Retreat” this weekend with plans to come back with additional ideas for the classes.
- **Sports’ Updates** – Winter sports are in full swing and stats follow:
  - **Hockey:** Suffered first loss of the season (last night).
  - **Boys Basketball:** Plugging away and doing their best.
  - **Girls’ Basketball:** Still “undefeated”!

Members of the District School Committee expressed their appreciation to Ms. Rudin for her presentation of student activities.

5. **DSC Chair Report** – Chairman Pascarella moved to call Executive Session out of order for the topic of school security at 7:12 p.m.

**Motion was made by Member Germano John Silveira to move to executive session.** Motion was seconded by Member Charles W. Flahive. Without discussion motion was taken to a **ROLL CALL VOTE** to enter into executive session to discuss school security elements that are of a confidential nature. **By ROLL CALL VOTE** the Committed **UNANIMOUSLY**

**VOTED:** to enter into executive session to discuss school security elements that are of a confidential nature.

6. **Administrative Reports (as needed):**

6.1. **Treasurer: C. Gisondi** - Mr. Charles J. Gisondi was recognized by Chairman Pascarella.

- **Warrant(s):** Chairman Pascarella moved to approve the Warrant.

Upon motion of Secretary Charles W. Flahive. to approve FY13 Warrant Number 12 (Vouchers 1054-1056) in the amount of \$864,773.25. Motion to approve was seconded by Member Marybeth Nearen. Motion to approve

the warrant was taken to a vote and it was **UNANIMOUSLY VOTED:** to approve FY13 Warrant Number 12 (Vouchers 1054-1056) in the amount of \$864,773.25.

- **Blue Hills Retirement (Non-Teachers) System – Funding Schedule, Fiscal Year 2013** – Treasurer Gisondi further requested a vote of the Committee on the acceptance of the Blue Hills Retirement System – Funding Schedule, Fiscal Year 2013, as presented at the January 8, 2013 District School Committee for the review and consideration of the Committee. Chairman Pascarella moved the question of the acceptance of the Blue Hills Retirement System – Funding Schedule, Fiscal Year 2013. Member Marybeth Nearen moved to accept the Blue Hills (Non-Teacher) Retirement System – Funding Schedule, Fiscal Year 2013, as presented and recommended by Treasurer Charles J. Gisondi. Motion was seconded by Member Germano John Silveira. Motion was taken to a vote and it was **UNANIMOUSLY**

**Voted:** to accept the Blue Hills (Non-Teacher) Retirement System – Funding Schedule, Fiscal Year 2013, as presented and recommended by Treasurer Charles J. Gisondi.

**6.2 Business Manager: D. Proule** - Business Manager David W. Proule was recognized by Chairman Pascarella and Introduced **Mr. Tom F. Cahill, Recreation Director**. Tom presented an extensive report on the FY12 Activities of the Recreation Department accompanied by a comprehensive PowerPoint presentation to follow the hard-copy report every member received. Some of the highlights of the presentation were:

**Presentation of Activities Director** – Mr. Thomas F. Cahill →

Recreation Department Mission Statement

- In accordance with the policies of the District School Committee, the Recreation Department coordinates activities of the following resources of the district: Swimming Pool, Wellness Center, Competition Gymnasium and Outdoor Fields.
- The goal is to ensure that the effective use of the District Resources without conflict between school sponsored activities and those activities sought by the community.
- The Recreation Department will also operate based on revenue generated from programs that it operates.

**Key Services:**

- Swim Lessons, Pool Rentals, Gym Rentals, Field Rentals, Wellness Center Activities
- Schedule Coordination with Athletics and School Events.

Following Tom's presentation a question and answer session activated. Mr. Cahill proposed a slight increase to the Swimming Lessons Program. It was determined that this may be allowed administratively and does not require the approval of the District School Committee, as suggested by Member Nearen.

Secretary Charles W. Flahive commented that profits from the Recreation Department should be used to take care of the

playing field condition atrocities at Blue Hills.

Concluding discussions, the Full Committee thanked Mr. Cahill for the fine job he did with this report as well as his continuous commitment to the responsibilities of his position overseeing all the activities of the Recreation Department as its Director.

Chairman Pascarella recognized Business Manager David W. Proule. Mr. Proule continued his review of the Tentative FY14 Budget

- **Review of Tentative FY14 Budget, was continued from the January 8, 2013 DSC Meeting, salary items included, line by line, by Business Manager David W. Proule reviewed the budget.** Mr. Proule provided Full Tentative FY14 Budget, including salaries, with level numbers plugged in for the anticipated State contributions.

The anticipated budget for FY14 is \$17,896.529.00. The reports have included anticipated requests and also profiled past Fiscal Years' expenditures for comparatives.

Upon examining the documents presented, Vice Chairman Aidan G. Maguire, Jr., stated that he wants to see the benefits realized from the Siemens Performance Contract with the net savings realized through this contract for the District. Vice Chairman Maguire further requested information on the current bus transportation company and the status of the contracted services. It is noted that visits to town officials and finance committees/commissions are taking place. An Open Public Hearing will be conducted on Tuesday, March 12, 2013 and has been advertised

**6.3 Assistant Superintendent/Principal: M. Barrett** – Mr. Michael J. Barrett was recognized by Chairman Pascarella and addressed a number of issues:

6.3 (a.) **Attendance and Discipline Report – Semester 1.** Mr. Barrett introduced Dean of Students, Mr. Thomas G. Cavanaugh. Mr. Cavanaugh greeted the Committee and stated:

“I may have said this before, but this year's Senior Class is fantastic and is providing under classmen with a great example and positive examples.”

Thus said, Mr. Cavanaugh reviewed the facts of the First Semester Conduct report and Attendance/Tardy Reports (From 9.6.12 through 1.15.13) with the Committee, including necessary actions taken with student offenders.

Members had an opportunity to question Mr. Cavanaugh on the content of his reports and receive answers to their questions. “ Overall, student behaviors at Blue Hills are outstanding with teachers doing well with keeping order in their classes and programs.”

The Committee thanked Mr. Cavanaugh for his report.

6.3 (b.) **SPED Mid-Year Report** – Mr. Barrett introduced **SPED Director Deborah Corvini**. Director Corvini reported the following:

- School Year 2012-2013 - 184 SPED Students. This number represents 23% of the student body.
- Student “504 Plans” number 33 (4.1%).
- For the students we tutor we are using the APEX Programs

- Went on a mid-cycle of 100%
- We are in 100% compliance with the DESE.

Members thanked Mrs. Corvini for her report.

- **School Improvement Status Report** – Mr. Barrett presented a Status Report on the School Improvement Plan for School Year 2012-13 which was sent to the members via email well before this evening's meeting. The Goals of this plan are in some cases ongoing. Mr. Barrett reviewed each element of the plan and its completion status. A question and answer session proceeded with particular emphasis on the development of the X2 + Moodle to provide information on homework assignments for students. Mr. Barrett stated that this is being developed, enlarged and extended "now".
- **Science Teacher** – Mr. Barrett stated that there may be a need for an additional science teacher and if so, the number one pick is a teacher returning from out west that had taught very successfully here for six years. The teacher happens to have a family member on the faculty but the family member would not be a supervisor. If and when the teacher is hired, it may take a waiver of the current Policy reflecting on hiring family members and subsequent vote of the Committee.

**6.4 Superintendent/Director James P. Quaglia** was recognized by **Chairman Pascarella. Unfinished Business and New Business:**

- **Policy Update Suggestions for Sections J & K**

Mr. Quaglia met with the Policy Subcommittee tonight and suggested specific policies for review of the Policy Subcommittee, with subsequent presentation to the full committee. "The language changes are up to the Committee", stated Mr. Quaglia. Mr. Quaglia stated that the DESE-approved Admissions Policy be swapped out and subsequently accepted by the DSC, as this is a State Document and should not be altered by the committee. Mr. Quaglia will provide copies of this approved document to the full committee.

- **Professional Goals:**

Mr. Quaglia will forward a self-assessment of progress relative to his professional goals, to the full committee during the week prior to the next DSC meeting. At the Feb 5<sup>th</sup> meeting there will be an open discussion on Mr. Quaglia's goals, accomplishments and benchmarks.

**Looking for Learning Space:** Mr. Quaglia put out an open request to the member towns via the DSC representatives: to let him know if they are aware of any educational space for rent.

- Enrollment for School Year 2013-14 is up and running. Members are looking forward to hearing the results sometime during the end of March.

**7. Unfinished and New Business –**

- **Cafeteria Lunch Program Charge Cards** - Vice Chairman Aidan G. Maguire, Jr., stated that he is still waiting to have the lunch-program charge cards become a reality. These cards were mentioned in the past but seem to have stalemated. Business Manager Proule stated that this is a “work in progress” and he will get back to the Committee with an update.
- **Athletic Fields** – Secretary Flahive continues to reiterate the need for athletic field improvements and was assured that this is a topic by administration. Mr. Proule stated that there have been some improvements already.
- **Arts & Music at Blue Hills** – Secretary Flahive had mentioned the restoration of the arts at Blue Hills and requests an update from administrators on this item.
- **SEIU#888 Contract Wage Reopeners for FY14** – The Personnel and Negotiation Subcommittee are attempting to set dates for wage reopeners with Custodial Union and Cafeteria Union. The SEIU#888 Clerical Union Contract awaits signatures to be finalized.

**8. Discussion or Suggestions for the Good of the District, Including newsworthy educational items:**

- **Full Tentative FY14 Budget** – Business Manager David W. Proule will continue review of the Tentative FY14 Budget at the Tuesday, February 5, 2013 Regular Schedule Meeting answering any and all questions related to the budget.
- **DSC February 2013 Meetings** – To accommodate February school vacation week meetings will be conducted on Tuesdays, February 5 and 12, 2013 at 7 p.m..

**9. Executive session:** Chairman Pascarella moved to enter into executive session out of order beginning at 7:07 p.m. and concluding at 8:22 p.m. The Chairman called **executive session (out of order)** to discuss collective bargaining, strategies and/or possible litigation under Open Meeting Law, Chapter 30A, Section 21 (a) (b), 2, 3 of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts General Laws. Open meeting discussion may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and is subsequently declared by Chairman Pascarella.

- School Security Protocol

**10. Adjournment** – Following conclusion of all District School Committee’s regular meeting and executive session. Chairman Pascarella accepted a motion from Member Robert A. McNeil and seconded by Member Marybeth Nearen to close the Regular Session Meeting of the District School Committee.

It was **unanimously:**

**VOTED:** to adjourn the Regular Scheduled Meeting, with all regular business concluded, at **10:07 p.m.**

The Committee’s **next meeting** will be a **Regular Scheduled Meeting** conducted in the **William T. Buckley District School Committee Board Room (#207A), on Tuesday, February 5, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.,** unless otherwise posted.

Minutes Approved:

Minutes submitted by:

Charles W. Flahive, Secretary

Joanne Kuzborski, Recording Secretary