



**MINUTES of the “51st District School Committee”
Regular Schedule 2015 Meeting**

Membership: Mr. Francis J. Fistori, Avon; Mr. Eric C. Erskine, Braintree;
Mr. Aidan G. Maguire, Jr. Canton; Secretary Thomas R. Polito, Jr., Dedham;
Mr. Robert A. McNeil, Holbrook; Mr. Fess Joyce, Milton; Mr. Kevin L. Connolly, Norwood;
Vice Chairman Marybeth Nearen, Randolph and Chairman Charles W. Flahive, Westwood.

“Transparency, Accountability and Fiscal Discipline”

Tuesday, October 20, 2015

Prior to this Regular Schedule Meeting, a subcommittee meeting was scheduled to be conducted. Meeting and report/recommendations will be forthcoming, resulting from its conduct. The subcommittee was:

- **6:30 p.m.: Warrant Subcommittee - Review documents relative to Warrant Approval**

(NOTE: Subcommittee Meetings are conducted in Room 402.)

The Blue Hills Regional Vocational School **Fifty-First District School Committee Special Summer Schedule Meeting** was called to order, promptly, at **7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 20, 2015** at the Blue Hills Regional Vocational Technical School, **William T. Buckley District School Committee Board Room (#207A)**, 800 Randolph Street, Canton, Massachusetts. Chairman Charles W. Flahive presided at this meeting, as duly elected Chairman...

NOTE: The listings of matters are those reasonably anticipated by the Chair which may be discussed at the meeting. Not all items listed may in fact be discussed and other items not listed may also be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law.

Chairman Charles W. Flahive, conducting this meeting as duly elected Chairman of the 51st District School Committee, announced that all business conducted at this meeting complies with the revised Open Meeting Law in effect, as of July 1, 2010. There are occasions when attendees do not sign in. This meeting's notes were taken by Joanne Kuzborski, Recording Secretary and digital recorder.

1. ROLL CALL and PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE *

MEMBERS PRESENT: Messrs. Connolly, Erskine, Fistori, Flahive, Joyce, Maguire, Polito

MEMBERS ABSENT Members Nearen and McNeil

OTHERS PRESENT: Mr. Charles J. Gisondi, District Treasurer
School Year 2015-16 Student Representative, Mr. Geoffrey Ostman
Mr. James P. Quaglia, Superintendent-Director
Ms. Jill M. Rossetti, Principal
Mr. Steven Moore, Assistant Superintendent/Business & Personnel
Mr. Edward Catabia, Athletic Director
Mr. Brian Gearty, BHEA, Teacher, Golf Coach
Mrs. Ana Peach, Teacher – Trip Director
Mrs. Rebecca Ray, Teacher – Trip Coordinator
Ms. Nicole Flynn, BHEA
Ms. Marybeth Joyce, Director of Admissions and Financial Aid
Mrs. Eileen Dailey, Teacher

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Mr. Michael Sheehan, Teacher
Mr. David Joseph, Teacher, Golf Coach

Golf Team Members (Students): Mr. Sean McDonagh, Mr. Nathaniel Newman, Mr. Nick Blaney, Mr. Dylan Barkas, Mr. Jeremy Pelter, Mr. Michael Nosky, Mr. Cameron Dickens (Coaches Brian Gearty and David Joseph)

2. **Recognition – Blue Hills’ Golf Team** →Chairman Flahive, recognized Athletic Director Ed Catabia, Golf Coaches Brian Gearty and David Joseph. Blue Hills’ Students and Golf Team Members, Mr. Sean McDonagh, Mr. Nathaniel Newman, Mr. Nick Blaney, Mr. Dylan Barkas, Mr. Jeremy Pelter, Mr. Michael Nosky, and Mr. Cameron Dickens were introduced and congratulated for their outstanding season. The team made the MIAA Golf Tournament and played well. A round of applause was directed at the team and a thank you from the Committee to the Golf Team for doing such a fine job during their season. A first-place trophy was earned by the team and will be displayed in the school’s trophy cabinet.
3. **Public Comment** – Chairman Charles W. Flahive acknowledged the attendance of teachers present and thanked them for their participation and interest and further complimented the recent “Pink Shirt” effort that benefits the efforts for the cure of cancer. It was further noted that members of the District School Committee supported this effort. Thus far, the “Pink Shirt” campaign has raised \$2,000.00.
4. **Student Representative School Year 2015-16 Report** – Chairman Flahive recognized Student Representative Geoffrey Ostman. Geoff reported on the following:
- **Homecoming Dance:** Approximately 400 students attended this dance on Friday (October 16, 2015). The event was extremely well received and attended.
 - **Football Game:** Blue Hills defeated Southeastern 38-14 to improve to a 5-1 standing.
 - **“Cuts for a Cure”** – NHS and SADD (both student organizations) are spearheading this event again. Cosmetology Program will provide the skills for this event.
 - **Girls’ Volleyball** has earned a spot in the vocational playoffs.
 - **“Citrus Purchase Fundraiser”** National Honor Society and Senior Trip participants are conducting this fundraiser. Orders are currently being taken.
- Student Council** plans its next meeting for Tuesday, October 27, 2015 and will continue working diligently this school year 2015-16.

Chairman Flahive commented expressing his hope that there will be additional dances planned for this school year. Members concurred.

Members of the District School Committee extended their thanks to Mr. Ostman for his usual comprehensive and well executed student activities’ report. Mr. Ostman continues to report on student activities most admirably.

Ecuador: Andes & Amazon Adventure – Departing from Boston April 14, 2017 Returning April 22, 2017: Chairman Charles W. Flahive recognized Mrs. Ana Peach (Spokeswoman) and Mrs. Rebecca Ray. Mrs. Peach had supplied the full DSC with an electronic copy of the details and itinerary of the proposed trip, noting that this trip is for qualified seniors and completely self-funded with no funding from the District budget. This is the sixth trip organized by Mrs. Peach. Mrs. Peach meets with parents prior to the trip to detail all aspects of the trip which incorporate a wealth of learning, as well as many fun activities. Chairman Flahive, a vote was taken to approve this trip. Participants of this trip will also visit local schools for comparative value and for the spirit of altruism with presentation of needed supplies.

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Following the conclusion of questions and answers Chairman Flahive moved to a vote. A vote was taken to approve this trip. Member Fess Joyce moved to approve the Ecuador Trip, as presented. Motion to approve was seconded by Member Fran Fistori. The motion was taken to a vote and it was **UNANIMOUSLY**

VOTED: to approve the Ecuador Trip, as presented

5. **Minute approval:** Chairman Flahive moved to the approval of previous minutes The following minutes were approved **UNANIMOUSLY** by the Committee:

VOTED:

Tuesday, August 18, 2015 (Motion to approve, Moved by Secretary Polito, Seconded by Member Maguire)

Tuesday, September 15, 2015 (Motion to approve Secretary Polito, Seconded by Member Maguire)

Tuesday, October 6, 2015 (Motion to approve Secretary Polito, Seconded by Member Kevin L. Connolly)

(Noted: The September 1, 2015 Minutes were previously approved at the 9.15.15 Meeting)

6. DSC Chair Report

Chairman Charles W. Flahive spoke on the following items:

- 1) **PARCC TEST: PARCC Testing** results have not been released for general distribution. As soon as this occurs, in depth discussions will be conducted on impacts. The full committee is very interested on this report. As soon as the information is ready for release, the members will receive a report.
- 2) **ad hoc Legal Subcommittee Meeting:** Chairman Flahive provided pass outs to Members for review and input and for homework for the next ad hoc Legal Subcommittee Meeting. An additional meeting will be set on 11.3.15 for additional discussion and review of recommendations for a distribution to local lawyers and law firms that specialize in school legalities.
- 3) **Coaches for Cancer:** Chairman Flahive complimented the school soccer teams and their coaches for conducting a T-Shirt Campaign (Again). Members have made purchases of these shirts.
- 4) **Audience:** Chairman Flahive complimented the individuals attending this evening's meeting. The audience consisted of a substantial number of teachers and coaches.
- 5) **MCAS Tests:** Chairman Flahive requested a breakdown of the advanced and proficient scores.

7. Subcommittee Reports:

Warrant Subcommittee Member, Mr. Eric C. Erskine reported on the review of the documentation of the Warrant this evening. Member Aidan G. Maguire, Jr., had a few questions that were answered by Assistant Superintendent/Business and Personnel Steven M. Moore, with satisfaction. The Warrant Subcommittee recommended the approval of the submitted warrant.

Ad hoc Legal Subcommittee: Members were presented with homework for the criteria for the legal search.

8. Administrative Reports:

8.1 **Treasurer, Mr. Charles J. Gisondi** was recognized by Chairman Flahive. Treasurer Gisondi stated that the transition from Bank of America to Bank of Canton is progressing the deadline established by Bank of America being

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met, well beforehand. Thus far, Mr. Gisondi has spent **116 hours (so far)** exclusively to the transition which continues to require additional hours, above and beyond his usual job requirements. Mr. Gisondi wishes to leave the meeting after this report to continue work on this most important transition. Mr. Gisondi continues to receive complete cooperation from the Bank of Canton. Member Aidan G. Maguire, Jr. requested that a stipend be provided to Treasurer Gisondi for this enormous project he has taken on, far above and beyond the regular work of his position. Treasurer Gisondi prefers to supply total hours expended exclusively to this project, upon completion.

8.1.1 Warrant Approval – Chairman Charles W. Flahive accepted a motion, as follows:

Secretary Thomas R. Polito moved to approve FY16 Warrant #6, dated October 20, 2015, in the amount of \$361,284.61. Motion was seconded by Member Kevin L. Connolly. Motion to approve was taken to a vote and it was **UNANIMOUSLY**

VOTED: to approve FY16 Warrant #6, dated October 20, 2015, in the amount of \$361,284.61.8.5

8.2 Assistant Superintendent/Personnel and Business: Chairman Flahive recognized Mr. Steven M. Moore.

- Mr. Moore thanked the Committee for allowing him to attend the out-of-state professional development event at the American School for Business Managers. Mr. Moore stated that the event was attended by about 500 business personnel and it provided a valuable tool for enhancing school business office accomplishments.

8.4 Principal – Ms. Jill M. Rossetti - Chairman Charles W. Flahive recognized Principal Rossetti. Principal Rossetti reported on the following:

- 1) **Parent Teacher Meetings** for grade 9 & 11 will be conducted October 22 and for grades 10 and 12 on October 29th.
- 2) **Sports Update:** Three teams made the MIAA Tournament, Golf, Varsity Volleyball and Varsity Football.
- 3) **“Cuts for a Cure”** will be conducted on October 23, sponsored by National Honor Society with Cosmetology doing the cuts.
- 4) **Coaches for Cancer** – Today, **“Pink T-Shirts”** are being worn by many, students, staff and faculty. Games will be conducted on Wednesday (Girls) and Friday (boys).
- 5) **School Council Update** – First meeting conducted before the DSC Meeting and was well attended with membership reviewing responsibilities for this school year. Chairman Flahive mentioned that there have been members interested in attending this/these meetings.
- 6) **Assembly Programs** – For District Town schools begins next week.
- 7) **STEM PROGRAM** – Career Accelerator Day to Reebok on trip for Drafting and Engineering tomorrow, Wednesday, October 21st. Reebok is hosting 50 students at their Additive

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Manufacturing Laboratory in Canton. Students will be discussing real-world applications to STEM through two different activities during the day, including a tour of Reebok's Additive Manufacturing Lab and 3D printing facilities. They will also see how Reebok shoes move through the design process from an idea to a commercial product. Students will also participate in discussions with Reebok professionals.

- 8) **Canine** Visit will occur this month. An ALICE Drill was conducted.
- 9) **Spirit Week** – was conducted and hugely successful with enthusiasm and participation from students.
- 10) **CPR** – Report will be sent to members, electronically.

Principal Rossetti concluded her report and was thanked by the Committee.

8.5 **Superintendent/Director:** Chairman Charles W. Flahive recognized Superintendent-Director James P. Quaglia.

Where We Rank Financially among all Regional Vocational Schools PowerPoint Presentation by Superintendent-Director James P. Quaglia. Mr. Quaglia presented a comprehensive fact-based presentation:

WHERE DO WE RANK FINANCIALLY AMONG REGIONAL VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS Massachusetts Regional Vocational Schools • Thirty Schools Total for Comparison – Twenty-Six Regional Vocational Schools – Two County Agricultural Schools –One Independent Vocational District (Smith) School Population We rank sixteenth (16th) in number of students

Summary • We are near the middle of Vocational School District per-pupil spending in the following areas: – Overall and Individual Student Expenditure; School Population; Pupil Services • We are above average in the following: – Teaching, Administrative and Clerical (to be adjusted next year); Insurance costs (Health) • We are below in the following: – Professional Development, Guidance counseling (to be adjusted), and Material/Equipment (Slightly below).

Members suggested that this Report be circulated in its entirety and extensively to clear up the misconceptions that have been circulated by others and are not fact based. Superintendent-Director Quaglia agreed that this would be possible.

Committee Members expressed their thanks to Mr. Quaglia for this PowerPoint Presentation and its fact-based clarifications.

9. **Unfinished Business and New Business** –

- **MASC/MASS CONFERENCE** Resolution Review – Postponed with the absence of Vice-Chairman Marybeth Nearen.
- **Member Activity Shirts - Sizes have been supplied.** Mr. Quaglia is processing the order.
- **CPR** report will be provided to members, electronically, by Principal Rossetti.

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

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- **General Advisory Committee Dinner** – The dinner/meeting was conducted on October 7th. Member Maguire stated that it was good to see the Academic Component and the academic department included at this meeting. There was significant attendance of District School Committee Members to the event coordinated by Executive Assistant Deb Beane.
- **Dumpster** – Member Aidan G. Maguire, Jr., requests the roll-off dumpster be removed (if the flooring project is done).
- **Commemorative Book** – Superintendent-Director Quaglia announced the creation and publication of a “**50th Anniversary**” **Book** that will be ready for distribution at this year’s Open House on Wednesday, November 18th. Mr. Quaglia stated that this book will be an affirmation of just what is happening at Blue Hills and fine analysis of the school’s 50 years of operation. Mr. Quaglia further complimented **Ms. Judy Bass** and **Mrs. Joann Murphy** for their exemplary service to this accomplishment.

11. **Executive session:** Unnecessary.

12. **Meeting Adjournment.** Chairman Flahive called for adjournment, following the conclusion of all business.

Member Eric C. Erskine moved to adjourn the meeting. Motion was seconded by Member Fran Fistori, taken to a vote and **UNANIMOUSLY**

VOTED: to adjourn the Regular Schedule Meeting, with all regular business concluded, at **8:12 p.m.**

The Committee’s **next meeting** will be a **Regular Schedule Meeting**, conducted in the **William T. Buckley District School Committee Board Room (#207A)**, on **Tuesday, November 3, 2015** at **7:00 p.m.**, unless otherwise posted.

Minutes approved by:

Respectfully submitted by:

Thomas R. Polito, Jr., Secretary

Joanne Kuzborski, Recording Secretary