



**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, September 1, 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 subcommittees 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, September 1, 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 his third meeting as duly elected Chairman, with all members present..

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 his second 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, McNeil, Mrs. Nearen (late: 7:35 p.m.) and Mr. Polito

MEMBERS ABSENT -0-

OTHERS PRESENT: Mr. Charles J. Gisondi, District Treasurer
Mr. James P. Quaglia, Superintendent-Director
Ms. Jill M. Rossetti, Principal
Mr. Steven Moore, Assistant Superintendent/Business & Personnel
Mr. Thomas G. Cavanaugh, Dean of Students
Mr. Angelo Dimitriou, Director of SPED
Mr. Frank Howley, Vocational Director
Mr. Gene Mastro, Director of Facilities and Grounds
Mr. Ed Catabia, Athletic Director

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Ms. Marybeth Joyce, Director of Admissions and Financial Aid
 Ms. Kimberly Polisenio, Co-Op Coordinator
 Mr. Geoffrey Zini, Academic Coordinator
 Attorney Paige Tobin, School Counsel, Murphy, Lamere and Murphy

New Employees of the District Follow:

Mr. Brendan Welch
 Mr. Chris Mailnoniotit
 Mr. Jason Winchell
 Mr. Matthew Morris
 Mr. Ron Eby
 Mr. Seamus Killeen
 Ms. Alanna Hicks
 Ms. David Devaux
 Ms. Jen Braga
 Ms. Jessica Taft

(Note: On occasion, individuals attending do not sign the official sign-in register.)

2. **New Employee Introductions** – Chairman Charles W. Flahive recognized Principal Jill M. Rossetti. Principal Rossetti proceeded to introduce the new employees present to meet the District School Committee, following the round-table introductions of the District School Committee to the new employees, as follows:

Mr. Brendan Welch – Legal and Protective Service Teacher
 Mr. Chris Mailhiot – Athletic Trainer (three season)/Permanent Building Sub.
 Mr. Jason Winchell – Mathematics Teacher
 Mr. Matthew Morris – Social Studies/History Teacher
 Mr. Ron Eby – Construction Technology Teacher
 Mr. Seamus Killeen – SPED Teacher
 Ms. Alanna Hicks - Psychologist
 Ms. David Devaux – Computer Tech Teacher
 Ms. Jen Braga – English and Languages Teacher
 Ms. Jessica Taft - Teacher

Members of the District School Committee congratulated the new employees. Principal Rossetti stated that new employees, not present, would be introduced at a future DSC Meeting.

1. **Policy Manual Discussion** – Attorney Paige Tobin was recognized by Chairman Charles W. Flahive. There was extensive discussion regarding the Policy Manual Project performed by Attorney Tobin. The project was implemented from January 2014 through January 2015. In January 2015, a Draft of the Policy Manual was provided to the members of the Policy Subcommittee for their review. At that time, it was determined that the Policy Manual required additional attention before it was presented to the full Committee for consideration and subsequent approval. This additional work required additional funding, which the DSC was not aware of. Originally, the cost of the project was estimated to be between \$8K and \$10K. The project ended up costing over \$16K. Chairman Charles W. Flahive recognized Member Aidan G. Maguire, Jr., who served as the District Chairman at the time of the project implementation. Member Maguire took great offense at not knowing of the increase of the fee, until after the fact, and wanted to know exactly who authorized the additional funding. There was no definitive reply to this question. Attorney Tobin looked through her notes and did not provide the name of the authorizer. Chairman Charles W. Flahive stated that this Committee is looking for accountability. “No one seems to know who provided the approval for this increase.” Vice Chairman Marybeth Nearen, also serving as the Chairman of the Policy Subcommittee stated that she was unaware that there would be an increase and did not authorize. Mrs. Nearen stated: “Behind us, is behind us and we must move forward. The bill escalated to \$16,000. The Committee must take action to insure that this type of occurrence does not happen again.” Chairman Charles W. Flahive reiterated: “We want to know who approved this increase?” This question was again, not answered.

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Member Kevin L. Connolly, added: “Only the Superintendent-Director and Chairman of the District School Committee should be able to go to School Counsel. If a Chairman of a Subcommittee needs advice, the requestor should always be directed to the Superintendent-Director and DSC Chairman.”

Superintendent-Director James P. Quaglia stated that the District Policy Manual was a DSC project with an appointed Policy Subcommittee and funding should have been adequately tracked. Member Aidan G. Maguire, Jr., reiterated that at no time did the Policy Subcommittee address extra funding for the Policy Manual Project and this lack of fiscal responsibility alarms him. The cost of the Policy Manual Project occurred when Assistant-Superintendent Business and Personnel, Mr. Steven M. Moore, provided the full DSC with a detail of the legal expense account. When this expense tally was completed and provided, the overage was identified. Following conclusion of the discussions, questions and answers Chairman Charles W. Flahive thanked Attorney Paige Tobin for her presence and explanations.

4. **Public Comment** – None.
5. **Minute Approval** –Chairman Charles W. Flahive addressed the approval of the Tuesday, August 18, 2015 Special Summer Session Minutes stating that he has some editing he will address with Joanne. Minute approval was postponed.
6. **DSC Chair Report** –

Chairman Charles W. Flahive further spoke on the following items:

1. **Subcommittee Appointments** are ongoing and being carefully scrutinized by Chairman Flahive.
2. **Update for the Breakfast Program** – Postponed. Will be given after school starts.
3. **Meeting Attendance** – S/D Quaglia noted that all Blue Hills’ Administrators are present at this evening’s meeting. As far as community support goes, “Parents work long days and this may account for lack of parent/community attendance.”
4. **Increase Lines of Communication** - Chairman Charles W. Flahive still strives to have clear, concise communications with all aspects of what is going on at Blue Hills.

Coaching Appointments Update to Subject Discussed at the 8.18.15 DSC Meeting – Principal Rossetti added to this previously discussed subject stating that there are teachers that coach multiple sports and these teachers happen to be the crème de la crème of teachers. They are outstanding teachers and can handle their responsibilities well. Ms. Rossetti strongly commends the quality of teachers and coaches

- **Chairman Flahive** reminds all that he is always available from 9 a.m. through 9 p.m. via cell phone communication, Mondays through Sundays. Chairman Flahive welcomes members to contact him regarding items they wish to have listed on the meeting agendas.
- **Opening Day of School, Wednesday, September 3, 2015:** Chairman Charles W. Flahive will speak and urges members to attend, if at all possible.

7. **Subcommittee Reports:**

Warrant Subcommittee Member, Mr. Eric C. Erskine reported on the review of the documentation of the Warrant this evening. Mr. Erskine asked about a 2011 reimbursement in the amount of \$730 (Page 9.) that wasn’t clearly defined (and quite late with submission). Mr. Moore stated that he would provide explanation tomorrow via email. Mr. Erskine also requested that legal expenses be clearly defined on the

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warrant; i.e., Legal Expense for **specific project**, rather than just an amount. When this is identified clearly, it should help with clarifications of actual costs of services provided. The Warrant Subcommittee recommended the approval of the warrant.

8. Administrative Reports:

8.1 **School Year 2015-16 Admissions Report:** Director of Admissions and Financial Aid Marybeth Joyce was welcomed by Chairman Charles W. Flahive. Director Joyce provided the Committee Members with a document entitled: *“Blue Hills Regional Technical School, High School Admissions Report, Anticipated School Year Enrollment, as of September 1, 2015.”* This document provided enrollment numbers for each town, as well as grand totals for each grade, totaling a projected enrollment, as of this date, of **859 High School Students**. Director Joyce was complimented and thanked on the report; as well as her outstanding recruitment efforts and success with bringing suitable students into the Blue Hills’ student body by the full Committee.

8.2. **Summer School 2015 – Brief Review of Program** – Summer School Director Kimberly Polisenio was recognized by Chairman Charles W. Flahive. Director Polisenio proceeded to report the following:

Summer School 2015 Information

Dates: 7/7/15 – 8/6/15

35 students registered

Courses that ran and total # registered:

English - 7

Math - 13

History - 9

Science - 8

Elective - 17

All completed successfully

Ms. Polisenio answered questions and reported that this program financially came in the black. Following conclusions of discussions, questions and answers, the DSC thanked Ms. Polisenio for the fine job she had accomplished with Summer School 2015. Chairman Charles W. Flahive further complimented Ms. Polisenio on her recent award of the Paul Harris award by the Neponset Rotary

8.3 **Treasurer:** Mr. Charles J. Gisondi was recognized by Chairman Charles W. Flahive. Treasurer Gisondi stated that his business tonight was the warrant approval.

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

Secretary Thomas R. Polito, Jr., moved to approve FY16, Warrant #3, in the amount of \$188,768.43, dated September 1, 2015.

Motion was seconded by Member Kevin L. Connolly. Motion was taken to a vote and it was

UNANIMOUSLY

VOTED: to approve FY16, Warrant #3, in the amount of \$188,768.43, dated September 1, 2015.

8.4 **Assistant Superintendent/Personnel and Business: Mr. Steven M. Moore** was recognized by Chairman Charles W. Flahive. Mr. Moore reported on a personnel matter status. After conversation, it was decided that Attorney Matthew Tobin will be invited attend the **second DSC meeting in October** to provide a comprehensive update on the matter.

8.5 Principal – Ms. Jill M. Rossetti - Chairman Charles W. Flahive recognized Principal Rossetti.

- **Request for Supplementary Position** – Principal Rossetti requested a .05 Guidance Instructor Position be added. After discussion and justifications, Member Robert A. McNeil moved to approve the position. Motion was seconded by Member Fran Fistori. Motion to approve a .05 Guidance Instructor Position, as requested by Principal Rossetti was taken to a vote and it was **UNANIMOUSLY**

VOTED: to approve a .05 Guidance Instructor Position, as requested by Principal Rossetti

Professional Status: Ms. Rossetti advised the Committee that the following teachers have achieved Professional Status. They are:

Mr. Charles Riley, SPED Teacher

Mrs. Caroline Dynan, Media Coordinator/Teacher

Ms. Katherine Sullivan, Physical Education Teacher

Congratulations are in order for this accomplishment.

- **Summer Camp Report** – Ms. Rossetti stated that the Title I Summer School Program was a great success and more information will be forthcoming via email.
- **Preliminary School Start Readiness:** Principal Rossetti reviewed the **Opening Day Agenda**, as provided to the District School Committee, as follows:

OPENING DAY AGENDA – ALL STAFF WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2015 7:30 – 8:00 am Coffee and Pastry 8:00 – 9:25am James Quaglia, Superintendent-Director • Introduction • Pledge of Allegiance Charles W. Flahive, BHR District School Committee Chairman • Welcome and Comments Steve Moore, Assistant Superintendent for Business and Personnel • Finance and Personnel Issues Update Gene Mastro – Facilities Director • Summer Projects / Building Update Principal – Jill Rossetti • Introduce Leadership Team o Dean of Students, Mr. Tom Cavanaugh o Academic Director, Mr. Geoffrey Zini o Vocational Director, Mr. Frank Howley o Director of Special Services, Mr. Angelo Dimitriou o Director of Admissions, Ms. MaryBeth Joyce • Introduce New Staff • Credit Union, MVA Contact Presentations James Quaglia and Jill Rossetti 9:30 am – 9:40 am Break 9:45 am – 11:15 am School Law Refresher by Paige Tobin, Esq. 11:15 am -11:20 Break 11:25 am – 12:00 pm Educator Evaluation Tool Review, Self-

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Assessment, etc. 12:00pm – 12:45 pm Lunch Provided 12:45 – 1:40 Afternoon Meetings; For administration and teachers to discuss educational goals and logistics for 2015-16 • All Academic Teachers w/ Academic Director – Library • All Vocational Teachers, Co-op w/ Vocational Director – Lecture Hall • All Special Education Teachers, Guidance Counselors, Adjustment Counselors, School Psychologists and School Nurse w/Special Service Director – 207A • Building Subs with Dean of Students – Board Room *Teachers not required to attend additional meetings (below) may prepare for the next day 1:45 – 1:55 Homeroom Teachers and Alternates Meeting – Cafeteria w/ Mr. Cavanaugh 1:56 – 2:06 Cafeteria Monitors' Meeting – Cafeteria w/ Mr. Cavanaugh 2:07 – 2:19 Bus/Parking Lot Monitors Meeting – Cafeteria w/ Mr. Cavanaugh 2:20 – 2:30 Coaches' Meeting – Cafeteria w/ Mr. Catabia and Ms. Rossetti →**2:30 p.m.: Dismissal, after a full, productive day.**

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

- **Hiring Status:** Mr. Quaglia provided the members with a document entitled *“New Hire Salary Differences from FY15”*.
- **Professional Development Event for Assistant-Superintendent Business and Personnel:** Mr. Quaglia spoke in behalf of the professional development attendance of the Mr. Steven M. Moore at a conference to be conducted in Baltimore MD from October 13 through October 16. Because this is out of state, the DSC must take a vote. Following discussion, questions and answers, a motion was made by Member Eric A. Erskine to approve the attendance at the conference for Assistant-Superintendent Business and Personnel, Mr. Steven M. Moore, as required by a vote of the District School Committee. Motion was seconded by Member Fess Joyce. Motion to approve the attendance at the conference for Assistant-Superintendent Business and Personnel, Mr. Steven M. Moore, in Baltimore MD from October 13, 2015 through October 16, 2015. Motion was discussed before vote and passed by **MAJORITY**

VOTED: to approve the attendance at the conference for Assistant-Superintendent Business and Personnel, Mr. Steven M. Moore, in Baltimore MD from October 13, 2015 through October 16, 2015.

(NOTE: Chairman Charles W. Flahive voted against approval. All other members were in favor.)

- **Technology Integration (TIS) Position** – At the August 18, 2015 Curriculum and Advisory Subcommittee Meeting, the position of Technology Integration (TIS) Grant Funded Position was recommended for approval, resulting in this evening's request for a Full DSC vote. Chairman Charles W. Flahive moved to a vote. Member Thomas Polito moved to approve the position of Technology Integration (TIS) Grant Funded Position. Motion was seconded by Member Eric C. Erskine. Motion was taken to a vote and it was **UNANIMOUSLY**

VOTED: TO APPROVE the position of Technology Integration (TIS) Grant Funded Position.

- **Obsolete Equipment** – Director of Vocational Programs, Mr. Frank Howley has recommended the donation of a Clipper Jig Saw that is not used any longer in program. Member Kevin L. Connolly moved to approve the donation of the obsolete Clipper Jig Saw to a worthy recipient. Motion was seconded by

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Member Robert A. McNeil, taken to a vote and **UNANIMOUSLY**

VOTED: to approve the donation of the obsolete Clipper Jig Saw to a worthy recipient

8. Unfinished Business and New Business –

iPad Use: Chairman Charles W. Flahive continues to urge all members to bring their iPads to each meeting. All documents pertaining to upcoming meetings are provided in advance, instantly via email delivery. If anyone requires assistance with the capabilities of this meeting tool, please contact Joanne.

“Camp Blue” – Member Aidan G. Maguire, Jr. would like the Camp Blue Director, Tom Cahill, to come to a meeting and supply information on the program’s first year.

9. Discussion or Suggestions for the Good of the District, Including newsworthy educational items –

- **School Counsel Meeting:** The Committee wishes to have Attorney Matthew Tobin at a future meeting for discussion of a litigation matter. Attorney Tobin will be contacted for his availability to attend the Tuesday, October 20, 2015 DSC Regular Schedule Meeting.
- **GYM Floors** – This was an insurance job and as such the schedule for completion was unfortunately thwarted. It is hoped that the job will be completed in three weeks. Athletic Director Ed Catabia has arranged alternate sites for sports impacted.

10. **Executive session:** Unnecessary.

11. **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 **9:17 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, September 15, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.,** unless otherwise posted.

Minutes approved by:

Respectfully submitted by:

Thomas R. Polito, Jr., Secretary

Joanne Kuzborski, Recording Secretary