



**MINUTES of the “52nd District School Committee”  
Regular Schedule 2016 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.  
Student Representative, School Year 2016-17, Mr. Andrew Bryant

***“Transparency, Accountability and Fiscal Discipline”***

**Tuesday, November 1, 2016**

Prior to this District School Committee Meeting, the following subcommittee meetings were scheduled and conducted in Room 402:

- **6:00 p.m. , Policy Subcommittee – Review and update of District Policies.**
- **6:30 p.m.: Warrant Subcommittee - Review documents relative to Warrant Approval.**

The Blue Hills Regional Vocational School **Fifty-Second District School Committee Meeting** was called to order, **on Tuesday, November 1, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.** in room 207A at Blue Hills Regional Vocational Technical School, located at 800 Randolph Street, Canton, Massachusetts by Chairman Charles W. Flahive.

**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.

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, District Recording Secretary, and digital recorder.

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

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairman Charles Flahive, Westwood  
Kevin Connolly, Norwood  
Eric Erskine, Braintree  
Francis Fistori, Avon  
Fess Joyce, Milton  
Aidan G. Maguire, Jr., Canton  
Marybeth Nearen, Randolph  
Thomas R. Polito, Jr., Dedham

**MEMBERS ABSENT** Robert McNeil, Holbrook

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Mr. James P. Quaglia, Superintendent-Director  
Ms. Jill Rossetti, Principal  
Mr. Charles Gisondi, Treasurer  
Mr. Steven Moore, Assistant Superintendent/Business & Personnel  
Mr. Andrew Bryant, Student Representative  
Mr. Geoffrey Zini, Director of Academics  
Ms. Marybeth Joyce, BH Director of Admissions and Financial Aid

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Ms. Elizabeth Joyce-Grikis, Teacher	Mrs. Ana Peach, Teacher	Mrs. Rebecca Cygielnik (Ray) Teacher
Brian Gearty – BHEA President/Teacher	Eileen Dailey/BHEA Canton Resident	Tricia Murphy, Math Teacher/BHEA
Jaclyn Connolly-Math Teacher	Dwight Seaman - Teacher	

**New Teachers Mr. Anthony Dupre (Culinary Arts Teacher and Bobby DeMarco (Auto Body Teacher)** were introduced by Principal Jill Rossetti. Both gentlemen were warmly welcomed by the District School Committee and provided a brief summary of their backgrounds and qualification for their positions. The District School Committee wished both teachers the best for success at Blue Hills.

**Accolade to Chairman Charles W. Flahive:** Fellow Member Fess Joyce stated that he wants to compliment Chairman Charles W. Flahive on the perfect job he has done as a member of the Committee. “Charlie puts his heart, soul and strong administrative and educational background into this job. So many good things have happened for this school since Charlie was elected to this Committee Just look at our athletic fields...and this is just one of the good things that he's done.” Member Joyce concluded by saying, “Make sure you get out there and vote for Charlie and get all your friends, family and neighbors to do the same.”

**Vote, November 8, 2016: Five four - year positions are open for renewal.**

**2. Public Comment** – Mr. Brian Gearty was recognized by Chairman Charles W. Flahive. Mr. Gearty presented the following: **Resolution Against Lifting the Cap on Commonwealth Charter Schools**

**WHEREAS**, free public schools available to all students regardless of income, ability, need or English language proficiency are foundational to our democracy; and

**WHEREAS**, all of our students deserve high-quality public schools that teach the whole child, providing enrichment and addressing social and emotional needs in addition to core academic subjects; and

**WHEREAS**, local accountability for our public schools is necessary to ensure that schools are responsive to the needs of their communities; and

**WHEREAS**, Public school districts across the state are losing more than \$450 million this year alone — a loss of funds that is undermining the ability of districts to provide all students with the educational services to which they are entitled; and

**WHEREAS**, Commonwealth charter schools are often approved over the objections of a majority of community residents and their elected officials and are not accountable to local elected officials once they are approved; and

**WHEREAS**, Commonwealth charter schools often fail to serve the same proportion of special needs students, low-income students and English language learners as the

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districts from which they receive students and often use high suspension rates to drive out students they don't want to serve; and

**WHEREAS**, the Commonwealth charter school system is creating separate and unequal opportunities for success; and

**WHEREAS**, lifting the cap on charter schools would greatly worsen the problems listed above and lead to a costly and divisive two-track school system;

**THEREFORE**, be it resolved that the Blue Hills Regional District School Committee opposes lifting the cap on Commonwealth charter schools.

**All District School Committee Members had received the aforementioned document, prior to the meeting electronically submitted by Mr. Gearty. Chairman Flahive stated that he was well aware of this matter and it is a topic that is discussed widely via pro and con. Vice Chairman Marybeth Nearen stated that she was surprised to learn of Governor Charles Baker's stand on the issue. Following conclusion of discussions, Chairman Flahive accepted a motion. Member Kevin L. Connolly moved to approve the support of the District School Committee for the submitted "Resolution" as entered. Motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Marybeth Nearen. Motion was taken to a VOTE and UNANIMOUSLY:**

**VOTED: to approve the support of the District School Committee for the submitted "Resolution Against Lifting the Cap on Commonwealth Charter Schools" as presented by Mr. Gearty and entered into the record.**

**3. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes** – Chairman Charles W. Flahive stated that he has met with Joanne a number of times to review the accuracy and consistency of the prepared minutes and all corrections have been implemented, including the Tuesday, October 4, 2016 presented minutes. The Committee agreed to postpone the approval of the 10.4.2016 minutes, as requested by Secretary Thomas G. Polito, Jr. Joanne asked Mr. Polito what were the discrepancies that he was talking about and Mr. Polito was harsh and robust with his response and refused to answer her question stating that, "you are just the secretary and nothing else on this board". The full exchange of comments are recorded, verbatim, on the recorder but the recording secretary did not want to diminish the professional integrity of the District School Committee, if possible. After the altercation, Joanne suffered from a wave of nausea and left the meeting to recover. It is the hope of Joanne that she will be treated with respect from all members of the Committee. Open Meeting critiques are very disturbing to Joanne.

**3. Student Representative** It was with great pleasure that the District School Committee received the membership of Mr. Andrew Bryant as School Year 2016-17 Student Representative to the District School Committee. Mr. Bryant introduced himself and got directly involved with presenting a pictorial report of the student activities, especially "Spirit Week". The Chairman and full Committee congratulated Mr. Bryant on his appointment and extend their sincere joy in having him aboard. Mr. Bryant appears to be a dynamic and enthusiastic individual and will add much to each meeting he attends.

**4. DSC Chair Report by Chairman Charles W. Flahive:**

- **Subcommittee Assignments:** Delayed to allow for the November 8, 2016 Election.

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- **MASC/MASS Conference November 3-6, 2017 in Hyannis MA:** Four members are attending this professional development event. They are Chairman Charles W. Flahive, Vice Chairman Marybeth Nearen, Member Eric Erskine and Member Aidan G. Maguire, Jr.

2. **Subcommittee Reports:**

- **Policy Subcommittee:** Subcommittee Chairman Marybeth Nearen reported that the Policy Subcommittee conducted a meeting this evening to review and revise Policies. Subsequently, a number of Policies were discussed and the Policy Subcommittee unanimously voted to recommend to the full Committee the following revision:
  - **FILE IIN COOPERATION EDUCATION PROGRAM. Vote will be taken at 11.15.16 meeting.**
- **Policy ADD: Safe Schools Policy & JICI: Weapons in School** will be the subject and presented for a vote and considered for acceptance at the Tuesday, 11.15.16 DSC Meeting. **These are “NEW” PROPOSED POLICIES.**

First AND SECOND readings were conducted on **Safe Schools Policy (File ADD)** and **Weapons in School (File JICI)**. Votes of approval were delayed to allow further reading and member reviews and subsequent future meeting discussions and vote for approval.

7. **Administrative Reports:**

**7.1 Treasurer:** Mr. Charles Gisondi had reviewed the following Section of the Laws for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, which directly affects the administration of the **indemnification of Blue Hills’ Retirement Board: (This Law was read in its entirety by VC Marybeth Nearen.)**

- **Section 20A.** In any city, town or other entity which accepts the provisions of this section, in a city, by a vote of the city council with the approval of the mayor; in a town, by a vote of the town meeting; in a municipality having a town council form of government, by a vote of the town council; and in any other entity having a retirement board subject to the provisions of this chapter, by a vote of the governing board of such entity, any civil action brought against a member of a retirement board, the defense or settlement of which action is made by an attorney employed by the retirement board, such member shall be indemnified for all expenses incurred in the defense thereof and shall be indemnified for damages to the same extent as provided for public employees in chapter two hundred and fifty-eight; provided, however, that the claim arose out of acts performed by such member or members while acting within the scope of his official duties; and provided, further, that no member of a retirement board shall be indemnified for expenses incurred in the defense of an action, or damages awarded in such action, in which there is shown to be a breach of fiduciary duty, an act of willful dishonesty or an intentional violation of law by such member.

**Treasurer Gisondi** requests a vote on the matter of indemnification of Blue Hills Retirement Board Members. Said matter was discussed at the October 4, 2016 Meeting. Chairman Flahive moved the question. Secretary Polito moved to approve the indemnification, as specified in Section 20A, of the Members of the Blue Hills Retirement Board. Motion was seconded by Member Connolly. Motion was taken to a vote and was by **UNANIMOUS**

**VOTE:** to approve the indemnification, as specified in Section 20A, of the Members of the Blue Hills Retirement Board.

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**7.1.1 Warrant Approval:** Secretary Thomas Polito moved to approve FY17 Warrant, Number 6, dated November 1, 2016, in the amount of \$1,269,748.41. Motion to approve was seconded by Member Kevin Connolly. Motion taken to vote where it was by unanimous

**VOTE** to approve **FY17 Warrant**, Number 6, dated November 1, 2016, in the amount of \$1,269,748.41.

**7.2 Assistant Superintendent/Personnel and Business:** Mr. Steven Moore was recognized by Chairman Flahive. Mr. Moore stated that he had met with the Finance & Administrations Subcommittee with the following review of Proposed P-Card Program, as follows, with the intent of cancelling the Bank of America Credit Card presently held and a vote is requested to activate the P-Card Program:

**Proposed P-Card Program**

A P-Card is similar to a credit card in many ways as it can be used to make purchases through vendors who take credit card transactions.

Where a P-Card differs from a traditional Credit card is in a couple of areas:

The P-card can be assigned to a person or department

The district can have multiple P-Cards all with different credit limits

A P-card is managed by the P-Card program administrator (Assistant Superintendent). Managing means that the card balances and availability can be controlled and monitored from a central location in real time.

**A vote of approval** of the permission for approving Procurement Card was accepted by Chairman Charles W. Flahive by Vice-Chairman Marybeth Nearen. Motion was seconded by Member Fess Joyce. Motion was taken to a vote and it was by **UNANIMOUS**

**VOTE:** to approve the acceptance of a District Procurement Card.

**7.3 Principal:** Ms. Jill Rossetti, was recognized by Chairman Flahive. Ms Rossetti introduced **Ms. Ana Peach and Ms. Rebecca Ray**. Ms. Ray presented a Pictorial PowerPoint production, describing the Galapagos 2018 April Event and the status of the planning. Following extensive questions and answers on all aspects of the trip, a motion was made by Vice Chairman Nearen to approve the 2018 Galapagos Trip as presented and proposed. Motion was seconded by Member Eric Erskine, taken to a vote and it was **UNANIMOUSLY**

**VOTED:** to approve the 2018 Galapagos Trip as presented and proposed

Members of the DSC thanked Ms. Ray and Ms. Peach for the fantastic trips they have provided to qualified students.

**Open House:** Principal Rossetti reminded District School Committee Members of the Wednesday, November 16, 2016 Open House (FROM 5:30-P.M. TO 7:30 P.M). This event is one that allows all interested parties the opportunity to visit Blue Hills and see just what Blue Hills is all about. Along with this, it is a large marketing tool used to demonstrate to possible students the great advantage of becoming a future student. Ms. Rossetti complimented **Ms. Marybeth Joyce** for the superior job she has done with her part with this event.

Ms. Rossetti continued her discussions and announced an additional activity to stimulate increase with enrollment, and demonstrate to potential school applicants, the superior opportunities that are offered through a Blue Hills' education, as follows:

**First Annual Showcase Event, Monday, November 21, 2016 from 8:30-10:45 a.m.**

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Students from the middle schools are invited to attend Blue Hills First Annual Showcase Event on Monday, November 21 from 8:30-10:45 am. Buses will be sent to each middle school (students have parent permission slips, chaperones, and may have already applied online using our new online application program). Our guests will be greeted by our student ambassadors before they disembark from the bus and enter the building. They will be visiting three (3) vocational programs (two of their choice and one surprise) for 30 minutes each and there will be 3-5 hands-on stations that our guests will participate in. A student representative in each career tech program will introduce the academic teacher and the academic teacher will talk about academic life, student achievement and student life. Then the student will introduce the career tech teacher and the career tech teacher will give the showcase talk. Then the student visitors will be rotated through the hands-on workstations in the career tech program (run by our BHR students). At the end of each 30 minute session the career tech teacher will wrap up and thank the visitors for coming (hopefully, leaving them wanting more).

At the end of the three show case events all students will be escorted back to the cafeteria / gym for the final wrap-up and buses will depart at 10:45 am.

The District School Committee thanked Principal Rossetti for her presentations, following completion and discussion.

Member Aidan G. Maguire, Jr., moved to approve and endorse the *First Annual Showcase Event, Monday, November 21, 2016 from 8:30-10:45 a.m.* Motion was seconded by Member Eric Erskine. Motion was taken to a vote and IT WAS BY UNANIMOUS

**VOTE:** to approve and endorse the *First Annual Showcase Event, Monday, November 21, 2016 from 8:30-10:45 a.m.* Motion was seconded by Member Eric Erskine.

#### 7.4 **Director of Academics:** Mr. Geoffrey Zini

- **MCAS & Accountability AND Summer 2016 Reading Program Results.**

Director Zini was recognized by Chairman Flahive. Mr. Zini proceeded to speak on the MCAS Testing: past, present and future expectations and further presented a comprehensive via PowerPoint (28 pages) detailing MCAS Student successes. This report will be attached to these minutes to enlighten all. The returns of the 2016 Reading Program were impressive. are helped to reach the goals of the MCAS High Stakes Tests.

Mr. Zini spoke highly of the teachers of Blue Hills who are doing everything within their powers with teaching to assist all students with passing.

Following Mr. Zini's reports: members questions and answers, the Committee thanked Mr. Zini for the thoroughness of the report.

**7.5 Superintendent-Director James P. Quaglia:** Will have decommissioning of obsolete school equipment vote on next meeting agenda. Further, Mr. Quaglia will have additional information on the Randolph site that is being discussed.

#### 8. **Unfinished Business and New Business:**

Chairman Flahive SPOKE on the recently generated \$482.00 legal expense and his stand on this expense.

- Secretary Polito exchanged words with the Chairman as well regarding his beliefs on the expense.
- **Fire Pit** – Chairman Flahive complimented the Metal Fabrication Program on the recent purchase of a Fire Pit designed and constructed by the Program.

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- **LPN Program:** Chairman Flahive has read about the possibility of the school's LPN Program moving to another location.

9. **Discussion or Suggestions for the good of district, including newsworthy educational items-** Chairman Flahive stated that he'd like to see more comradeship between the Committee and Staff/Faculty.

10. **Executive Session: N/A**

11. **Adjournment.** Chairman Flahive called for adjournment, following the conclusion of all business. Member Fess Joyce move to adjourn. Motion was seconded by Member Kevin Connolly and motion to adjourn was approved unanimously.

**VOTED:** to adjourn the DSC Meeting, with all regular business concluded, at **9:07 p.m.**

The Committee's **next meeting** will be a **Regular Schedule Meeting**, conducted in the **William T. Buckley District School Committee Board Room #207 on Tuesday, November 15, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.**, unless otherwise posted.

Minutes approved by:

Respectfully submitted by:

Secretary Thomas R. Polito, Jr.

Joanne Kuzborski, Recording Secretary