



BLUE HILLS REGIONAL DISTRICT SCHOOL COMMITTEE  
800 Randolph Street  
Canton, MA 02021-9103  
“Fifty-Third District Committee”  
[www.bluehills.org](http://www.bluehills.org)

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

Goals: “Transparency, Accountability and Fiscal Discipline”

**ORGANIZATION:**

Chairman	Marybeth Nearen
Vice Chairman	Thomas R. Polito, Jr.
Secretary	Eric C. Erskine
District Treasurer	Charles J. Gisondi
Student Representative	Andrew Bryant

SUBCOMMITTEES \* Appointed by Chairman Nearen (7.11.17)

ATHLETIC & EXTRACURRICULAR	Members Flahive, Maguire, Erskine and Joyce
BUILDINGS, FACILITIES, SAFETY AND SECURITY	Members Connolly, Erskine, Franzosa, and Polito
CURRICULUM & ADVISORY -	Members Connolly, Franzosa, Joyce and Maguire,
EVALUATION -	Members Erskine, Fistori, Flahive, and Polito
FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION -	Members <b>Polito</b> , Franzosa, Maguire, Nearen and Polito
PERSONNEL & NEGOTIATIONS -	Members <b>Erskine</b> , Flahive, Maguire, and Polito
POLICY -	Members Fistori, Flahive, Franzosa and Nearen,
SCHOOL BUILDING.MSBA -	Members Connolly, Erskine, Franzosa, Polito
WARRANT -	Members <b>Maguire</b> Fistori, Flahive, Franzosa,
WEBSITE & TECHNOLOGY	Members Connolly, Fistori, Franzosa and Maguire

Superintendent / Director	James P. Quaglia
Principal	Jill M. Rossetti
Assistant Superintendent/Business & Personnel	Steven M. Moore

\* Subcommittee Chairmen are first and bolded. Elected by subcommittee upon their first meeting after appointment. The Chairman of the District School Committee serves as *Ex-officio* member on all subcommittees.

PLEASE NOTE SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS PRIOR TO REGULAR SCHEDULE MEETING

**\*Subcommittee Meetings, prior to  
Regular Schedule Meeting: (in Board Room #402)**

**Thursday, 11.30.17 at 3 p.m.: School Building MSBA, 27<sup>th</sup> Meeting**

**Thursday, 11.30.17 at 5 p.m.: Personnel & Negotiation Subcommittee: Negotiations/  
Clerical #SEIU888**

**(Before Regular Meeting.12.5.17)**

**5:30 p.m. Finance & Administration Subcommittee – Review of Financial Documents**

**6:30 p.m.: Warrant Subcommittee - Review documents for Warrant Approval, Room 402**

**Regular Schedule Meeting Minutes**  
**Tuesday, December 5, 2017 at 7 p.m.**

**The Meeting was Conducted in the William T. Buckley District School Committee Meeting Room, #207A**

**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.

**Before this evening, prior to the Regular Meeting, subcommittees conducted meetings and recommendations will be forthcoming, resulting from their conduct. The subcommittees were:**

Warrant Subcommittee  
Finance & Administration  
Personnel & Negotiation (Multiple Dates)  
(Subcommittee Meetings were conducted in Room 402)

The Blue Hills Regional Vocational School **Fifty-third District School Committee Regular Meeting** was called to order at **7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 5, 2017** at the Blue Hills Regional Vocational Technical School, William T. Buckley District School Committee Board Room 207A, 800 Randolph Street, Canton, Massachusetts. Chairman Marybeth Nearen presided. Ordinarily Regular Schedule Meetings of the District School Committees are conducted on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays of each month. When and if this changes ALL are advised of the change. This meeting is video/audio recorded, as well as recorded by an in-person stenographer and adheres to all the conditions of the Open Meeting Law. (**Open Meeting Law regulations, 940 CMR 29.00-29.11**).

1. Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call, as follows: The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Student Representative, Mr. Andrew Bryant.

**Attendance Members:**

Marybeth Nearen	Aidan Maguire	Michael Franzosa
Fran Fistori	Tom Polito	Kevin Connolly
Eric Erskine	Fess Joyce, Absent	Charles Flahive
Andrew Bryant. Student REP	Charles J. Gisondi, Treasurer	

**Others in Attendance:**

S/D James Quaglia	Ed Catabia	Patrice Adams
Seamus	Brian Gearty	Rick Montgomery
Nicole Flynn	Richard Spada	Patrice Adams

2. Public Comment - None
3. Student Representative Mr. Andrew Bryant – Report. Power Point presentation. Andrew will send to me via email and I'll put in its entirety.

**Student Representative Report: Mr. Andrew Bryant Chairman Nearen recognized Mr. Bryant.**

PowerPoint Presentation was presented and included the following facts for recent student activities:

**Sports**

- **Football-** The boys finished the season with a tough loss on Thanksgiving to BP. It was a hard fought close game until BP pulled away in the end

- **Boys Basketball**- The boys open up the season with a home game on Friday 12/15 at 6:30 against Upper Cape
- **Girls Basketball**- The girls open up the season with a home game on Thursday 12/14 at 5:00 against Randolph
- **Hockey**- The team begins the season with an away game on Saturday 12/09 at 4:10 at Bishop Stang HS
- **Swimming**- The team has its first match of the season on Wednesday 12/13 at 3:30 at home against Minuteman

#### **National Honor Society**

- Seniors **Erin Young and Karimah Land** have begun the **tutoring program**
- **Emily Ierardi** will be organizing a supply collection during the next 2 weeks for The German Center, an elder care facility with an Alzheimer's unit
- Joey Moore and Paul Rampino will be organizing the annual Food Drive which will run up to the winter vacation

#### **SkillsUSA**

- The following 17 students participated in the Fall State Leadership Conference from November 19-21.2017

Members of the District School Committee thanked Mr. Bryant for his excellent report.

#### **4. CONSENT ITEMS**

- **Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:** Chairman Nearen moved to the approval of the Tuesday, November 21, 2017 Minutes. Motion was made by Secretary Eric C. Erskine to approve the 11.21.17 Minutes as presented: Motion was seconded by Member Kevin L. Connolly. Without further discussion, the Minutes of the 11.21.17 Meeting were taken to a vote and it was **UNANIMOUSLY VOTED:** to approve the 11.21.17 Minutes as presented:
- **Warrant Approval** – Chairman of the Subcommittee, Aidan G. Maguire, Jr., and the subcommittee recommended the approval of the Warrant, as submitted. Warrant Subcommittee recommendation. Following recommendation, FY18, Warrant Number 10, \$1,423,264.06, Vouchers 1023-1025, December 5, 2018 was moved for approval by Secretary Eric C. Erskine. Motion was seconded by Member Kevin L. Connolly. Motion to approve was by **MAJORITY VOTED:** to approve. FY18, Warrant Number 10, \$1,423,264.06, Vouchers 1023-1025, December 5, 2018. (Member Maguire abstained from the vote.)
- **Admissions Policy** (Revised/Amended) Chairman Nearen and S/D Quaglia spoke on this amendment and its necessity. This Item of approval of the Admission Policy (File: JFA) is requested. A very minor change is recommended and all members of the Committee have received the Admission Policy (File: JFA). Following questions, answers and conclusion of discussions, Vice Chairman Thomas R. Polito, Jr., moved to approve the amended Admission Policy, File JFA. Motion was seconded by Member Kevin L. Connolly. Motion was taken to a vote and it was **UNANIMOUSLY**

**VOTED:** to approve of the Admission Policy (File: JFA), as amended.

5. **Treasurer: Mr. Charles J. Gisondi** - Mr. Gisondi, after recognition from Chairman Nearen, had no report.

6. **DSC Chair Report:** Chairman Marybeth Nearen – Chairman Nearen spoke on the next meeting and the Annual Joint Dinner (5:30 p.m. start in the Chateau de Bleu Restaurant at Blue Hills). This is a meeting that is used to share and exchange ideas on mutual interests involving the betterment of the Blue Hills Students' learning tools.

- Athletic Director Ed Catabia, the Committee learned from Mrs. Nearen, is a nominee for the prestigious "**Richard E. Lewis Award of Excellence in the Profession of Athletic Administration**". The recipient of this award will be selected in October of 2018 by the Executive Board of the MIAA.
- Duplicity of emails is nearly reconciled. Success is close to forthcoming.

7. **Fall Athletic Report** – Athletic Director Edward Catabia Fall stated: "Teams did pretty well, overall. Great transition with Coach MacDonald." Mr. Catabia stated that he is happy with transition. Girls' Soccer team were 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> winners overall in the season. The school that has the highest points receives a special award.

"Coach Tom McGrath and Coach Brian Gearty received well-earned Outstanding Coach awards." reported Mr. Catabia.

The Football Banquet is Wednesday, December 6<sup>th</sup>. All Committee Members were invited to attend this event. Student Representative Andrew Bryant will receive multiple awards at this event.

8. Subcommittee Reports (As needed.):

**Finance & Administration Subcommittee** Review of FY19 Budget Goals was conducted this evening. Subcommittee Chairman Thomas R. Polito, Jr. spoke of the topics discussed at this evening's meeting and unanimous recommendations of the subcommittee.

**2019 Budget Goals  
2018 Q1 Budget Report  
2018 Request to Transfer Funds  
PEC Agreement**

Following questions and answers, Chairman Nearen moved the questions:

**Motion to transfer funds was made by Secretary Eric C. Erskine, as follows:**

Decrease the budget of the 5000 Fixed Charges Series by:	\$125,934
Increase the budget of the 1000 Administration Series by:	\$9,257
Increase the budget of the 2000 Instructional Series by:	\$54,748
Increase the budget of the 1000 Student Services Series by:	\$3,661
Increase the budget of the 3000 Operations Series by:	\$58,268

Motion was seconded by Member Charles W. Flahive. Motion to approve recommended transfers was taken to a vote and it was UNANIMOUSLY

**VOTED:**

**to transfer funds**

Decrease the budget of the 5000 Fixed Charges Series by:	\$125,934
Increase the budget of the 1000 Administration Series by:	\$9,257

Increase the budget of the 2000 Instructional Series by:	\$54,748
Increase the budget of the 1000 Student Services Series by:	\$3,661
Increase the budget of the 3000 Operations Series by:	\$58,268

**PEC Agreement:** When the PEC Agreement was placed BHR Retirement Plan....They need to be compensated fairly. Quite a dialogue was rendered by Steve Moore about the inequities ... How many people were not paid the 70% of their Medicaid portion. 24 people are impacted and the attorney recommends reconciling this matter which is approximately \$90,000 for compensation and \$29,000 for increase on costs. Mr. Moore will secure the hard numbers involved with reconciling this matter. Mr. Flahive stated "It is only fair that the people are taken care of, but we should know exactly where the reconciliation funds will come from???" Work will be done with the Finance & Administration subcommittee with establishing where this money will come from (stated by Mr. Moore).

Information was provided to the full Committee, prior to this meeting within Meeting Package (11.21.17).

### **"Q1 Budget Report**

Attached is the Q1 FY18 Budget Report for the period ending November 27, 2017.

#### **Salary Lines**

Once the appropriate transfer of funds held in reserve in expense accounts for the anticipated 2018 contract settlements are moved to the appropriate salary lines then we should close the year within budget for all salary accounts.

#### **Expense Lines**

Funds will need to be transferred from the insurance account lines into the appropriate salary budget lines to rebalance the budget now that we can reasonably anticipate the salary impact of the union contracts.

The majority of funds are fully encumbered 3000, 4000, 5000, and 7000 series as those expenses can be reasonably projected and encumbered. The balance remaining in the 1000 and 3000 series should be encumbered or expended by the start of the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter.

#### **Request to Transfer Funds**

In building the 2018, budget the district placed \$130,000 in funding for anticipated raises in the 5000 series accounts. Now that we can reasonably anticipate the impact of the new contracts we are requesting the committee transfer the funds to the appropriate salary line."

## **PEC Agreement (Additional Information)**

During the finalization of the new PEC agreement it came to the administration's attention that Section 6 of the PEC agreement had been improperly administered since the implementation of the plan in 2009. The vote on the PEC Agreement was delayed to allow additional research, after Members' questions are answered.

### **Section 6**

#### *Medicare Enrollment- 70/30 Split*

*Subscribers who are eligible or who become eligible for Medicare shall transfer to Medicare coverage. The District shall pay any Medicare Part B premium penalty assessed by the federal government and will contribute seventy percent (70%) of the monthly cost of the Medicare Part B enrollment for any subscriber enrolled in Medicare and the subscriber will contribute thirty percent (30%). On the second Thursday of each month, the District shall send payment of its share of the current month Medicare Part B premium to the home address on file for any Medicare eligible subscriber. The subscriber shall notify the District of any changes to his or her address during the life of the agreement.*

### **The Issue and Legal Opinion**

When the plan was first implemented the benefits person for the district was told that this section only applied to those members of the Blue Hills retirement system who retired before 2009. The benefits person has been following the agreement language for those individuals.

During a review of the plan by both the legal counsel for the committee and the BHEA it was determined that this section applied to all retirees who retired after the PEC agreement was signed and to those who were not grandfathered into the existing (at the time) 90/10 plan for retirees.

To further complicate matters, despite having 24 eligible retirees over the age of 65 the district had virtually zero inquiries in the past 10 years about the Section 6, Medicare

benefit. Recently, retirees who were turning 65 (and were on the original PEC Committee) started asking about the benefit.

District legal counsel has reviewed the document and the issues surrounding the language and has advised us that this section does indeed apply to all retirees, as many other communities PEC agreements contain similar language. We have also been advised that we are liable for funds owed.

### **The Remedy**

The district has reviewed the list of retirees and determined that 24 retirees are currently eligible for this benefit. The cost to the district is roughly \$95 per month per retiree. The current estimated annual total for these payments moving forward is \$29,000

The district has also determined that these 24 retirees are owed an additional \$90,000 in missed part B payments.

In the month of December, the district will begin to gather the information necessary from each retiree so we can make their payments.

The funding source for these payments is the projected surplus of \$100,000 in the 5000 Fixed Cost Series, as these funds are in the insurance lines.

- Personnel & Negotiation Subcommittee – Chairman Eric C. Erskine provided an update stating that the only Union without a Memorandum of Agreement is SEIU#888, Cafeteria. A Personnel & Negotiation Subcommittee Meeting will be scheduled (Update) on Thursday, 12.14 AT 4:30 p.m.
- Warrant Subcommittee - Reviewed documents relative to Warrant Approval.

10. Administrative Reports:

10.1 Treasurer: Mr. Charles J. Gisondi

10.2 Assistant Superintendent/Personnel and Business: Mr. Steven M. Moore

- Review of Information provided at Finance & Administration Subcommittee Meeting.

Information provided within the Finance & Administration Subcommittee report and also within the content of Mr. Moore's presentation. Presentation documents were received by all members of the Committee.

10.3 Principal – Ms. Jill M. Rossetti – No report. Jill sends a weekly update of school news that goes out the Monday of each week providing all members information on school activities.

10.4 Superintendent/Director: Mr. James P. Quaglia – Spoke of an upcoming launching and the participation of Astronaut Scott Tingle ( a 1983 graduate of Blue Hills Tech). Additional information will be forthcoming.

11. Unfinished Business and New Business

- Email Distribution discussed.
- Member Flahive wants to know more about the District's Bond Rating.
- There was discussion on changing meeting nights. For the moment, the matter is tabled.
- Member Flahive wants to discuss game schedules on weekends and field lighting and wishes to have an Athletic and Extracurricular Subcommittee Meeting called for that purpose.

12. An executive session was unnecessary.

13. Adjournment **occurred at 8:42 p.m, as called for by Chairman Nearen. Adjournment moved by Member Fistori, Seconded by Member Franzosa UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO ADJOURN.)**

Eric C. Erskine

Joanne Doyle Kuzborski

**Next meeting dates: 12.19.17, 1.2.18 and 1.16.18**



