



DSC Meeting Minutes for November 17, 2020
ZOOM Meeting

A) Call to Order: Roll Call. 7:02 P.M.

Members in attendance: Francis Fistori – Avon, Eric Erskine (Vice-Chair) – Braintree, Aidan Maguire, Jr. – Canton, Thomas Polito (Chair) – Dedham, Taryn Mohan – Holbrook, Clinton Graham – Milton, Kevin Connolly – Norwood, Rachelle Jeanty – Randolph, Sheila Vazquez – Westwood, and Chuck Gisondi – DSC Treasurer

Administration in Attendance: Jill Rossetti - Superintendent-Director, Michelle Resendes - Business Manager, Geoff Zini – Principal, Paul Bovuso – Academic Director, Michelle Sylvia – Vocational Director, Marybeth Joyce – Admissions, and David Galego – Facilities Director

B) Open Session: ZOOM Meeting

C) Public Comment: None

D) Introduction of New DSC Members:

Tom Polito, Chair, took a few minutes to introduce and welcome the newly elected DSC Members. Each member won their respective seats in the November 3rd town elections. They are:

Taryn Mohan: New representative for Holbrook

Clinton Graham: New Representative for Milton

Kevin Connolly – Re-elected Representative from Norwood

Rachelle Jeanty – New Representative for Randolph

Sheila Vazquez – New Representative for Westwood

E) Treasurer’s Report: Chuck Gisondi

Mr. Gisondi reported that nothing new has come up since the committee last met.

F) Warrant: Chuck Gisondi

Warrant Number 8 for \$1,291,027.16 was introduced for review and vote

Motion to approve: Kevin Connolly, Norwood

Second: Eric Erskine, Braintree

Vote, Roll Call: Motion was passed with 7 votes to approve warrant #8 and 2 abstentions

(Clinton Graham of Milton and Rachelle Jeanty of Randolph)

G) Minute Approval

09/01/2020: Vote Required

Motion to Approve Kevin Connolly, Norwood

Second: Eric Erskine, Braintree

Vote, Roll Call: Motion passed with five yes votes and four abstentions (Taryn Mohan of Holbrook, Clinton Graham of Milton, Rachelle Jeanty of Randolph and Sheila Vazquez of Westwood)

10/06/20: Vote Required

Motion to Approve Kevin Connolly, Norwood

Second: Eric Erskine, Braintree

Vote, Roll Call: Motion passed with five yes votes and four abstentions (Taryn Mohan of Holbrook, Clinton Graham of Milton, Rachelle Jeanty of Randolph and Sheila Vazquez of Westwood)

10/20/2020: Vote Required

Motion to Approve Kevin Connolly, Norwood

Second: Eric Erskine, Braintree

Vote, Roll Call: Motion passed with five yes votes and four abstentions (Taryn Mohan of Holbrook, Clinton Graham of Milton, Rachelle Jeanty of Randolph and Sheila Vazquez of Westwood)

H) Athletic Update: Ed Catabia, Athletic Director

Mr. Catabia informed the group that he has been working with several other Sport Directors about the changing rules and regulations placed on sports due to COVID-19 and its unpredictable swings. At this time, the restrictions imposed make it extremely difficult to play any winter sports. Blue Hills is part of the Mayflower league and the League has closed down. The recommendation brought forth by Mr. Catabia and Supported by the Superintendent is to cancel Blue Hills Winter sports and move the focus of their efforts to Spring sports. After some discussion, a motion was made to cancel Winter sports.

Motion to cancel Winter sports: Fran Fistori, Avon

Second: Aidan Maguire, Canton

Vote, Roll Call: Motion to cancel Winter sports was carried unanimously by all members in attendance

I) Admissions: Enrollment Report:

Presented by: Marybeth Joyce, Admissions Director and Geoff Zini, Principal

Marybeth Joyce introduced her presentation and reminded the group that this was the update. She let the committee know that she was not asked any questions since the last meeting and encouraged everyone to speak up throughout the presentation if they had any questions. She then went over the presentation slide by slide explaining the comparisons from year to year and explained their relevance to where Blue Hills stands today in enrollment. The committee members asked for clarification about some of the data and all questions were answered.

J) DSC Chair Report: Tom Polito, Chair – Dedham

Mr. Polito again welcomed new DSC members. He reminded the new members to forward their letters verifying that they have been sworn in (by their sending towns) to him as soon as possible. He then brought up that he was disappointed that the website was not up yet and that the meeting was not on the BH site. Ms. Rossetti said that the website is being updated and that it (the website) is scheduled to be rolled out next week.

K) Sub-Committee Reports:

Personnel and Negotiations Subcommittee: Hold off until all three union reports are in hand.

L) Budget Sub-Committee: The sub-committee met just prior to this meeting. Michelle Resendes, Business Manager, presented the Quarter 1 report, proposed budget, and timelines. She explained the reports and guidelines to the group, specifically how BH is planning to deal with cuts in funding to ensure students receive needed supports and continue to receive a quality education. More detail and a vote are located below in the Business Manager Report

M) Administration Reports:

Business Manager Report: Michelle Resendes

Michelle welcomed the new board members and let them know that this was a good time to come on board, as this presentation would give them an idea of where the school is at financially and how they are looking ahead and preparing budgets for the next school year. She also encouraged them to reach out to her if they had any questions about any of the financial paperwork.

She then thoroughly reviewed the Q1 report, attached, and the timelines for budget planning and review of issues related to COVID expense and the decrease in HWM (for Blue Hills it is a decrease of \$449,000.00). The Timeline requires a vote.

Motion to approve timeline as stated is made by Kevin Connolly, Norwood

Second: Eric Erskine, Braintree

Vote, Roll Call passes with 7 yes votes and 2 abstentions (Milton and Randolph)

Motion to approve reclassification of fund series: Kevin Connolly, Norwood

Second: Rachelle Jeanty, Randolph

Vote, Roll Call: Motion passes with 8 yes votes and 1 abstention, Milton

Superintendent's Report: Jill Rossetti

Superintendent Goals-Approval

Chair Polito stated that Jill Rossetti has done an excellent job over this past year. She has consistently handled everything that came her way with the COVID pandemic on top of performing her other responsibilities in this role. He further stated that she is a very hard worker who has done a great job and had shown herself to be a strong leader.

Motion to approve the Superintendent's goals: Eric Erskine, Braintree

Second: Kevin Connolly, Norwood

Vote: Roll Call: Motion is carried unanimously

Ms. Rossetti reported to the committee that there was a limited on site and virtual Open House this past Saturday. The Open House went very well and attendance was high at approximately 170. Events had to be scheduled and presented very differently and tours were given in much smaller groups. The response was very positive. As a result, Blue Hills will schedule a Q and A event in the near future.

Ms. Rossetti let the committee know that she would be introducing a Strategy Plan at the next meeting.

N) Unfinished Business:

Mr. Polito, Chair, suggested that Blue Hills apply for some of the funds that were allotted to the state for Chrome Books. The school will follow up.

O) New Business: N/A

P) Executive Session: N/A

Q) Future Business: The next District School Committee meeting will be on Tuesday, December 1, 2020 at 7:00PM.

The committee will have to vote in a new Secretary onto the Board next week.

R) Adjournment: 8:50 PM

Motion to adjourn made by Kevin Connolly, Norwood

Second: Eric Erskine, Braintree

Vote: Roll Call

Motion passed unanimously

Minutes written and submitted by:

Pamela Donnellan

Administrative Secretary to the Superintendent-Director

Minutes Approved: 12/1/2020 by the DSC