



Blue Hills Regional District School Committee  
Fifty-Sixth District Committee

**District School Committee Meeting**  
**May 18, 2021**  
**Approved Meeting Minutes**  
**7:00 PM**

Per Governor Baker's order suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A sec. 20, the public will not be allowed to physically access this School Committee meeting. Members of the public can access the meeting via live stream at the link provided below.

**A. Call to Order: Start Time: 6:59 PM**

**B. Open Session:**

**Roll Call:**

**Members in attendance:**

Francis Fistori – Avon, Eric Erskine (Vice-Chair) – Braintree, Aidan Maguire, Jr. (Secretary) – Canton, Thomas Polito (Chair) – Dedham, Taryn Mohan – Holbrook, Kevin Connolly – Norwood, Rachele Jeanty – Randolph, and Sheila Vazquez – Westwood, and Chuck Gisondi - Treasurer

**Members Not in Attendance:**

Clinton Graham, Milton

**Administration in attendance:**

Jill Rossetti - Superintendent-Director, Michelle Resendes - Business Manager, Geoff Zini – Principal, David Galego - Facilities Director, and Tom Cavanaugh – Dean of Students

**C. Public Comment: None**

**D. Auditor's Report: Frank Serreti**

All Members of the Committee received copies of the three-booklet report prior to the meeting providing them with the time needed to prepare for this presentation.

Mr. Serreti stated that the Audit went very well and that our records are all “as clean as you can get”. There were no errors or gaps, COVID did not slow down the process, and school staff were able to provide everything requested in a timely manner. After stating highlights from specific parts of the audit, Mr. Serreti asked the committee for questions.

There were no questions about the audit; however, questions about Cyber Insurance and Tuition Reimbursement were brought up. The cost of Cyber Insurance and the schools policy regarding Tuition Reimbursement were addressed. This was an information gathering session as opposed to a fact-finding discussion.

**E. DSC Student Representative Report: Christopher Alcimbert**

Chris began his report by greeting the committee and then giving a brief overview of his presentation. (Power Point). He started his presentation with a description of the activities that are currently taking place as part of Spirit Week including Crazy Hair Day, Pajama Day and Wacky Wednesday. He then moved on to student updates including National Honor Society acceptances and activities, a SkillsUSA update and then concluded with graduation information. Chris ended his presentation by letting the Committee know how excited and thankful the students are to be able to have a graduation on the field.

**F. Treasurer's Report: Chuck Gisondi: N/A**

**G. Warrant: Chuck Gisondi (Vote Required)**

**Warrant # 20 for \$988,819.96**

**Motion** to approve Warrant # 20 for \$988,819.96: Aidan Maguire, Secretary - Canton

**Second:** Kevin Connolly, Norwood

**Vote: Roll Call:** Motion to approve Warrant # 20 carried unanimously by members in attendance (8/0)

**H. Superintendent's Report: Jill Rossetti**

- COVID-19 Dashboard Update

The Superintendent reviewed the numbers of COVID related sickness; quarantines, etc. that continue to decrease. She also reminded the committee that the state of emergency will be lifted on June 15, 2021. Many of the mandated restrictions have already been lifted. Masks continue to be required for all K – 12 schools.

- Construction Project Approval of stairs on BHR stairs on Sports Shed

**Motion** to approve the stairs project on the Sports Shed: Eric Erskine, Vice Chair - Braintree

**Second:** Kevin Connolly, Norwood

**Vote, Roll Call:** Motion to approve Sports Shed stair project carried unanimously by members in attendance (8/0)

- School Calendar Approval

A short discussion about the elimination of snow days. Snow days are being replaced with on-line virtual learning should the need arise.

**Motion** to approve the 21-22 school Calendar: Kevin Connolly, Norwood

**Second:** Sheila Vazquez, Westwood

**Vote, Roll Call:** Motion to approve the 21-22 school calendar carried unanimously by members in attendance (8/0)

**I. Minutes Approval:** (Vote is Required)

**May 4, 2021**

**Motion** to approve the May 4 DSC Minutes: Kevin Connolly, Norwood

**Second:** Eric Erskine, Braintree

**Vote, Roll Call:** Motion to approve the May 4 meeting minutes carried unanimously by all members in attendance (8/0)

**J. DSC Chair Report: Thomas Polito**

- In-Person Meeting discussion:

The Chair stated that in light of restrictions being lifted and students returning to school without incident; it is a good time to revisit meeting in person. After some discussion, the Chair announced that this would start June 1, 2021. He also proposed that the June 15<sup>th</sup> meeting include inviting last year's past school committee members back to say good bye and to celebrate their committee participation as the COVID Pandemic prevented this from happening last November.

- Negotiations Update:

The committee will be going into Executive Session

- Evaluation Subcommittee:

Copies of evaluation forms will be e-mailed out to all members for the Superintendent, Treasurer, and Recording Secretary. Members are to complete the evaluation forms and then send them to the Chair. Once all the completed evaluations are received, the Chair will assign a sub-committee to put the evaluations together and prepare for distribution.

**K. DSC Sub-Committee Reports: As Needed**

**Building Sub-Committee**

- Negotiations/Personnel: see above, committee will go into Executive Session

**L. Administration Reports:**

**1. Dean of Students: Tom Cavanaugh**

- Parent Student handbook: The Dean of Students requested that the updated 2021-2022 Parent Student Handbook be approved by the committee. (Vote Requested)

**Motion** to approve updated Parent Student Handbook: Kevin Connolly, Norwood

**Second:** Eric Erskine, Braintree

**Vote, Roll Call:** Motion to approve Parent Student Handbook carried unanimously by members in attendance (8/0)

**2. Principal's Report: Geoff Zini**

- School Improvement Plan

Mr. Zini reviewed the school goals and outcomes and let the committee know about the new goals that would be addressed going forward including hiring plans. The committee they put together is gathering data from the last five years to use as part of next steps. The Board will be updated on a regular basis throughout the year.

- Senior Lawn Signs

One of the parents put together the lawn signs as a fundraiser for a scholarship in memory of Matthew Siwik. They are taking donations of any amount for the signs but are suggesting a \$4 contribution for each. The signs are very nice. Any money beyond the cost of the signs will be donated for the scholarship.

**3. Business Manager Report: Michelle Resendes:**

- Budget Transfer Request

Ms. Resendes asked the Committee to approve a \$25,000 budget transfer of funds request to Capital Equipment. This would cover the cost to purchase all items on Vocational Shops wait list while the school has the means to purchase these needed items. After a short discussion about items on this list, Ms. Resendes asked the committee to approve the transfer of funds.

Motion to approve the budget transfer request: Kevin Connolly, Norwood

Second: Rachelle Jeanty, Randolph

Vote, Roll Call: Motion to approve the Budget transfer request carried unanimously by members in attendance (8/0)

- Blue Hills Budget Meeting Update

Ms. Resendes reported that five out of the nine district towns have had their meetings and passed the Blue Hills Budget. We need two additional approvals for the Blue Hills Proposed Budget to pass. She also said that two of the district towns (Dedham and Norwood) have turned back ESSER II funds back to Blue Hills Regional.

**M. Unfinished Business: N/A**

**N. New Business Topics: N/A**

**O. Executive Session: Yes**

**P. Future Business:**

The next DSC meeting is Tuesday, June 1, 2021 at 7:00 PM. This meeting is On Site and In-Person

**Q. Adjournment: (Vote Required) 8:23 PM**

**Motion to Adjourn:** Kevin Connolly, Norwood

**Second:** Eric Erskine, Braintree

**Vote, Roll Call:** Motion to adjourn carried unanimously by those members in attendance

**Minutes Prepared By:**  
**Pamela Donnellan, Administrative Secretary to the Superintendent-Director**

**Minutes Approved On: June 1, 2021**