



Blue Hills Regional District School Committee  
Fifty-Sixth District Committee

**District School Committee Meeting**  
**May 4, 2021**  
**Remote (ZOOM) Meeting**  
**7:00 PM Open Session**

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: 7:00 PM**

**Members in attendance:** Francis Fistori – Avon, Eric Erskine (Vice-Chair) – Braintree, Aidan Maguire, Jr. (Secretary) – Canton, Thomas Polito (Chair) – Dedham, Taryn Mohan – Holbrook, Clinton Graham – Milton (7:07 PM), Kevin Connolly – Norwood, Rachelle Jeanty – Randolph, and Sheila Vazquez – Westwood, and Chuck Gisondi - Treasurer

**Administration in Attendance:** Jill Rossetti - Superintendent-Director, Geoff Zini – Principal, Michelle Resendes - Business Manager, and David Galego – Facilities Director

**B. Public Comment: N/A**

**C. DSC Student Representative Report: Chris Alcimbert: N/A**

**D. Treasurer's Report: Chuck Gisondi**

- The District School Committee will need to approve the next round of Short Term Borrowing Note obtained by the Business Manager and District Treasurer (related to the renovation project). The Chair, District Secretary and District Treasurer will be required to sign related documents (also referred to as BANs or Bond Anticipation Notes). Arrangements to have this done made. (Vote required)
- Mr. Gisondi explained that the terms of this Short Term loan is very favorable, less than a quarter of 1% for 5.9 million dollars. This Note is due in November and will not have to be re-visited providing the Renovation Project is wrapped up by then. Aidan Maguire agrees to read statement and sign forms with the Treasurer.

- **Motion to approve STB:** Aidan Maguire, Secretary – Canton.
- **Second:** Eric Erskine, Vice Chair – Braintree
- **Vote, Roll Call:** Vote to approve Short Term Borrowing carried unanimously

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

Warrant # 19 for \$1,223,306.57

**Motion** to approve Warrant # 19: Kevin Connolly, Norwood

**Second:** Aidan Maguire, Canton

**Vote, Roll Call:** Vote to approve Warrant # 19 is carried unanimously by those in attendance, 8/0 (Milton was not in attendance for this vote)

**F. Superintendent’s Report: Jill Rossetti**

- COVID Update

This week, BH will be rolling out a new dashboard that will be easier to understand and will be put on the website. The number of COVID-19 positive cases and student/faculty quarantines continue to go down and the District towns continue to be in the yellow zone. BH students and staff continue to follow all safety protocols and are being vaccinated.

- Graduation

Graduation will be on the BH football field. Each graduate is allowed two guests to join them on the field. Everyone will be required to wear masks and adhere to social distancing guidelines. Programs, tickets, and additional seating (outside field) will be available. More information will be forthcoming, as we get closer to graduation.

- Teacher & Staff Appreciation Week Events

This week we celebrate faculty at Blue Hills. A box breakfast was served on Monday, cookies on Tuesday, BH tumblers on Wednesday, chips on Thursday and an ice cream truck a week from Friday. See flyer that was included in meeting package for more detail.

- Approve Recommendation of Exterior West Stairwell: Bid Results

The three bids received for this project are included in your meeting package. The winning bid was submitted by Kneeland Construction for \$46,000. We are recommending them for the project and this requires a vote.

**Motion to approve Kneeland Construction for the West Staircase project:** Tom Polito, Chair – Dedham

**Second:** Kevin Connolly, Norwood

A short discussion brought up by Aidan Maguire, Secretary – Canton asking about the original cost suggested for this project being around \$25,000. The Superintendent and the Business Manager told Mr. Maguire that the \$25,000 discussed at a previous meeting was an educated guess without written backup. They also stated that the nearest bid was only

\$200.00 more than the winning bid, suggesting that this dollar amount is closer to true cost of repair.

**Vote, Roll Call:** Motion to approve Kneeland Construction be awarded the West Staircase Repair Project carried unanimously.

- School Choice (Vote Required)

After a short discussion about what school choice is Blue Hills recommendation for a “no” vote due to lack of room is put forth.

**Motion** supporting the “no” vote for School Choice: Eric Erskine, Vice Chair – Braintree

**Second:** Kevin Connolly, Norwood

**Vote, Roll Call:** Motion carried with an 8 yes/1 abstain (Milton)

- Decommissioning Strippit Punch Press in Metal Fabrication (Vote Required)

**Motion** to decommission the Strippit Press: Kevin Connolly, Norwood

**Second:** Taryn Mohan, Holbrook

**Vote, Roll Call:** Motion carried unanimously

- Donation to Blue Hills, from VFW Post 3389 (\$500.00)

**Motion** to accept the VFW Post 3389 donation: to the school: Fran Fistorie, Avon

**Second:** Kevin Connolly, Norwood

**Vote, Roll Call:** Vote to approve accepting the VFW donation carried unanimously

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

April 27, 2021

**Motion** to approve the DSC April 27, 2021 Minutes: Kevin Connolly, Norwood

**Second:** Eric Erskine, Braintree

**Vote, Roll Call:** Motion to approve April 27, 2021 Minutes carried unanimously

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

No Report and no need for Executive Session

The Chair did want to recognize the BH Football team for their successful season and that after 42 years; Head Coach, Mr. Catabia, is stepping down from the Head Coach position at the end of the school year.

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

**Building Sub-Committee**

- Negotiations/Personnel , no report

J. **Administration Reports:**

1. **Principal’s Report: Geoff Zini**

- **School Opening Update**

Mr. Zini let the Committee know that after four days of all in house learning, the inside activities and lunches are running very smoothly. The outside activities and busses, etc. require some additional attention.

- **Sports Update**

Mr. Zini reiterated Mr. Catabia's coaching over the past 42 years and spoke about what a good coach, teacher and mentor he was for the student athletes and coaches. He also said that Fall II sports were coming to an end and Spring tryouts are underway. Spring sports may practice before the official start date but the season officially starts the week of May 10<sup>th</sup>.

- **Parent Student Handbook:**

The vote to approve the Parent Student Handbook will be at the next meeting (5/18).

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

- Q3 report

Ms. Resendes reviewed her 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter report to the Committee. There was nothing unexpected in the report. Ms. Resendes stated that the Town Meetings that have taken place to date have gone well.

Ms. Resendes closed her presentation with information about the ESSER II Funds. She received word today that the ESSER II funds may not be available on the reported timelines. She further stated that she has very little information at this time but will keep the Committee up to speed on this topic as this money is listed as revenue in the budget for the next school year.

Ms. Resendes thanked the committee and let them know she will be bringing a request to move \$25,000 to the vocational account at the next meeting (5/18).

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

**L. New Business Topics:**

Taryn Mohan, Holbrook said that she was experiencing difficulty signing up for the Charting the Course class run by MASC. The contact information of all new DSC members have been forwarded to MASC twice since November. Every member has to set up an account with MASC to enroll in the classes. Mr. Maguire said that he thinks the MASS/MASC convention scheduled in November is In Person and that they usually offer a Charting the Course class the Saturday after this convention.

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

**N. Future Business:**

The next DSC meeting is Tuesday, May 18, 2021 at 7:00 PM.

**O. Adjournment:** (Vote Required)

**Time of adjournment: 7:48 PM**

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

**Second:** Eric Erskine, Braintree

**Vote, Roll Call:** Motion to adjourn carried unanimously

**Minutes Prepared by:**

**Pamela Donnellan, Administrative Secretary to the Superintendent-Director**

**Minutes Approved by the DSC on: May 18, 2021**