



Blue Hills Regional District School Committee
Fifty-Sixth District Committee

District School Committee Meeting
June 1, 2021
In-Person Meeting, BHR, Room W-218
7:00 PM Open Session

A. Call to Order: 7:00 PM

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call:

Members in attendance:

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

Members Not in Attendance:

Francis Fistori – Avon, Clinton Graham – Milton, and Rachele Jeanty – Randolph

Administration in attendance:

Jill Rossetti - Superintendent-Director, Geoff Zini – Principal, David Galego - Facilities Director, and Tom Cavanaugh – Dean of Students, Angelo Dimitriou – Special Services Director, Michelle Sylvia – Vocational Director, and Paul Bavuso – Academic Director

B. Public Comment: None

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

D. Treasurer’s Report: Chuck Gisondi: N/A

E. Warrant: Chuck Gisondi and Aidan Maguire, Secretary

Warrant # 21 for \$563,287.23

Motion to approve Warrant # 21 for \$563,287.23: Aidan Maguire, Canton

Second: Kevin Connolly, Norwood

Vote: Motion to approve Warrant # 21 carried unanimously by those in attendance

F. Superintendent’s Report: Jill Rossetti

- COVID-19 Dashboard Update: Numbers on all categories continue to trend downward

- Cafeteria Furniture and W-218 seating: The Superintendent let the Committee know that she is using some of the additional General funds to purchase new tables and chairs for the Café. This update is long overdue and that the tables are simply falling apart and repairs are no longer an effective solution. Further she has listened to the DSC members who have complained about the chairs in W-218 and has purchased sturdy comfortable chairs for the room. The change will make the DSC conference room a more comfortable working space for the committee. These necessary updates are expensive; but the \$73,000 is in the budget and it is a timely purchase and update. The materials, labor, etc. were purchased from the state bid list.
- David Galego reported that Blue Hills will need and additional three bids for the Electric Sign to be in placed in front of the school. This is primarily due to the COVID shutdown. Simply too much time has passed to use old bids. Additionally, he reported that the necessary permits for the Athletic Shed Stairs project are in hand.

G. Minutes Approval: (Vote is Required)

May 18, 2021

Motion to approve the May 18 DSC Minutes: Kevin Connolly, Norwood

Second: Eric Erskine, Braintree

Vote: Motion to approve minutes carried unanimously by those in attendance

H. DSC Chair Report: Thomas Polito

- Negotiations Update
The Committee has reached an agreement with BHEA. When all parties sign the contract, it will come before the committee to be ratified.
- Evaluation Subcommittee
Update: To date, the Chair has only received two completed evaluations for the Superintendent, Treasurer, and Recording Secretary. He then asked the committee to work on these and send them in so the evaluation process can be finished.
- Summer Meeting Schedule:
The two summer meetings will take place on July 20, 2021 and August 24, 2021 at 7PM

I. DSC Sub-Committee Reports: As Needed

Building Sub-Committee

- Negotiations/Personnel: See above

J. Administration Reports:

1. Athletic Director: Ed Catabia

- Fall II and Spring Sports
Mr. Catabia reported that the Spring Sports have not finished their season yet. He is very proud of the teams this year. They are working hard, some teams more successful than others, but all fully involved. He also stated that Blue Hills has not had to cancel a game.

Many of the other Districts and league teams have had to cancel several games for a myriad of reasons. Much of the credit comes down to the hard work of the coaches, nurse, administration, sports trainer, and of course the students. All worked hard keeping everyone safe, healthy and strong. Everyone did their part and Mr. Catabia is very proud of all.

2. Dean of Students: Tom Cavanaugh

- Student Discipline Report

Mr. Cavanaugh presented the year-end conduct report. He distributed handouts describing the offenses, action taken to address stated offences and the number of times the offence took place for the year. Overall, all numbers were low. Mr. Cavanaugh explained that this year was very different and that we had to be more creative with responses with the hybrid learning. He further stated that the students were “Phenomenal” this year. They followed directions, expectations and adapted to changes very well.

3. Principal’s Report: Geoff Zini

- School Council

The Council meets 3 or 4 times a year and is made up of teachers, parents, and students. All meetings were on ZOOM this year. The Council will hold an election over the summer to replace current parents. Plans are underway to get more parents involved.

- Graduation remains scheduled for June 8th, There will be one change. All Graduates may now invite as many people as they would like. He/she will still only have two people with them on the field, but rest may all be on hill, bleachers, etc. This is because of the COVID numbers being down again.

- Strategy Plan: accomplishments and next steps update (Communications, PD and Data Team)

Professional Development: Mr. Zini reported that the committee assembled for this plan comprised of staff, academic teachers, vocational instructors, and administration. They have met several times and have put together a professional development schedule for next year that is robust and relevant.

- Communication and Data: Mr. Bavuso, Ms. Sylvia and Mr. Zini

Mr. Bavuso discussed the School Reform Initiative (SRI) and Atlas Data. He passed out a “SRI handout to follow along with his presentation. The Data team includes academic and vocational staff. The team has learned a lot from each other identifying that the way information is collected and used. They found the way they look at, use data in academics, and vocationally vary widely. This way of looking at data, (Atlas) explains how data is gathered, looked at and used. There are directions on how to interpret data and the ways it is useful. The team is excited to continue the process and find new ways to teach, engage and reach out to all students.

- Summer Reading: Paul Bavuso
Mr. Bavuso explained that this year's summer reading is different from previous years. Because of all the remote learning and changes during the school years, they want to find a way to entice reading for all students. The choices they are giving students is extremely large. The goal is to have all students happy to comply with this requirement without turning it into a chore. Students can chose a book from several lists, two web sites and modes. They can read on a kindle, hard cover and audio. They are to find something meaningful to themselves. In these ways, the students will be more likely to read.

4. Business Manager Report: Michelle Resendes: N/A

- No Report

K. Unfinished Business: None

L. New Business Topics: None

M. Executive Session: Yes

N. Future Business:

The next DSC meeting is Tuesday, June 15, 2021 at 7:00 PM.

O. Adjournment: (Vote Required): 8:13Pm

A motion was made to end the general session and move into executive session: Kevin Connolly, Norwood
Second: Eric Erskine, Braintree
Vote: Motion carried unanimously by those in attendance

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

Approved by DSC on: June 15, 2021 _____