

Thomas R. Polito, Jr.
Dedham
Chair

Eric C. Erskine
Braintree
Vice Chair

Michael C. Franzosa
Holbrook
Secretary

Kevin L. Connolly
Norwood

Francis J. Fistori
Avon

Charles Flahive
Westwood

Aidan G. Maguire, Jr.
Canton

Marybeth Nearen
Randolph

Matthew P. O'Malley
Milton



BLUE HILLS

REGIONAL TECHNICAL SCHOOL

Blue Hills Regional District School Committee
Fifty-Sixth District Committee

"Transparency, Accountability and Fiscal Discipline"

July 21, 2020	Meeting Minutes	7:00 PM Open Session
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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** Roll Call: Members and Regular BH Administration in Attendance: Chairman Thomas Polito, Member Aidan Maguire, Member Charles Flahive, Vice Chairman Eric Erskine, Member Matthew O'Malley, District Treasurer Charles Gisondi, Member Kevin Connolly, Member Francis Fistori, Member Marybeth Nearen, Superintendent-Director Jill Rossetti, Principle Geoff Zini, Business Manager Michelle Resendes. Not in Attendance: Secretary Michael Franzosa

Additional Attendance Sheet attached

- B. **Open Session** *This was a ZOOM meeting*
- C. **Public Comment:** N/A
- C. **Treasurer's Report:** Mr. Gisondi
Mr. Gisondi reminded the Committee that the next round of borrowing would begin next month. (August)
- D. **Warrant:** Warrant : **Warrant # 19 for FY '20: \$3,188,970.25**
Motion to Roll Call Vote: Member Kevin Connolly
Second: Member Marybeth Nearen
Vote: Unanimously by members in attendance

Warrant # 01 for FY' 21: \$ 218,190.51
Motion to Roll Call Vote: Member Kevin Connolly
Second: Member Charles Flahive
Vote: Unanimously by members in attendance

E. Minutes Approval: DSC Minutes for June 16,2020
Item was tabled until next meeting. (08/04)

F. DSC Chair Report: Mr. Tom Politio, Jr.

Chair Polito opened with congratulating and thanking the Superintendent for all the time and hard work that was demonstrated in the reports she provided the committee for review. Her work is commendable and makes sense as presented. The superintendent was thanked and recognized by the committee.

General Announcement: The Dedham Town Meeting will be held on August 10, 2020

The Chair then spoke briefly identifying a concern and introducing the subject about the Schools to Careers (STC) Program, specifically as to whether or not it was cost effective given that it would have to be remote. He also stated that Katherine Touafek would be invited to the next Committee meeting scheduled for August fourth to present her new program model and support its significance to the Blue Hills student body. The Chair, Thomas Polito, spoke about STC and the committee's recommendation that a one-year hiatus from STC program participation in light of the program's significant reliance on field trips. Member Maguire added that a couple of the towns do not participate but are financially contributing to the program (Westwood and Braintree)

After much discussion, the committee agreed to hear out Katherine Touafek at the next meeting before voting on District participation.

G. Subcommittee Reports;

Meetings for the Policy and Negotiation Subcommittees will be scheduled before the next meeting and will present on the 18th of August.

H. Administrator's Reports:

1. Principal's Report:

- Mr. Zini announced that the updated Title 9 Regulations will go into effect on August 14th.
- Presentation of the Parent Teacher Handbook. Mr. Zini stated that there were only a couple of changes including pandemic related changes for remote learning, phone numbers and consequences to forbidden behavior updated to be consistent. (e.g. vaping, e cigarettes in smoking section etc.) Mr Zini also let the committee know that if the handbook needed to be updated because of COVID or other event, there would be an addendum added.
- Vote to approve the 20 – 21 Student Teacher Handbook
Motion: Kevin Connolly
Second: Marybeth Nearen
Roll Call Vote passed the motion unanimously by attending members

2. Business Manager Report:

- Ms. Resendes stated that the COVID grant obtained is a per pupil fund and that the amount specified is \$225 per pupil. This money may only be used for COVID expenses including cleaning cost associated with guidelines and PPE.
- Ms. Resendes introduced a proposal that has to be voted on to increase the cost of pool rental by \$50.00 per session. The additional cost covers only the cleaning chemicals that must be used after each session. Both she and David Galego priced out the cost. (vote needed)
- A robust conversation took place to discuss use of the pool. Safety was the chief concern and noting water contamination, possible spread of COVID, public interest in usage, how often the area was cleaned and what specific activities are under “Cleaning”. Mr Galego (Facilities Director) went into great detail about the cleaning schedule, air quality checks, and the like. Mr. Galego agreed to send the committee the DPH report and guidelines to alleviate some of their concern about opening the pool and student safety.
- A roll call Vote was taken to vote in the \$50.00 charge added to pool rental fee

Motion to accept the additional \$50.00 fee: Kevin Connolly

Second: Marybeth Nearen

Yes: Aidan Mguire, Francis Fistori, Kevin Connolly, Marybeth Nearen, Matthew O.Malley, Eric Erskine, Thomas Polito

No: N/A

Obstain: Charles Flahive

Motion carried by majority vote (7 to 1)

3. **Superintendent’s Report** Superintendent Rossetti will provide an update on a variety of matters going on throughout the district.

- **SOA:** Report submitted to committee was thorough and well done. The committee reviewed it briefly before asking for an update as to when it is submitted and moved on to BH Reopening. This money should not go away.
- **BH Reopening:** An extremely robust review of the reopening plan was primarily presented by Jill Rossetti and Geoff Zini. The plan was reviewed at length, point by point. All questions were addressed by Jill Rossetti for operations, Geoff Zini for academics and school support and David Galego for facilities. Some areas of concern that were addressed include student and teacher schedules, safety, meals, transportation, grading system, behavioral expectations, lockers, passing in hallways, PPE including masks and sanitizing stations, cleaning schedules and air quality. Please see the attached written plan for specifics.
- Ms. Rossetti then presented the DESE submission timelines and explained that this is all very new and the plans are fluid and can move forward and back. It is her belief that Blue Hills should move forward with a Hybrid model. The committee agreed to meet on the 4th of August to vote on a reopening plan so that an approved submission may be sent to DESE on the 10th of August.
- **20-21 BH School Calendar: Vote to Approve**
Motion to Approve: Kevin Connolly

Second: Charles Flahive

Roll Call vote: Passed unanimously by attending members

I. Unfinished Business:

- Aidan Maguire asked who is taking notes for the meeting. The Chair, Tom Polito announced that Pam Donnellan is taking notes and being paid an hourly rate of time and a half outside of her regular hours.
- Quarterly budget will be presented in September
- Evaluations must be completed immediately. Time is of the essence.

J. New Business Topics: N/A

K. Executive Session: N/A

L. Future Business – Next School Committee meeting will be held _____08/04_____ at 7:00 p.m. The School Committee reserves the right to implement additional remote participation procedures and will notify the public of these procedures as soon as practicable.

M. Adjournment: Vote Required

Motion: Kevin Connolly

Second: Eric Erskine

Roll Call Vote: Passed Unanimously by attending members

8:39 PM

Minutes Submitted by: Pamela Donnellan

Administrative secretary to the Superintendent

Approved: August 18, 2020 by the District School Committee

