



District School Committee
March 15, 2022
Meeting Minutes
BHR, W-218
7:00 PM

A. Pledge of Allegiance

B. Call to Order: Time, 7:03 PM

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

Members not in Attendance: Yahaira Lopez - Randolph

Administration in Attendance: Jill Rossetti - Superintendent-Director, Geoff Zini - Principal, Michelle Resendes - Business Manager, David Golego - Facilities Director, and Paul Bavuso - Academic Director

C. Public Comment: None

D. Student Representative Report: Noel Hill

Noel Hill put together a wonderful presentation outlining events that happened in the last month and presented a timeline of events that are coming up. He discussed the SkillsUSA Competition and Bootcamp that took place at Blue Hills this year and he highlighted his classmate, Kayla Anastasio, who represents Blue Hills as a participant and the State Vice President of SkillsUSA. Noel re-capped the Students VS. Teachers Basketball game and stated that it was great fun. His timeline included the upcoming events including the Sophomore Lead Semi-Formal, Senior Fundraiser, Raffles, Prom, Senior Breakfast, and Graduation. His Nugget Knowledge for this meeting is: "The bad news is, time flies. The good news is, "You're the Pilot" by Michael Altshuler.

E. Treasurer's Report and Warrant #16: Chuck Gisondi

Voucher number 10530-1056, Warrant number 16 for \$1,393,436.67

Motion to approve Warrant number 16 for \$1,393,436.67: Aidan Maguire, Canton
Second: Kevin Connolly, Norwood

Discussion: None

Vote: Warrant 16 is carried unanimously by members in attendance.

- F. Proposal and Discussion:** DSC to meet once a month instead of twice a month
The Committee was offered the opportunity to continue their conversation after a brief synopsis was given bringing members up to speed.

Fran Fistori, Avon, made the **motion** that the DSC meet once a month with the caveat (amendment) that a vote to have a second meeting for the month be taken at the first meeting each month.

Second: Sheila Vazquez, Westwood

Discussion: None

Vote: Motion for DSC to meet once a month with the option to vote in a second meeting when needed carried unanimously.

- G. Superintendent's Report:** Jill Rossetti.

- COVID Dashboard: Ms. Rossetti will continue to monitor the numbers. There is information about another variance. Everything will remain the same at BHR and she will continue to monitor the numbers and any changes in the regulations.
- School Committee System: Ms Rossetti reviewed the proposal that was previously forwarded to the Committee titled Pro AV Systems. There were several questions asked about the cost of the system including: can we use the existing system, what services, if any, would be included in PRO AV that would be significantly better than the system currently in place. PRO AV is being investigated in response to the Committee wanting to have Hybrid Meetings. Ms. Rossetti agreed to invite the IT Director to the next DSC meeting to explain this system in a more knowledgeable manner.

- H. Minutes Approval:** March 1, 2022

Motion to Approve DSC March 1, 2022 Meeting Minutes: Kevin Connolly, Norwood

Second: Sheila Vazquez, Westwood

Discussion: No

Vote: Motion to approve 3/1/2022 ,meeting minutes carries 7 (yes) to 1 (abstention)
Milton

- I. DSC Chair Report:** Eric Erskine

- Face Covering Policy: The Policy Sub-Committee met prior to the DSC meeting. They reviewed this Policy and made one change. Mr. Maguire read the edited portion of the policy and asked for a First Reading. The policy was read for the first time. The Second Reading will take place at the next DSC meeting scheduled for April 12, 2022..

- J. DSC Sub-Committee Reports:**

Policy Sub-Committee

See "I" above

Negotiations and Personnel Sub-Committee:

SEIU, Local 888: Maintenance and Custodian Contract: Has been settled, the MOA signed and is brought to the Committee to be ratified.

Motion to Ratify the Maintenance/Custodian contract: Thomas Polito, Dedham

Second: Kevin Connolly, Norwood

Discussion: none

Vote, Roll Call: Motion to Ratify the Approved Maintenance and Custodian Contract is carried unanimously.

K. Administration Reports:

Principal's Report: (Approval Required) Geoff Zini

Program of Studies (Paul Bavuso, Academic Director)

Mr. Zini introduced M. Bavuso as the administrator presenting the Program of Studies to the Committee. The book had been forwarded to the Committee prior to the meeting for their review. He discussed the timeline and procedure of class selection and reviewed the opportunities in place that are used to help students choose classes and schedules that will help them get the most out of their time at Blue Hills. The committee asked questions about the rubric used and how things like add/drop worked for students wanting to change their schedules. All questions were answered succinctly.

Mr. Bavuso also pointed out to the Committee that the Committee names and roles had to be updated.

Motion to approve the Program of Studies and update the DSC contact

information: Kevin Connolly, Norwood

Second: Taryn Mohan, Holbrook

Discussion: None

Vote, Roll Call: The Program of Studies with updated DSC contact information was carried unanimously.

Outing Club: Overnight Field Trip

Mr. Zini brought a request from the Outing Club to the Committee. The Outing Club is seeking the Committee's permission to participate in an overnight event, camping at Ponkapoag Pond, made possible through the club's connection with the Appalachian Mountain Club. Participants will hike, set up and break down camp, prepare community meal, and engage in group activities that are designed to test skills and learn about the area's ecology.

Motion to approve the Outing Club Overnight Event: Fran Fistori, Avon

Second: Tom Polito, Dedham

Discussion: The committee asked a couple safety questions about swimming and possible problems in the cabins and camp area after dark. They were assured that the group will be safe and will not swim or be in the cabins.

Vote, Roll Call: Motion for the Outing Club to participate in the overnight camping trip was carried unanimously.

Business Manager's Report: Michelle Resendes

ESSER Breakdown

Ms. Resendes presented a review to the Committee about ESSER funds, specifically, the rules, use of and allocations of the same. She had provided a breakout sheet she had put together in the past to use for this as well as identifying purchases made in established COVID account lines. Mr. Polito, Dedham, stated that he wanted to see this because of a discussion he had with a family member and realized he was unable to say how the money was spent. He was reminded

that this was a review and that there are very well-defined rules in place about how this money is to be spent and that all purchases must be documented and fall into all strict parameters. She also stated that Blue Hills is in complete compliance. Mr. Polito asked why staff were on that line and had to be reminded that the staff brought in were hired to complete staffing requirements associated with COVID and that these positions were going away when the funding stopped. She was in fact protecting the school by being very careful about how these positions are filled and that the individuals hired are aware of the employment conditions (transparent).

Other members of the Committee reminded Tom that they are in fact notified of expenditures (Norwood, Avon, Holbrook, Canton, and Westwood). After a very robust debate, the Committee was reminded that the finance Committee has the opportunity to look at all the backup material for every check that is written. All members are welcome to send their questions about money spent/budget via email to Ms. Resendes. As always, she is happy to answer your questions. She further agreed to make the Committee aware of some of the larger expenditures to the Committee that would not normally be brought due to the expenditure not meeting specific dollar amounts.

L. Unfinished Business: None

M. New Business Topics: None

N. Executive Session: Yes

Motion to adjourn the open DSC meeting and move into Executive Session
made by Fran Fistori, Avon

Second: Kevin Connolly, Norwood

Vote: to adjourn regular DSC meeting and move into Executive Session is carried unanimously

O. Future Business:

The next DSC meeting is Tuesday, April 12, 2022 at 7:00 PM.

P. Adjournment: 8:34 (See N Above)

Minutes Prepared by:

**Pamela Donnellan, Administrative Secretary to the Superintendent-Director and
DSC Recording Secretary**

Minutes Approved By DSC on April 12, 2022