



Blue Hills Regional District School Committee
Fifty-Eighth District Committee

District School Committee Meeting
January 17, 2023
Approved Meeting Minutes

A. Pledge of Allegiance

B. Call to Order: Time: 7:15 PM

Members in Attendance:

Francis Fistori – Avon, Eric Erskine (Chair) – Braintree, Mark Driscoll – Canton, Taryn Mohan (Secretary) – Holbrook, Karen Graves – Randolph, Sheila Vazquez – Westwood, and Chuck Gisondi – DSC Treasurer

Members not in attendance: Kevin Connolly (Vice Chair) – Norwood, Clinton Graham – Milton, and Tom Polito - Dedham

Administration in attendance:

Jill Rossetti – Superintendent-Director, Michelle Resendes – Business Manager, Geoff Zini – Principal, Tom Cavanaugh – Dean of Students, Angelo Dimitriou – Special Services Director, Michelle Sylvia ; Vocational Director, and David Galego – Facilities Director

C. Public Comment: None

D. Public Comment: Treasurer’s Report and Warrant: Chuck Gisondi (Vote Required) Report:

Warrant #12 for \$111,001.45 Voucher Number: 1041 12/20/2022

Motion to Approve Warrant Number 12: Taryn Mohan, Holbrook

Second: Sheila Vazquez, Westwood

Discussion: None

Vote: Motion to approve Warrant Number 12 carries unanimously by those members in attendance

Warrant #13 for \$1,510,139.10 Voucher Numbers: 1042-1048

Motion to Approve Warrant Number 13: Taryn Mohan, Holbrook

Second: Sheila Vazquez, Westwood

Discussion: None

Vote: Motion to approve Warrant Number 12 carries unanimously by those members in attendance

E. DSC Student Representative Report: Christian Dedier

Christian Dedier provided a student sports and activity update. He reported that the both the girls and boy's basketball teams are finishing their respective teams strong, both heading to MIAA State Tournaments. The Swim team is currently 4/0 and all fall sports are ending their seasons strong. All have worked hard and have done very well. Christian then spoke about Spirit week and how happy students were that it went for 8 days to allow the Vocational students to participate. Trivia and Cookies was also fun and well attended. He closed his presentation talking about how rewarding it was for the students involved with visits to Royal House (elderly housing).

F. Attendance and Discipline Report: Tom Cavanaugh, Dean of Students

Mr. Cavanaugh began his report stating that the student body was overall a great group of students and that there are no real surprises when it comes to discipline. He stated that, as a rule, students remain in the classroom so that they continue to be in a learning environment and are placed in after school detention and Saturday detention for infractions. Students are generally only suspended for serious infractions, i.e. physical fights, etc. The numbers of office detention is higher for the Freshman class, Seniors continue to arrive late (tardy) more often than other grades (primarily because they drive to school). Mr. Cavanaugh answered a couple questions from the Committee about discipline and reasons why students may leave the school where he sighted a few reasons such as a student not getting into the vocational track they desired or that they move to a town outside the district.

G. Special Education; Mid-Year Report: Angelo Dimitriou, Director of Special Services

Mr. Dimitriou presented his report with the aid of a Slides presentation. He provided a copy of the same to the Committee prior to this meeting for their review. He proceeded to run through the different sections, offering the opportunity to ask questions as he moved on. He reviewed the percentages of BH students on IEPs and 504 plans compared to other schools in the district and State. Likewise, he reviewed student outcomes, trends, special education staffing, focus areas, and Contracted Support. BH Special Education students have the highest graduation rates amongst districts, the lowest dropout rates, and the highest rates of satisfaction as demonstrated in DESE Surveys.

H. Vocational Director: Michelle Sylvia, General Advisory Committee and Program Committee Chairs Report, Linda Wirta, Advisory Chair

Linda Wirta was introduced to the Committee. She then introduced the Advisory Committee Chairs that were in attendance and spoke a bit about what they are doing and reviewed new groups and their respective Chairs. She spoke about each of the Vocational units being represented and let the committee know that they meet and take minutes to ensure compliance. In conclusion, she spoke about the guest speakers they have had on Frameworks, lasting effects of COVID, and about how good and informative these speakers were. The Superintendent congratulated Ms. Wirta on the large turnout for the Advisory Committee meetings and expressed what a stellar job she was doing.

I. Superintendent's Report: Jill Rossetti

- COVID-19 Dashboard Update

The COVID numbers are trending upward. The Superintendent will continue to monitor.

- Field Lights Update

The initial phase has been completed and has been sent to the attorney. Once it comes back, the Superintendent will bring it to the Committee.

- Construction Technology Plywood Donation (approval requested)

The Superintendent is asking the Committee to accept a plywood donation for Construction Technology.

Motion to accept the plywood donation for Construction Technology: Mark Driscoll, Canton

Second: Taryn Mohan, Holbrook

Discussion: None

Vote: Motion to accept the plywood donation for Construction Technology carries unanimously by members in attendance

- Decommission Vocational Items (approval requested)

The Superintendent asked the Committee to decommission identified vocational items that have no value and have been replaced.

Motion to decommission identified vocational items: Mark Driscoll, Canton

Second: Taryn Mohan, Holbrook

Discussion: None

Vote: Motion to decommission identified items carries unanimously by members in attendance

- Miscellaneous

The Superintendent invited the Committee to attend the Adams Award Ceremony scheduled for February 1, 2023.

J. Minutes Approval: (Vote Required)

- December 13, 2022

Motion to approve the DSC Minutes for December 13, 2022: Sheila Vazquez, Westwood

Second: Mark Driscoll, Canton

Discussion: None

Vote: Vote to approve DSC December 13, 2022 Minutes carries unanimously by members in attendance

K. DSC Chair Report: Eric Erskine, Braintree

- **DSC Sub-Committee Assignments and Chairs for each:** update

DSC Assignments were reviewed, Chairs for each sub-committee were chosen, and an up-dated chart with assignments will be available at the next meeting

- **MASC Policy Update approval:** moved to February meeting

- **Update STC**

The Blue Hills STC partnership is currently on a short hiatus. There are currently no staff working. A new Director has been hired and will start on January 30, 2023. We are excited to restart the partnership and begin serving the students supported by this initiative. Once our new director is on board, we will schedule a meet and greet breakfast offering an opportunity to meet the Director and talk about the remainder of this year. The Director will spend the first week reaching out to schools and vendors.

The Superintendent asked the Committee to consider dissolving the STC Advisory Board. The Chair then asked for a Motion.

Motion to dissolve the STC Advisory Board: Taryn Mohan, Holbrook

Second: Karen Graves, Randolph

Discussion: None

Vote: Motion to dissolve the STC Advisory Board carries unanimously by the members in attendance.

- Custodians Integrated Contract (signature required)
Contract signed

L. DSC Sub-Committee Reports:

- Personnel and Negotiation Sub-Committee

The sub-committee met and discussed changing the title of the current title of “Dean of Student” to “Assistant Principal” for the next school year. This position will be a 210/day contract and be in line with the Principal.

Motion to approve this change: Mark Driscoll, Canton

Second: Taryn Mohan, Holbrook

Discussion: None

Vote: Motion to approve change carries unanimously by those in attendance.

M. Administration Reports:

1. Principal’s Report: Geoff Zini

- N/A

2. Business Manager Report: Michelle Resendes

- Q2 Report

Prior to this meeting, a copy of this report was sent to the Committee for review. Ms. Resendes proceeded to review the details and line items. There are no surprises. She spent time reviewing line series and how money is captured and spent in each. She reviewed expenses and then moved on to salary lines.

After a short discussion, Ms. Resendes asked the Committee to approve a series line item transfer as noted on report. Specifically, to decrease Retiree Insurance by \$65,000. And Increase Salary Budget \$65,000.

Motion to approve transfer of funds: Taryn Mohan, Holbrook

Second: Sheila Vazquez, Westwood

Discussion: None

Vote: Motion for transfer of funds carries unanimously by members in attendance

- Preliminary Budget

Ms. Resendes spent time reviewing the Preliminary budget with the Committee. She outlined the budget goals and discussed how they align with the Strategic Plan. She spoke about inflation, increase in utilities and how best to plan for these things. She then reviewed the budget timeline. Ms. Resendes then asked the Committee to approve the Preliminary Budget.

Motion to approve the Preliminary Budget: Sheila Vazquez, Westwood

Second: Taryn Mohan, Holbrook

Discussion: None

Vote: Motion to approve Preliminary Budget carries unanimously by members in attendance

N. Unfinished Business: N/A

O. New Business Topics: A outside fundraiser was offered by a previous DSC Representative from Holbrook. If people were interested, they could participate.

P. Executive Session: N/A

Q. Future Business:

The next DSC meeting is Tuesday, February 7, 2023 at 7:00 PM.

R. Adjournment: Time:

(Vote Required)

Motion to Adjourn: Taryn Mohan, Holbrook

Second: Sheila Vazquez, Westwood

Discussion: None

Vote: Motion to adjourn carries unanimously

Minutes Prepared by Pamela Donnellan, Administrative Secretary to the Superintendent and
DSC Recording Secretary

Minutes Approved By the DSC: February 7, 2023