



Blue Hills Regional District School Committee
Fifty-Ninth District Committee

District School Committee Meeting
October 17, 2023
Meeting Minutes

A. Pledge of Allegiance

B. Call to Order: Time: 7:02 PM

Roll Call:

Members in attendance:

Fran Fistori – Avon, Eric Erskine – Braintree, Mark Driscoll (Vice Chair) – Canton, Taryn Mohan (Secretary) – Holbrook, Clinton Graham – Milton, Kevin Connolly (Chair) – Norwood, Karen Graves – Randolph, Chuck Gisondi – DSC Treasurer

Members not in attendance:

Thomas Poilito – Dedham, and Sheila Vazquez – Westwood

Administration in attendance: Jill Rossetti – Superintendent-Director, Jill Brillhante – Business Manager, Geoff Zini – Principal, Paul Bavuso – Academic Director, Stephanie Albernez – Admissions Director

C. Public Comment: None

D. Treasurer’s Report and Warrant: Chuck Gisondi

Vote Required for Bond Issuance.

Mr. Gisondi outlined the Bond Issuance that needed to be voted on. This will be the last one necessary as the renovation project and financial documents/agreements will be completed.

Motion to approve Bond Issuance as written: Taryn Mohan, Holbrook

Second: Mark Driscoll, Canton

Discussion: None

Vote: Motion to approve bond issuance carries unanimously by those members in attendance.

Vote Required for the following Warrants:

Warrant # 5 for \$ 159,922.95

Voucher numbers: 1016-1018

Warrant # 6 for \$ 1,561,747.23

Voucher numbers: 1019-1024

Warrant # 7 for \$ 1,245.90

Voucher number: 1025

Motion to approve Warrant numbers 5, 6, and 7: Taryn Mohan, Holbrook

Second: Eric Erskine, Braintree

Discussion: None

Vote: Motion to approve Warrants 5, 6, and 7 carries unanimously by those members in attendance.

E. Minutes Approval: (Vote is Required)
September 19, 2023

Motion to approve DSC meeting minutes for September 19, 2023: Eric Erskine, Braintree

Second: Taryn Mohan, Holbrook

Discussion: None

Vote: Motion to approve September 2023 meeting minutes carries unanimously by those members in attendance.

F. Senior Class Trip for 24-25: Katie Lovell (Approval Required)
Venice Italy

Nicole Flynn presented an outline of the Senior Trip for April 2025 to Venice, Italy. The trip will take place for nine days over April 2025 break. She discussed the trip itinerary, air fare, total cost and fundraising. After a short Q & A session, Nicole asked the committee to approve the trip.

Motion to approve the SY 2025 Senior Trip to Venice, Italy: Eric Erskine, Braintree

Second: Mark Driscoll, Canton

Discussion: None

Vote: Motion to approve Senior 2025 trip to Venice carries unanimously by those members in attendance

G. Admissions Report: Stephanie Albernaz, Director of Admissions/Financial Aid

- High School Enrollment Report

Ms. Albernaz presented and reviewed a chart she prepared to compare admissions to previous years and to demonstrate that the school is growing in all district towns. She let the committee know that BH students are also attending college and have reported favorably to their experience at the school. One of the committee members asked her why a student dropped out of school. Ms. Albernaz was unsure of the exact reason but explained it could have been for any one of several reasons. One most often cited is the student moving out of the area. She did indicate that there are supports in place that are always used to help students remain in school

H. Spring MCAS & Accountability Report: Paul Bavuso, Academic Director

- Spring MCAS & Accountability Report

Mr. Bavuso sent this report to the committee prior to this meeting so everyone would have had time to review it. He went over the data and explained how the direction of the numbers told the story. Blue Hills has done very well over the past few years and the supports that have been put in place have been working for our students. A copy of this presentation is attached.

I. Superintendent's Report: Jill Rossetti, Superintendent-Director

- Superintendent-Director Goals

Ms. Rossetti reviewed her goals for this school year to the committee. They were also sent to the same prior to the meeting to allow members to review the planned goals and to have any questions answered. She also spent time explaining how these goals can be measured and how they tie into the school's Strategic Plan and core values.

Motion to approve Goals for the Superintendent-Director: Clinton Graham, Milton

Second: Taryn Mohan, Holbrook

Discussion: None

Vote: Motion to approve Superintendent's goals is carried unanimously by those members in attendance.

- Superintendent-Director's Student Cabinet

The Superintendent explained her vision of a Student Cabinet, the role students would have as part of this initiative and meeting schedules and the application process. It is an opportunity for students to be part of planning on all levels to help pave the direction Blue Hills Regional moves going forward.

- Therapy Dog Update

Ms. Rossetti explained to the Committee that its therapy dog has been diagnosed with a very aggressive carcinoma and had to be retired effective immediately. This is a difficult announcement considering Enzo just turned three years old. It has been a difficult week given that the school community is very attached to Enzo.

- Donations for Construction Tech and Computer Tech, (Approval Required)

Motion to approve donations for Construction Tech and Computer Tech as outlined: Mark Driscoll, Canton

Second: Taryn Mohan, Holbrook

Discussion: None

Vote: Motion to approve construction donation carries unanimously by those members in attendance.

- Out of State trip to Florida (STC) Navy Trip for Educators (Approval Required)

Ms. Rossetti reviewed the plan to have the STC Coordinator attend a training in Florida sponsored and paid for by the Navy. She reviewed the training outline and objectives and feels that this is a wonderful opportunity.

Motion to approve the out of state trip for the STC Facilitator: Clinton Graham, Milton

Second: Mark Driscoll, Canton

Discussion: None

Vote: Motion to approve the STC Coordinator's attendance at the Navel trip for Educators in Florida carries unanimously by those members in attendance

J. DSC Chair Report: Kevin Connolly, Norwood

- Materials for the joint conference are in your meeting folders. Please take them with you.

K. DSC Sub-Committee Reports:

- Personnel and Negotiations Sub-Committee: Eric Erskine, Braintree

Mr. Erskine updated the committee on the first Negotiations meeting of this year. He stated that ground rules were established and the first 4 sessions for the teacher's union have been scheduled.

On a different topic, Mr. Erskine also stated that the Advisory Board Meeting was a success all around and that the food (BBQ) was the best he ever had at the school. He encouraged members to be involved.

L. Administration Reports:

1. Principal's Report: Geoff Zini

- Spirit Week, Homecoming Game

The week was a total success from Spirit Week events through the Homecoming game and Dance. This year the dance was only for BH students. They sold over 350 tickets.

Ariana Gonzalez is the new Student Representative for this school year. She introduced herself and gave a brief report on sports and the upcoming Homecoming game and dance. She actually was introduced at the beginning of this meeting and presented at that time.

- Tiered Focused Monitoring (TFM)

This is a site visit that happens every three years. It is time consuming but provides valuable feedback to the school. This year's visit will happen the week of November 27, 2023. Feedback will be provided to the committee at the December meeting.

- Parent/Student Handbook Amendment

Mr. Zini explained that there have been 3 changes to the Parent Student Handbook to clarify and use the same language in both the handbook and policy documents. This was to ensure that everyone receives the same information. After a short Q & A session, Mr. Zini asked that the stated changes to the handbook be approved by the committee.

Motion to approve changes to the Parent Student Handbook as written: Clinton Graham, Milton

Second: Eric Erskine, Braintree

Discussion: None

Vote: Motion to approve changes (Language) to the Parent Student Handbook Carries unanimously by those members in attendance

2. Business Manager Report: Jill Brilhante

- FY 23 EOY Balances and Revolving Funds (Vote Required)

Moved to the November meeting

- Scholarship: W. Ledgetter Jr. (Approval Requested)

Moved to the November meeting

- Calendar of FY25, Budget Preparation Meeting (Vote Required)

Moved to the November meeting

M. Unfinished Business: None

N. New Business Topics: None

O. Executive Session: No

P. Future Business:

The next DSC meeting is Tuesday, November 21, 2023

Q. Adjournment: (Vote Required) **8:05 PM**

Motion to Adjourn: Clinton Graham, Milton

Second: Taryn Mohan, Holbrook

Discussion: None

Vote: Motion to adjourn carries unanimously by those members in attendance.

Minutes Approved by the DSC on: November 21, 2023

Prepared By: Pamela Donnellan, Administrative Secretary to the Superintendent-Director and
Recording Secretary for the DSC