



Blue Hills Regional District School Committee
Fifty-Ninth District Committee

**District School Committee Meeting
December 19, 2023
Draft Meeting Minutes**

A. Pledge of Allegiance

B. Call to Order: Time: 7:00 PM

Members in Attendance: Eric Erskine – Braintree, Mark Driscoll (Vice Chair) – Canton, Tom Polito – Dedham, Taryn Mohan (Secretary) – Holbrook, Kevin Connolly (Chair) – Norwood, Sheila Vazquez – Westwood, and Chuck Gisondi – DSC Treasurer

Members not in Attendance: Clinton Graham – Milton and Karen Graves – Randolph

Administration in Attendance: Jill Rossetti – Superintendent-Director, Jill Brilhante – Business Manager, and David Galego, Facilities Director

C. Public Comment: None

D. Student Representative Report: Arianis Gonzalez

Arianis provided a short presentation that began with reporting the football team had a wonderful season culminating in their winning the championship. (vocational league) The swim team has started their season strong and are doing great. She then spoke about Spirit Week; stating it was enjoyed by all and was great fun.

Arianis then wished the committee and audience happy holidays and New Year. On her way out, she walked around the room wishing everyone well individually with a smile and handshake.

E. Treasurer's Report and Warrant: Chuck Gisondi

Mr. Gisondi explained that Steve Moore's term on the Retirement Board is over and he would like the Committee to reinstate him (Steve Moore) to the Retirement System Board.

Motion to reappoint Steve Moore onto the BH Retirement System Board: Tom Polito, Dedham

Second: Eric Erskine, Braintree

Discussion: None

Vote: Motion to reappoint Steve Moore onto the BH Retirement System Board carries unanimously by those members in attendance.

Vote Required for the following Warrants:

Warrant # 10 for \$ 818,920.24 Voucher numbers 1035 - 1036

Warrant # 11 for \$1,007,359.25 Voucher numbers 1037 – 1040

Motion to approve Warrants 10 and 11: Taryn Mohan, Holbrook

Second: Tom Polito, Dedham

Discussion: None

Vote: Vote to approve Warrant numbers 10 and 11 carry unanimously by those members in attendance

F. Minutes Approval: (Vote is Required)

November 21, 2023

Motion to approve the November 21, meeting minutes: Mark Driscoll, Canton

Second: Tom Polito, Dedham

Discussion: None

Vote: Motion to approve the November 21, 2023 meeting minutes carries unanimously by those members in attendance.

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

- Superintendent-Director's Student Cabinet

The Superintendent let the Committee know that the SDSC (Superintendent-Director Student Cabinet) has been established and has had its first meeting. The Superintendent invited 4 students from grades 10, 11, and 12 (total 12); as well as trying to select from the various vocational programs at the school. The Superintendent announced the participants and reported that the first meeting went very well. The students demonstrated their enthusiasm through the ideas they brought to the table and their vision of what they would like to see and work on.

- Chronic Absenteeism: The Superintendent explained why Blue Hills has been identified as a school (area) with high absenteeism. The study's overall criteria pulled BH into the fold, but she explained how this determination was made and the actual data supporting the conclusion that Blue Hills is in good shape.

H. DSC Chair Report: Kevin Connolly, Norwood

- DSC meetings scheduled for February 20th and April 16th fall on school vacation weeks and must be rescheduled.

The Full Committee chose the following dates:

- for February 2024: February 27, 2024

- for April 2024: Committee will wait until March to reschedule the April 2024 meeting.

- The Chair announced that a Policies Sub-Committee needs to be scheduled for February 2024

I. DSC Sub-Committee Reports:

- **Personnel and Negotiations Sub-Committee:** Tom Polito, Dedham

Going into Executive Session

- **Curriculum Sub-Committee:** The next Curriculum Sub-Committee is scheduled for January 16th at 4:30 PM (just prior to the DSC meeting). It will be in the Chateau. A light dinner of salad and sandwiches will be served. The Advisory Board Chair will report on their programs.

J. Administration Reports:

1. Principal's Report: Geoff Zini

- Progress Report on both the BH School Improvement Plan and Strategy Plan

The Principal provided an overview of what is being addressed to date this year with both the School Improvement and Strategy Plans. He explained how the work being done this year utilizes concepts outlined in the 4 Pillars. Data is gathered based on this year's annual plan, i.e. "What does a BH Graduate look like?" Initiatives explored include "Student of the Month", Entrepreneur Week, etc. The Principal then opened a short Q and A session where he proceeded to answer the Committee member's questions.

2. Business Manager Report: Jill Brilhante

- No Report

K. Unfinished Business: None

L. New Business Topics: Group Picture will be taken during the January 2024 meeting

M. Executive Session: yes

The District School Committee may vote to go into executive session pursuant to M.G.L. ch. 30A, section 21 (a)(3) which permits a public body to go into executive session to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigation position of the public body and the chair declares.

N. Future Business:

The next DSC meeting is Tuesday, January 16, 2024

O. Adjournment: 7:30 PM

Motion to adjourn from the General Meeting and move into Executive Session: Tom Polito, Dedham

Second: Mark Driscoll, Canton

Discussion: None

Vote: Vote to end the General meeting, move into Executive Session, and then back to General Meeting for sole purpose to adjourn.

Roll Call: The following towns participated in Roll Call with a "Yes" vote: Braintree, Canton, Dedham, Holbrook, Milton, Norwood, and Westwood.

Minutes Prepared by: Pamela Donnellan, Administrative Secretary to the Superintendent

Minutes Approved by DSC on: January 16, 2024