

Minutes of School Committee Meeting 10/05/2017

A regular meeting of the Barrington School Committee was held on Thursday, October 5, 2017 in the School Committee Room. School Committee Chair Ms. Kate Brody called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Present were Ms. Brody, Ms. Clancy, Mr. Alessandro, Dr. Douglas, Ms. Pine, Mr. Sarli, Mr. Messore, Dr. Dillon, Mr. Fiore and Skip Learned.

Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. John Alessandro led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Achievement Recognition

Mr. Messore announced the following achievements across the District:

Barrington Public Schools faculty and students supported victims of Hurricanes Harvey and Irma by sending handmade inspirational cards, adopting a classroom, and hosting Country and Western Spirit Day at Nayatt School and Hurricane Harvey Relief Dinner and Silent Auction at Barrington High School.

Hampden Meadows School students Mariela Alchuler, Kendal Bazerman and Charlotte Tisdale, guided by Assistant Principal Gino Sangiuliano published the first 2017-2018 issue of HMS Muses Newspaper.

Barrington High School Freshman Meera Mennillo has been selected Musical Theatre International's Student of the Month, October 2017 for her participation in last year's production of *Legally Blonde*.

Barrington High School students, Ryan Brady, Jane Freiman, Allyson Grant, Eliot Laidlaw, Michael Lamontagne and Clara McBride are semifinalists in the 2018 National Merit Scholarship Competition.

Governor Gina Raimondo visited Barrington High School Computer Science Lab on her 1000th-day tour. The Computer Science Lab is part of the Computer Science 4 Rhode Island (CS4RI) Initiative to expand computer science education in K-12 schools.

Barrington Middle School Reading Specialist Brian Fernandes received his doctorate in Educational Leadership from the School of Education at Northeastern University in September, 2017.

Dr. Paula Dillon was appointed to the Technical Working Group (TWG) for ISTE Standards for Administrators on connected learning for 2017-2018.

BPS Spotlight on Teaching and Learning

Dr. Anderson and Dr. Dillion gave a presentation regarding the Barrington Middle School (BMS) Lighthouse Schools Grant for Deeper Learning/Project Based Learning/Experiential Learning and the ongoing work at BMS in personalized learning, including coaching and support for

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teachers. They also updated the Committee regarding their work to build new partnerships with Northeastern University, Highlander Institute, and New Tech.

Information and Proposals

Mr. Finn provided an update on the Athletics and Student Activities 2017-2018 Action Plan, including work on the mission statement for these activities, the establishment of goals and objectives, a review of the functions of administration, staff, coaches, students and parents in order to connect and work more efficiently, and the creation of a more effective flow of information through the use of Google email, websites and social media. He reported that the Athletic Council includes 8 student-athletes. Areas of focus for this group include a review of the philosophy, policy and procedures regarding athletics, the promotion of a positive image for athletes and athletics on campus including a sense of community, support for athletes' transition from Middle School to High School, and empowerment of student athletes to advocate for themselves.

Mrs. Chase Kazounis of 3 Fairview Circle, parent and member of the Athletic Council emphasized the importance of student-athlete participation on the Council.

A discussion ensued on the balance between academic and athletic demands on students, the possibility of administering a survey to student-athletes regarding their experiences, and a timeline for further work of the Council including deliverables. Mr. Finn stated that the work is ongoing and that he is working with Dr. Dillion to enhance communication through the use of social media platforms. The School Committee requested a reading of the updated athletics' mission statement at this time. It was noted that there were no substantive changes.

Ms. Brody requested that there be a change in the order of an agenda item under "School Committee, New Business" to address a field trip request at this time.

Mr. Hurley presented the Barrington High School Music Department's field trip approval request for its annual trip to New York City on January 22, 2018.

Ms. Clancy moved, and Mr. Alessandro seconded to approve the Barrington High School Music Department field trip to New York City. The motion passed 5-0 with Ms. Brody, Ms. Clancy, Mr. Alessandro, Dr. Douglas and Ms. Pine voting in the affirmative.

Mr. Messore reported that Barrington Public Schools field trip policy requires School Committee approval when a trip involves more than 400 miles of travel. Although the round trip to New York City is slightly under 400 miles, New York City is a metropolitan area and he felt endorsement from the Committee was warranted. A brief discussion ensued on security procedures for field trips.

Ms. Clancy, Mr. Messore and Mr. Larry Trim of Kaestle Boos Associates, Inc. (KBA) provided an update on the Barrington Middle School (BMS) building project. Topics included an updated timeline, work of the Building Committee with other Town committees, phasing plan schedules, and a detailed overview of the site with exterior and interior plans. Ms. Clancy reported that an

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estimate is forthcoming and that the project website will be updated to include additional Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs). A discussion ensued. The next Building Committee meeting will be held on October 16th at 7:00 p.m. in the Barrington Middle School Library.

Dr. Dillon provided an update on Rhode Island Comprehensive Assessment System (RICAS) which will replace the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) for students in Grades 3-8 and which will be administered in Spring, 2018. She stated that the total test time will be shorter than that of PARCC, and that relevant RICAS information developed by Rhode Island Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (RIDE) will be shared with parents and families. A discussion ensued on ELA window, test times, and distribution of RIDE FAQs to parents.

Mr. Messore, Mr. Fiore and Mr. Learned reported on the Rhode Island Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (RIDE) 2017 Schoolhouse Report, a statewide facilities assessment and capacity analysis designed to assist districts in identifying and developing facility priorities. This included a synopsis of areas the Administration is working to clarify and update with RIDE. Data from the Schoolhouse Report will be integrated into the District's next Master Facilities Plan. Mr. Messore assured the Committee that identified deficiencies do not compromise delivery of the educational curricula. A discussion ensued regarding priorities for the next year including a capacity analysis of Hampden Meadows School, Nayatt School, Primrose Hill and Sowams School.

Public Comment

There was no public comment at this time.

Old Business

Superintendent and Staff

Mr. Messore provided an update on the search for Barrington Middle School World Languages educators. He discussed a possible re-structuring of the program for the next school year. A further update will be provided at the next School Committee meeting on October 19th.

Mr. Messore reported on the Strategic Planning Process, including a synopsis of the October 4th Strategic Plan Steering Committee meeting, Studer Education's Parent Satisfaction and Employee Engagement surveys, and October 4th and 5th focus groups. A discussion ensued regarding participation in the surveys and focus groups by students, staff, parents and community members. The next Strategic Plan Steering Committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 18th.

Mr. Messore provided a Transportation Update, including the impact of multiple municipal paving and construction projects on the transportation schedule, challenges to some pickup times, and work being done to capture bus route efficiencies. A discussion ensued on early pickups, bus routes, monitors, traffic on Middle Highway, sidewalks near schools, and communication. Mr. Messore stated that existing bus rosters will be updated and a review of the traffic issue at the Middle School will be conducted.

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School Committee

No old business from the School Committee was presented at this time.

New Business

Student Representative to the School Committee Update

Mr. Sarli provided the Student Representative report.

- Senior Project work is on schedule.
- The Barrington High School Open House and launch of the iCreate lab were a success.
- Governor Gina Raimondo visited the BHS Computer Science lab and technology classes and the Sunrise Show did a "Walk and Talk" interview with the Governor.
- There will be a dinner and silent auction held at the High School on October 12th to raise funds to benefit victims of Hurricane Harvey.
- The Homecoming Court has been selected.
- Mr. Sarli has appeared on the Sunrise Show to provide students an update on the School Committee's work.

Superintendent and Staff

Personnel

Appointments

Mr. Messore deferred the appointment of a Response to Intervention Chair for Hampden Meadows School.

Mr. Messore recommended the appointment of Ms. Judith LaCross as Response to Intervention Chair, Primrose Hill School.

Ms. Clancy moved and Mr. Alessandro seconded approval of the recommendation of the Superintendent relative to the appointment of Ms. Judith LaCross, Response to Intervention Chair, Primrose Hill School. The motion passed 5-0 with Ms. Brody, Ms. Clancy, Mr. Alessandro, Dr. Douglas and Ms. Pine voting in the affirmative.

Ms. Clancy moved and Mr. Alessandro seconded approval of the Leave of Absence for Ms. Tracy Miller, Social Studies, Barrington High School. The motion passed 5-0 with Ms. Brody, Ms. Clancy, Mr. Alessandro, Dr. Douglas and Ms. Pine voting in the affirmative.

Mr. Fiore provided a review of Monthly Expenditures for August, 2017 in the amount of \$2,076,559.66. He stated that overages in salary accounts are based on student needs not accounted for in the original budget. The Administration will continue to monitor these expenses.

Ms. Clancy moved and Mr. Alessandro seconded approval of monthly expenditures for August, 2017 in the amount of \$2,076,559.66. The motion passed 5-0 with Ms. Brody, Ms. Clancy, Mr. Alessandro, Dr. Douglas and Ms. Pine voting in the affirmative.

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Mr. Messore reported that a 2001 Dodge RMW van which had been donated to the schools is no longer serviceable, and recommended that it be disposed of. He stated that there are no plans to replace this van at this time.

Ms. Clancy moved, and Mr. Alessandro seconded approval of the disposal of an obsolete fixed asset, a 2001 Dodge RMW Van. The motion passed 5-0 with Ms. Brody, Ms. Clancy, Mr. Alessandro, Dr. Douglas and Ms. Pine voting in the affirmative.

There was a brief discussion regarding the Administration's plan to utilize the transportation company to provide transportation previously provided by this van.

Ms. Clancy moved and Mr. Alessandro seconded approval of the requests for Home Schooling for the 2017-2018 school year as presented. The motion passed 5-0 with Ms. Brody, Ms. Clancy, Mr. Alessandro, Dr. Douglas and Ms. Pine voting in the affirmative.

Mr. Messore reported that, working with Chartwells Food Service, Barrington Public Schools has received a grant from Rhode Island Department of Education (RIDE) to enhance school breakfast programs with the purchase of single door refrigerators for Nayatt School, Primrose Hill School and Sowams School. Two bids were received for the purchase of this equipment, and it is the recommendation of the Administration to award the bid to Douglas Equipment, the lowest, qualified, evaluated bidder, in an amount not to exceed \$5,002.77.

Ms. Clancy moved, and Mr. Alessandro seconded approval of the recommendation of the Superintendent to award the bid to Douglas Equipment, Bluefield, WV, as the lowest, qualified, evaluated bidder, for single door refrigerators at Nayatt School, Primrose Hill School and Sowams School, for an annual amount not to exceed \$5,002.77. The motion passed 5-0 with Ms. Brody, Ms. Clancy, Mr. Alessandro, Dr. Douglas and Ms. Pine voting in the affirmative.

School Committee

Dr. Douglas reported on the September 21st Budget Forecasting Committee meeting including a synopsis of a presentation by Mr. Frank J. Karpinski, Executive Director, Employees' Retirement System of Rhode Island. A brief discussion ensued on Mr. Karpinski's findings. The next Budget Forecasting Committee meeting is on October 26th.

Mr. Alessandro provided an update on the Health and Wellness Committee meeting held at the Barrington Middle School on October 4th. The meeting was well attended. During this meeting the Committee reviewed the K-12 health curriculum. Mr. Alessandro noted upcoming flu clinics and the Rhode Island Healthy School Coalition (RIHSC) Breakfast scheduled for October 13th. Dr. Rudd will be presenting on policies and practices. Dr. Douglas reported that the High School has two representatives on the Committee who provide valuable input. She is hopeful that Middle School students will become involved as well. Dr. Douglas also noted that she is hopeful regarding the addition of a discussion re healthy sleep habits to the curriculum. Dr. Dillon stated there will be additional school participation at the meetings, thanks to the newly-appointed school liaisons. A brief discussion ensued on RIHSC Breakfast attendance.

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Mr. Messore presented Athletic Director George Finn's recommendation to approve a Barrington High School Gender Equality and Awareness Club based on an interest group that is self-funded, demonstrates organization and has a Constitution. He stated that in order to gain an advisor, the organization must be recognized as a club.

Ms. Clancy moved, and Mr. Alessandro seconded approval of the Barrington High School Gender Equality and Awareness Club. The motion passed 5-0 with Ms. Brody, Ms. Clancy, Mr. Alessandro, Dr. Douglas and Ms. Pine voting in the affirmative.

Mr. Messore presented Mr. Finn's recommendation to approve the Barrington High School Allied Medical Professionals Club for those students interested in the healthcare professions with the objective to become leaders in our global health community through education, collaboration and experience.

Ms. Clancy moved and Mr. Alessandro seconded approval of the Barrington High School Allied Medical Professionals Club. The motion passed 5-0 with Ms. Brody, Ms. Clancy, Mr. Alessandro, Dr. Douglas and Ms. Pine voting in the affirmative.

Ms. Brody stated for the record the discrepancy between the agenda item "Barrington High School Allied Health Professionals Club" and the Constitution which reflects "Barrington High School Allied Medical Professionals Club".

Ms. Brody proposed a minor revision to the School Committee meeting agenda template to move the second Public Comment opportunity to just after School Committee New Business. She stated that this change affords the Committee the opportunity to consider public comments when discussing future agenda items.

Ms. Clancy moved and Mr. Alessandro seconded approval of a revision of the School Committee Agenda template as presented. The motion passed 5-0 with Ms. Brody, Ms. Clancy, Mr. Alessandro, Dr. Douglas and Ms. Pine voting in the affirmative.

Decision Items

Ms. Clancy moved and Mr. Alessandro seconded approval of the Consent Agenda. The motion passed 5-0 with Ms. Brody, Ms. Clancy, Mr. Alessandro, Dr. Douglas and Ms. Pine voting in the affirmative.

Discussion Items

Mr. Messore reported that the next School Committee meeting on October 19th will include an update regarding Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) results and 2017-2018 Student Achievement Priorities for Gap Closure. He stated that he will contact Mr. Finn regarding an appropriate date for an Athletics and Student Activities 2017-2018

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Update. Ms. Miller will send School Committee meeting invites to Committee members for upcoming meetings through December 14th.

Announcements

Mr. Messore announced the Hurricane Harvey Relief Dinner on October 12 at Barrington High School.

Public Comment

Mr. Tom Rimoshytus of 1 Howard Street, expressed his concern regarding student safety at the new Barrington Middle School. He also expressed his concern regarding the School Committee's request for a timeline of deliverables from Athletic Advisory Committee.

Ms. Clancy moved and Mr. Alessandro seconded adjournment of the regular meeting at 10:13 p.m. The motion passed 5-0 with Ms. Brody, Ms. Clancy, Mr. Alessandro, Dr. Douglas and Ms. Pine voting in the affirmative.