

**SCHOOL COMMITTEE
BARRINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BARRINGTON, RHODE ISLAND**

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Minutes of School Committee Meeting 01/04/12

A regular meeting of the Barrington School Committee was held on Wednesday, January 4, 2012 at the Administration Office. Mr. Guida called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Present were Mr. Guida, Mr. Fuller, Dr. Shea, Mrs. Brody, Mr. Ramsden, Ms. Teitz, Dr. McIntyre, Mr. Tarro and Mr. Messore.

Pledge of Allegiance

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

Achievement Recognition

Dr. McIntyre was pleased to report that Stephen Lamontagne, a senior, was chosen as one of ten students across the country to compete for \$10,000 in the 2012 national "Who Wants to Be a Mathematician" contest. The competition is sponsored by Texas Instrument, Maplesoft, John Wiley & Sons and the American Mathematical Society (AMS). Stephen will be competing on January 6th at the Hynes Convention Center in Boston. He noted that Stephen won \$3,000 last year at the same competition.

Dr. McIntyre noted that the National Field Hockey Coaches Association selected all-Region, All-American and All-Academic teams. He congratulated the following players for their selection to these teams: Taylor Rideout was selected to the 2011 Harrow Sports/NFHCA High School All-American 3rd Team; Taylor Rideout and Kelly Dolan were selected to the 2011 Harrow Sports/NFHCA High School All-Region Team. In addition, several seniors were elected to the 2011 Harrow Sports/NFHCA High School All-Academic team, but they have not been officially announced yet.

Dr. McIntyre commended Sowams School for being awarded the Healthier US School Challenge Bronze Award. This is a recognition award for schools that have demonstrated a commitment to excellence in both nutrition and physical education to promote a healthier school environment for children. It is a wonderful accomplishment for the Food Service Department, the students, the school district and the state of Rhode Island.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Fuller moved and Mrs. Brody seconded to approve the minutes of the 12/01/11 regular School Committee meeting as presented. The motion passed 5-0.

Mr. Fuller moved and Mrs. Brody seconded to approve all three minutes of the Executive Session meeting of 12/01/11 as presented. The motion passed 5-0. It was noted that the minutes were sealed and that one vote was taken in one of those meetings and recorded out in the Open Session portion of the meeting.

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Mr. Fuller moved and Mrs. Brody seconded to approve the minutes of the 12/15/11 regular School Committee meeting as presented. The motion passed 5-0.

Mr. Fuller moved and Mrs. Brody seconded to approve the minutes of the Executive Session meeting of 12/15/11 as presented. The motion passed 5-0. It was noted that the minutes were sealed and that no votes were taken.

Approval of Financials

No financials were available for approval this evening.

Information and Proposals

Mr. Guida noted that tonight was the annual budget input meeting at which time building administrators addressed their budget requests for the 2012-2013 year. They highlighted additional staffing/programs and any reduction or deletion of programs with the focus on delivering quality instruction to all the students in the District. It should be noted that the addition of a math coach/specialist at each building was a high priority request. Building administrators included their rationale for their requests. A power point presentation was used as the basis of their presentations. Much discussion took place regarding their requests with input from the Committee regarding their support of certain requests.

Mr. Michael Messor presented an overview of the feasibility of implementing a full day kindergarten program and included a cost analysis to implement this program. A power point presentation was used as the basis of his presentation which included an historical overview of national and statewide full day kindergarten programs. Questions were asked by the Committee regarding various aspects of this issue.

General Public Discussion and Information

No issues were raised at this time.

Old Business from Superintendent and Staff

A brief discussion took place regarding the budget. Dr. McIntyre encouraged the Committee to provide administration with feedback with respect to prioritization of the budget requests. Mr. Tarro noted to keep in mind that there are two line items in the budget that will increase significantly: 1) pension increase of \$400,000 and 2) medical insurance increase of over \$400,000).

It was noted with regard to the Middle School facilities project, that the Stage II Application has been sent to RIDE. A brief synopsis of the next steps in the process took place.

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Dr. McIntyre updated the Committee on the status of the Superintendent Search and noted the scheduled focus group meetings for the purpose of receiving stakeholders' input in developing a superintendent profile. Much discussion centered on ways to communicate to the public the importance of their input via attending focus group meetings and/or responding to the online survey.

A brief discussion regarding the strategic plan took place. It was noted that the bid opening for Consultant Services for the Development of a District Strategic Plan is due the end of January and the proposals would be sent to the Committee for them to evaluate and then discuss recommended next steps in the process. Mrs. Brody provided the Committee and administration with copies of a book entitled Stakeholder-Driven Strategic Planning in Education that she thought would be helpful with the strategic planning process.

Old Business from School Committee

Two School Committee policies that were amended following suggestions made by the Committee at the last meeting were presented for a second reading and formal approval this evening as amended.

Mr. Fuller moved and Dr. Shea seconded to waive the requirement for a 2nd reading of School Committee Policy EEAC – School Bus No Idling Policy as no edits, additions or deletions were necessary this evening. The motion passed 5-0.

Mr. Fuller moved and Dr. Shea seconded to waive the requirement for a 2nd reading of School Committee Policy EBD– Tools for Schools as no edits, additions or deletions were necessary this evening. The motion passed 5-0.

New Business from Superintendent and Staff

Mr. Fuller moved and Mrs. Brody seconded to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent with respect to the request for a leave of absence for Paula Morrissette, HS, Math. The motion passed 5-0.

Mr. Fuller moved and Dr. Shea seconded to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent with respect to the request for a leave of absence for Erika Koohy, MS, Special Education. The motion passed 5-0.

Mr. Fuller moved and Dr. Shea seconded to accept with deep regret the retirement of Sandra Whittaker, Administration Assistant to the Superintendent. The motion passed 5-0.

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Following Mr. Tarro's comments with respect to the June 30, 2011 Audit Report:

Mr. Fuller moved and Dr. Shea seconded to accept the Audit Report for June 30, 2011. The motion passed 5-0.

New Business from School Committee

Following administration highlighting the changes in the three year Barrington Educational Support Team (BEST) contract :

Mr. Fuller moved and Dr. Shea seconded to ratify the BEST contract as presented this evening. The motion passed 5-0.

It should be noted that a Memo of Agreement was signed by BEST that they would open discussion to find cost savings should fiscal issues arise that may have a negative impact on delivery of maintaining services to students. Mr. Guida requested administration thank the BEST members for engaging in a positive and constructive contract negotiation process.

Discussion Future Agenda Items

Administration did not feel there was a need to hire a Resource Officer in response to a question from a member of the School Committee.

Future agenda items include 1) budget input from the School Committee and public on January 19th and the upcoming public forum on January 26th with respect to a discussion regarding the possibility of changing school start times. Following a discussion, it was the consensus of the Committee that a moderator was not needed for the forum. Much discussion focused on the various ways to announce the forum to as many stakeholders as possible.

General Discussion to Guide Future Recommendations

January 19th	7:30 p.m.	Budget Input School Committee and Public
January 26th	7:00 p.m.	Forum – Changing School Start Times

General Public Discussion and Information

A member of the audience thanked and commended the School Committee for passing the new Health and Wellness Policy which greatly impacted Sowams School receiving the Healthier US School Challenge Award.

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Mr. Fuller moved and Dr. Shea seconded to adjourn the regular meeting at 9:45 p.m. and go into Executive Session pursuant to Sections 42-46-5(a)(1), 42-46-5(a)(2) and 42-46-5(a)(5) specifically for: (a) two Personnel matters, (b) Collective Bargaining discussion with respect to NEAB, BEST and United Steelworkers. The motion passed 5-0.

Mr. Fuller moved and Dr. Shea seconded to adjourn the Executive Session at 10:15 p.m. and to seal the minutes and report that no votes were taken. The motion passed 5-0.

Mr. Fuller moved and Dr. Shea seconded to adjourn the regular meeting at 10:16 p.m. The motion passed 5-0.