

Minutes of School Committee Meeting 3.29.2018

A regular meeting of the Barrington School Committee was held on Thursday, March 29, 2018 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, Mr. Alessandro, Dr. Douglas, Ms. Pine, Mr. Sarli, Mr. Messore, Dr. Dillon, and Mr. Fiore. Absent was Ms. Anna Clancy.

Pledge of Allegiance

Ms. Gina Bae of 64 Governor Bradford Drive led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Achievement Recognition

Mr. Messore announced the following achievements across the District:

Barrington Public Schools All-State musicians performed at the Veterans Memorial Auditorium on Sunday, March 25 in the Rhode Island All-State Music Festival.

Rhode Island Commissioner of Education Ken Wagner commended Barrington Middle School students Grace Mole, Stella Densley, Elle Ouhgrabka, and Lara Nicholson for their 21st Century Learning podcast "BMS Connected Learning."

Barrington High School students Shiyuan Huang, Eliot Laidlaw, Conor McGartoll and Daniel Scheinberg won 1st Place in the Providence College Computer Programming Contest.

Barrington High School junior Daniel Sheinberg won the "Who Wants to be a Mathematician" Competition, held at Providence College on Pi Day.

Barrington High School student Nick Bonneau earned a \$750 scholarship from Girls' Credit Unions of Rhode Island Hot Shot Contest.

The Barrington High School Girls Hockey Team is Division I State Champion.

Barrington High School Girls Hockey athlete Sydney Parkhurst received the Division I Alice Sullivan Most Valuable Player Award.

The Barrington High School Boys Hockey Team is now a two-time Division II State Champion.

Barrington High School Boys Hockey athlete Luke Rudman received the Division II Monsignor Robert C. Newbold Most Valuable Player Award.

Barrington High School English Department Head, Dr. Kevin Blanchard received his Doctorate in Education degree with a concentration in Curriculum, Teaching, Learning and Leadership from Northeastern University.

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Three Barrington High School Coaches were awarded the 2016-2017 State Coach of the Year award for Rhode Island. Coach Holly Morris for Field Hockey, Coach Stephen Lenz for Girls Basketball, and Coach Sandy Gorham for Swimming, by the National Federation of State High School Associations.

Information and Proposals

Dr. Dillon presented the District Report, including a synopsis of the work accomplished in 2017-2018, that included the following highlights: the Barrington Middle School Building Project, Safe Routes to School Project, an update on Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) data, an update on Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS), an update on the district Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics (STEAM) initiatives, an update on New England Common Assessment Program data, an update on SAT and ACT data, an overview of the district grants and partnerships to support excellence in teaching and learning, including the Lighthouse Grant for personalized learning and Playworks Recess Rocks program, and an announcement of the multiple awards and recognitions for student and district achievement, including local and national recognition. The Committee and Administration provided input relative to clarification and edits prior to the District Report being distributed to the Community. Ms. Brody, on behalf of the School Committee commended Dr. Dillon for her comprehensive presentation. The District Report will be posted on the Barrington Public Schools website.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Old Business

Superintendent and Staff

Mr. Fiore provided an update on the Barrington Middle School (BMS) Building Project, including a synopsis of the Project Team meeting relative to work on the building structure, and tentative plans for the Groundbreaking Ceremony to be held on April 27, 2018. It was the consensus of the Committee that it is essential to have input from Administration, building administrators, faculty and students relative to teaching and learning needs as the BMS building project moves forward through all phases of construction.

Mr. Fiore provided an update on the FY19 Operating Budget, including plans to evaluate bids received from health insurance carriers that may result in a favorable impact to the FY19 budget. He stated the Administration will make a recommendation on a carrier to the School Committee at a Special School Committee Meeting to be held on April 3 at 5:30 p.m. The anticipated agenda for the Special School Committee meeting will include the following two items of New Business; Approval of the Health Care Carrier and Discussion and Possible Action: Approval of Amended FY19 Operating Budget.

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Mr. Messore reported on the Public Forum on Safety in Our Community, including a synopsis of the program held in collaboration with the Town of Barrington and the Barrington Police Department that was live streamed on March 28 and will be archived on the district website. Mr. Messore announced that the district will support public promotion of the Barrington Police Department anonymous tip line for students, parents and community members in school communications and on the website. He made additional announcements as follows: every Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) in the district will hold a meeting on school safety; school safety walks with Fire Department and Police Department leaders are being conducted for ongoing review of potential safety issues; and a collaborative meeting with the Director of Pupil Personnel Services, Fire Department and Police Department was held relative to review safety protocols for students with special needs. Discussion ensued on publicizing the tip line, future forums, safety training for substitute teachers and school volunteers, student social emotional needs, mandates relative to the number of lock down trainings, and the evaluation of facility changes to support increased safety and security. Mr. Messore stated the Administration will provide a list of actionable items and work in progress to the School Committee.

School Committee

Mr. Messore presented the proposed school calendar for the 2018-2019 school year. Ms. Brody requested that the discussion relative to the Superintendent's recommendation for the 2019-2020 school calendar begin early in the 2018-2019 academic year to provide the Committee with the opportunity to learn about the process relative to exploration of options with a detailed analysis of factors.

Mr. Alessandro moved and Dr. Douglas seconded approval of the 2018-2019 Academic Calendar. The motion passed 4-0 with Ms. Brody, Mr. Alessandro, Dr. Douglas and Ms. Pine voting in the affirmative.

Dr. Douglas provided the second reading of the Barrington Public Schools Suspension Policy. There was some discussion relative to minor edits to the policy.

Mr. Alessandro moved and Dr. Douglas seconded approval of the Barrington Public Schools Suspension Policy. The motion passed 4-0 with Ms. Brody, Mr. Alessandro, Dr. Douglas and Ms. Pine voting in the affirmative.

New Business

Student Representative to the School Committee Update

Mr. Sarli provided the following information in his Student Representative update: the BHS Gender Equality Club hosted a mixed media feminist showcase in celebration of Women's History Month, with BHS Library Assistant and Representative Joy Hearn as Guest Speaker;

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K-12 Day Without Hate; Peace Poster Party; the Young Adult Literature Book Club on *Ready Player One* by Ernest Cline; SurveyWorks Survey; Stagemasters' production of *Alice in Wonderland* on April 5, 7 and 8; World Language Week is April 2 – 6.

Superintendent and Staff

Mr. Alessandro moved and Dr. Douglas seconded approval of the recommendation of the Superintendent relative to the appointment of Mr. Alfred Farina, Jr., Assistant Coach Boys Lacrosse, Barrington High School. The motion passed 4-0 with Ms. Brody, Mr. Alessandro, Dr. Douglas and Ms. Pine voting in the affirmative.

Mr. Messore stated that the Leave of Absence announcement will not be addressed at this meeting, as he has removed it from the agenda.

School Committee

Mr. Alessandro provided the Health and Wellness Committee report, including an update on timeline and policy action steps for the upcoming Health and Wellness Committee Annual Report to the School Committee on May 10. The next Health and Wellness Committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 4 at 8:30 a.m. at Barrington Middle School Library with A Day Without Hate Review and Topics for Remainder of 2018 on the agenda.

Ms. Brody provided an update on the House Finance Committee Testimony relative to the Governor's FY19 Budget, Article 9 School Construction and Education, including testimony in support of eligibility for maximum increased reimbursement for the Barrington Middle School (BMS) building project that was provided by School Committee Chair Kate Brody, Vice Chair Anna Clancy, Superintendent Michael Messore, and BMS Building Committee Co Chair Patrick Guida. Ms. Brody expressed appreciation on behalf of the Committee for the strong support with advocacy provided by members of the Barrington legislative delegation, Representative Joy Hearn, Representative Jason Knight, and Senator Cynthia Armour Coyne. Ms. Brody stated that next steps include plans to provide testimony at the Joint Senate Finance Committee and Senate Education Committee meeting in April. Ms. Brody reported that the Article 5 proposed legislation, School Construction Bond, as it relates to the Governor's FY19 Budget must be approved by the General Assembly in order to have the Article 9 proposed legislation, School Construction and Education, considered for approval by the General Assembly.

Ms. Pine read the draft of the Barrington Public Schools Family and Medical Leave Act Policy.

The Committee and Administration provided input relative to clarification and edits prior to the second reading and approval of the policy at the next School Committee meeting to be held on April 12.

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Mr. Alessandro read the draft of the Barrington Public Schools Policy Prohibiting Discrimination and Harassment.

The Committee and Administration provided input relative to clarification and edits prior to the second reading and approval of the policy at the next School Committee meeting to be held on April 12.

Mr. Sarli read the draft of the Barrington Public Schools Reasonable Accommodation Policy.

The Committee and Administration provided input relative to clarification and edits prior to the second reading and approval of the policy at the next School Committee meeting to be held on April 12.

Mr. Sarli read the draft of the Barrington Public Schools Weapons and Assault Policy.

The Committee and Administration provided input relative to clarification and edits prior to the second reading and approval of the policy at the next School Committee meeting to be held on April 12.

Ms. Brody reported that the Article 5 proposed legislation, School Construction Bond, as it relates to the Governor's FY19 Budget must be approved by the General Assembly in order to have the Article 9 proposed legislation, School Construction and Education, considered for approval by the General Assembly.

Ms. Pine read the Resolution Supporting School Construction General Obligation Referendum.

Mr. Alessandro moved and Dr. Douglas seconded to support the Resolution Supporting School Construction General Obligation Referendum. The motion passed 4-0 with Ms. Brody, Mr. Alessandro, Dr. Douglas and Ms. Pine voting in the affirmative.

Dr. Dillon provided the Virtual Learning in Inclement Weather Ad Hoc Committee report, including a synopsis of the Committee's first meeting in March and a plan for ongoing review of state legislation and guidance guidelines to meet the learning needs of all students. The Ad Hoc Committee is in the process of developing a rubric with specific indicators for evaluation of current practice and future needs relative to the Rhode Island Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (RIDE) guidelines. The next meeting of the Virtual Learning in Inclement Weather Ad Hoc Committee will be held on April 23.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

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Decision Items

Mr. Alessandro moved and Dr. Douglas seconded to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion passed 4-0 with Ms. Brody, Mr. Alessandro, Dr. Douglas and Ms. Pine voting in the affirmative.

Discussion Items

Mr. Messore announced that a special session of the School Committee will be held on April 3 at 5:30 p.m. to address two items relative to the FY19 Operating Budget; the next regular School Committee meeting will be held on April 12, including Accountability and Alignment: Strategic Priorities Update, Approval of the 2018-2023 District Strategic Plan, and an Educator Attendance Data Report.

Announcements

Mr. Messore announced the following meetings: Barrington Middle School Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) Meeting on School Safety, April 2 at 7:00 p.m.; Special Session School Committee Meeting, April 3 at 5:30 p.m.; Committee on Appropriations Meeting, April 3 at 7:00 p.m.; Nayatt School PTO Meeting on School Safety, April 4 at 7:00 p.m.; Committee on Appropriations Meeting, April 9 at 7:00 p.m.; Hampden Meadows School PTO Meeting, April 10 at 7:00 p.m.; and Committee on Appropriations Meeting, April 11 at 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Alessandro moved and Dr. Douglas seconded adjournment of the regular meeting at 10:05 p.m. and to convene in Executive Session pursuant to Rhode Island General Laws: Section 42-46-5 (a) (2) for Sessions pertaining to collective bargaining or litigation, or work sessions regarding matters pertaining to collective bargaining or litigation, and Executive Session pursuant to Rhode Island General Laws: Section 42-46-5 (a) (3) for Discussion regarding the matter of security including but not limited to the deployment of security personnel or devices. The motion passed 4-0 with Ms. Brody, Mr. Alessandro, Dr. Douglas and Ms. Pine voting in the affirmative.

Mr. Alessandro moved and Dr. Douglas seconded adjournment of the Executive Session at 10:45 p.m., and sealing of the minutes. The motion passed 4-0 with Ms. Brody, Mr. Alessandro, Dr. Douglas and Ms. Pine voting in the affirmative.

Ms. Brody reported that no votes were taken in Executive Session.

Mr. Alessandro moved and Dr. Douglas seconded adjournment of the regular meeting at 10:46 p.m. The motion passed 4-0 with Ms. Brody, Mr. Alessandro, Dr. Douglas and Ms. Pine voting in the affirmative.