



**QUABBIN REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**School Committee Minutes**  
**Thursday, November 12, 2015**  
**Educational Support Center**

**PRESENT**

Chair	Mark Brophy	Member, Barre
Vice-Chair	Lee Wolanin	Member, Barre
	Dr. Richard Allan	Member, Barre
	Debra Chamberlain	Member, Hubbardston
	David Deschamps	Member, Barre
	William Hansen	Member, Hubbardston
	Steven Labarre	Member, Oakham
	Jason Leclair	Member, Hubbardston
	Charles Miller	Member, Barre
	Ada Pease	Member, Oakham
	Marcelino Sarabia	Member, Hardwick
	Peggy Thompson	Member, New Braintree
	Mark Wigler	Member, Hubbardston

**ALSO PRESENT**

Dr. Maureen Marshall	Superintendent of Schools
Stacey Skerry	Finance, Accounting & Transportation Manager
District Administrators/Staff	
Town Officials	
Parents/Townspeople	
Press	

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion was made by Dr. Allan and seconded by Mr. Wolanin to approve the executive session minutes of September 10, 2015. The motion passed by a vote of 12-0-1 with Mr. Miller abstaining.

A motion was made by Dr. Allan and seconded by Mr. Wolanin to approve the minutes of October 7, 2015. The motion passed by a vote of 12-0-1 with Mr. Sarabia abstaining.

**3. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

- a) Superintendent of Schools – Dr. Marshall reported that we currently have 3 to 4 females who are interested in playing ice hockey in the Leominster school district on a cooperative basis. There is no additional cost to Quabbin, and students will pay a user fee to Leominster. The students would be covered under Quabbin insurance. Discussion ensued in regard to various sports and coops with other schools. The QRSD School Committee has sanctioned the participation of Quabbin students in sports cooperatives. Dr. Marshall also reported that the annual John & Abigail Adams Scholarship Breakfast will be held on November 19<sup>th</sup> and all members of the Committee are invited.
- b) Assistant Superintendent - No report was given.

c) Director of Administrative Services – Stacy Skerry, Finance, Accounting & Transportation Manager presented in the absence of Cheryl Duval.

- Presentation of Warrants: Payroll Warrants 8, 9, & 10 and AP warrants 8A, 9A and 10A were approved by the Warrant Subcommittee.
- FY 16 Budget Adjustments - Mrs. Skerry requested that the Committee make budget transfers. When raises were budgeted at the beginning of the fiscal year for those employees who are not part of a bargaining unit, the funds were put into a contingency fund. When raises were distributed, the funds needed to be transferred to the appropriate line item. In addition, savings were recognized with resignations that were not replaced to be used for unemployment insurance.

Due to conflicts of interests of some members of the School Committee, the Committee will vote on the following appropriation categories independently of the total budget appropriation:

Appropriation category 1450/2250 Technology in the amount of \$11,061 to cover Technology Salary increases held in Contingency account.

A roll call vote was taken: Dr. Allan – yes; Mr. Miller – yes; Mr. Deschamps – abstain; Mr. Wolanin – yes; Mr. Sarabia – yes; Mrs. Chamberlain – yes; Mr. Hansen – yes; Mr. Leclair – yes; Mr. Wigler – yes; Mrs. Thompson – yes; Mr. Labarre – yes; Mrs. Pease – yes. Chairman Brophy – yes. The motion passed by a roll call vote (weighted vote 12.09).

Appropriation category 3510-3520 Athletics & Student Activities in the amount of \$9,199 in savings for the new Athletic Director.

A roll call vote was taken: Dr. Allan – yes; Mr. Miller – yes; Mr. Deschamps – yes; Mr. Wolanin – yes; Mr. Sarabia – yes; Mrs. Chamberlain – yes; Mr. Hansen – yes; Mr. Leclair – yes; Mr. Wigler – yes; Mrs. Thompson – abstain; Mr. Labarre – yes; Mrs. Pease – yes. Chairman Brophy – yes. The motion passed by a roll call vote (weighted vote 12.05).

The subcategories of the budget transfers were approved by the remaining School Committee members; therefore, the conflict of interest statute allows all members to take action on the remaining transfers as follows:

Appropriation category 1000-1435 District Administration in the amount of \$13,721 to cover District Administration salary increases held in Contingency account; Appropriation category 2100-3200 Instructional Support in the amount of \$115,843 to cover salary increases held in Contingency Account (2355) and unfilled positions due to resignations transferred to unemployment; Appropriation category 3600 School Security transfer \$2,069 to cover School Security salary increases held in Contingency account; Appropriation category 4100-4300 Facilities in the amount of \$8,203 to cover Facilities Salary increases held in Contingency account; Appropriation category 5000 Benefits transfer \$92,820 for unfilled positions due to resignations to Unemployment; Special Education Appropriation category 2100-3200 Instructional support savings of \$2,832 offset with Special Educational salary increases.

The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

d) Teacher Advisory Council

- Evan Barringer, QRTA President, spoke in regard to the death of retired teacher, Michelle DiMartino and the many lives she influenced while a teacher for the Quabbin Regional School District.

e) Student Advisory Council

- Cassandra Whitelaw and Nichols DiPadua reported that they feel there is a lack of communication between students, parents and the school. It was agreed to make sure announcements are updated on the web daily in an effort to communicate better. They also reported about the success of the homecoming dance and the first NJROTC drill meet in which the team came in first. All members of the

School Committee were invited to the NJROTC Inspection which is being held on Friday, November 13<sup>th</sup>. NJROTC and the chorus were commended for their participation in the Veteran's Day Program held at the Barre Town Hall.

#### **4. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

- a) Administrative Review
  - No report was given.
- b) Audit
  - No report was given
- c) Budget
  - Preliminary requests for budget are now being worked on with Principals and Academic Coordinators.
- d) Central Office
  - At this time, not much is happening with net metering and discussion ensued in regard to the lengthy delay. Mr. Miller reported that the net metering cap is possibly being bumped to 2400 megawatts
- e) Elementary Schools (Barre Subcommittee)
  - No report was given
- f) Collective Bargaining
  - No report was given
- g) Plant and facilities
  - No report was given
- h) Policy & Review
  - Dr. Allan reported on the November 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting which was held at the Ruggles Lane School. At that meeting, the elementary Principals presented data in regard to teacher development and the success of our students through intervention. Dr. Allan expressed to the Committee the importance, necessity and success of the intervention program at the elementary level. Huge strides are being made at the elementary level with the reading literacy program as well as the math literacy program.
- i) Special Education
  - A subcommittee meeting was held this evening. The District has approximately 500 students on IEPs which represents one quarter of our population. Stetson was discussed in regard to the number of students who attend Quabbin from Stetson. There are currently 75 home schooled students. Special Ed department has many in and out placements. Just this month the district received a new placement at the cost of \$127,000.
- j) Technology
  - No report was given
- k) Task Force
  - Mr. Labarre reported that tours have been conducted at all the schools in the District. All schools are in excellent shape. The next meeting will begin the discussion process.

#### **5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS – none**

**6. PUBLIC COMMENT** – Quabbin Drug Response Unifying Group steering committee members, Rev. Debra Lewis Lafond, Betty Chase & Nehr Jenkins, attended the meeting this evening to discuss the work the group is doing in the district and the various events they are holding. The group meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month and hosts a guest speaker or event on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month.

**7. SCHOOL COMMITTEE CONCERNS** – Congratulations were extended to the Field Hockey team on another successful season. They made it to the district finals and Coach Shelley Zalneraitis received her 300<sup>th</sup> win this season making her the winningest field hockey coach in Massachusetts.

#### **8. NEW BUSINESS**

#### **9. ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Dr. Allan and seconded by Mr. Wolanin to adjourn the meeting at 8:53 p.m.  
The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Jessica A. Bennett  
School Committee Secretary