



QUABBIN REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
School Committee Minutes
Thursday, November 17, 2016
Educational Support Center

PRESENT

Chair	Lee Wolanin	Member, Barre
Vice-Chair	Mark Brophy	Member, Barre
	Dr. Richard Allan	Member, Barre
	Debra Chamberlain	Member, Hubbardston
	David Deschamps	Member, Barre
	Ned Kelly	Member, Hardwick
	William Hansen	Member, Hubbardston (arrived 8:03)
	Jason Leclair	Member, Hubbardston
	Charles Miller	Member, Barre
	Walter Nutter	Member, Oakham
	Ada Pease	Member, Oakham
	Peggy Thompson	Member, New Braintree
	Mark Wigler	Member, Hubbardston

ALSO PRESENT

Dr. Maureen Marshall	Superintendent of Schools
Cheryl Duval	Director of Administrative Services
Sheila Muir	Assistant Superintendent
District Administrators/Staff	
Town Officials	
Parents/Townpeople	
Press	

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:43 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Mr. Kelly and seconded by Mr. Deschamps to approve the minutes of October 13, 2016. The motion passed by a vote of 9-0-3 with Mr. Brophy, Mrs. Pease, and Mr. Miller abstaining. Mr. Hansen was not present for the vote.

3. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

- a) Superintendent of Schools – Dr. Marshall thanked those in attendance in the audience as well as the School Committee members for attending the Legislative Summit which was held prior to the School Committee meeting.
Dr. Marshall reported that the QRSD Strategic Plan will expire at the end of the year and her hope is that we are able to garner community participation through the process of writing the new Strategic Plan.
- b) Assistant Superintendent - No report was given

c) Director of Administrative Services

- Presentation of Warrants: Payroll Warrants 9 & 10 and AP Warrants 9A & 10A were approved by the Warrant Subcommittee.
- Director's Report – Mrs. Duval reported that the statute wherein districts could bill back for retired teachers' insurance has been repealed.
- Mrs. Duval also reported that the District had received additional FY16 E-Rate reimbursement funds and a vote would be necessary to transfer the funds.

Motion made by Mr. Kelly and seconded by Mr. Deschamps to transfer additional FY16 E-Rate reimbursement funds, received in FY17, in the amount of \$12,035.29 to the Stabilization Fund for Technology.

Motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

- FY17 Budget Transfers (a 2/3 vote may be required) – passed over
- Discussion then ensued in regard to the current transportation contract. The contract was written as a 3-1/2 year contract with a 2 year rollover provision, and the contract will be up in June. Vote is needed to extend the contract for another 2 years. Discussion ensued as to the process by which the contract was originally awarded with discussion the number of bids that were sent out vs. the number received (5 sent out and 2 received).

Motion made by Mr. Kelly and seconded by Dr. Allan to extend the transportation contract with J.P. McCarthy in accordance with the 2 year rollover provision in their current contract.

Motion passed by a vote of 11-0-1 with Mrs. Thompson abstaining.

d) Teacher Advisory Council

- No report was given

e) Student Advisory Council - Gregory Devine, HS Principal, introduced Jack Kinnear who will be giving the student report this evening. Jack is the recipient of the Superintendent's Award, and will be honored at a luncheon on January 10th. Besides his academics, Jack is very involved in athletics, extra-curricular activities, and NJROTC. Jack gave the Committee an overview of activities that are currently going on at the high school, including the upcoming NHS Induction, the end of fall sports, WPI math meet to name a few.

4. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

a) Administrative Review

- No report was given.

b) Audit

- No report was given.

c) Budget

- FY18 Budget – Mr. Wigler again reiterated that, as budget talks begin, we try to go to the towns with a "true" budget as opposed to a bloated needs budget.

Discussion then ensued that we be proactive and develop a space inventory and engage in dialogue about the quality of space and type of space needed by the District towns. One question to keep in mind should be whether or not we can restructure to meet the needs of the towns who may need space.

d) Central Office

- Mr. Brophy gave an overall review of Dr. Marshall's evaluation. The evaluation covered 4 standards:
 - Standard 1 – Instructional Leadership – rating of exemplary
 - Standard 2 – Management & Operations – rating of proficient
 - Standard 3 – Family & Community – rating of proficient
 - Standard 4 – Professional Culture – rating of exemplary
 - Overall rating – Exemplary
- Discussion then ensued that the Committee needs to begin to discuss the Strategic Plan, as the current plan expires in 2016. The Strategic Plan will lead the District to plan for a new Superintendent as we go

forward. The Strategic Plan involves the community, and a possibility is to use the Café model we recently used with the Collins Center.

- e) Collective Bargaining
 - Five bargaining group contracts will be opening up this year. At this time, no meetings have been scheduled.
- f) Elementary School
 - Different ideas have been bounced around as to what this subcommittee is doing, and where it is going. As a starting point, the subcommittee will contact the elementary schools and discuss any initiative that are going on, as well as discussion with any School Improvement Councils that exist.
- g) Plant and facilities
 - MSBA came in to do a survey of the school, as they are doing across the Commonwealth. The full report will be back in a few months.
 - Received a letter from the Town of New Braintree in regard to the quality of the roof on the school. In order to go forward, an engineering study will need to be done, as well as a Statement of Interest with the MSBA for a grant. Funding can take 2 to 3 years. Discussion ensued in regard to starting a stabilization account for a new HS/MS roof, as well as looking at the Hardwick roof.
- h) Policy & Review
 - Motion made by Dr. Allan and seconded by Mr. Kelly to remove Policy ADF & School District Wellness Program from the table.
Motion passed by a vote of 12-0-1 with Mr. Miller abstaining.
 - Discussion ensued in regard to the calculation of high school GPA. The Program of Studies was in error relative to the calculation of GPA, which will be modified for the fall semester and going forward.
 - A Senior Capstone Showcase will be held on Wednesday, November 17th. Capstone exemplars will present at the December meeting.
 - A lengthy discussion ensued in regard to the International Baccalaureate program with teachers and parents giving honest feedback as to their feelings about the program.
- i) Special Education
 - No report was given
- j) Task Force
 - Collins Center Update – The Collins Center completed their World Café's in the district. We will now await their report. There was some discussion as to whether or not the Committee should begin the consolidation process. No decision was made.
- k) Technology
 - No report was given
- l) Solar/Retrofit
 - A meeting needs to be scheduled to discuss Net Metering credits with Solar City.

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS - Report on Quabbin ProMusica Meeting

- A group of parents from Quabbin ProMusica met with Superintendent Marshall and Mr. Wolanin to discuss the music program at the elementary level. Dr. Marshall and Toni Brown, Music Academic Coordinator, have been brainstorming to find the best solution to bringing some music back to the elementaries to meet student needs. Discussion ensued on the different possibilities that have been discussed.

The best solution seems to be to move flex block to second block and, when HS/MS music ends, Toni will go out to the elementaries to teach. This would move her out of her position in the math department, and, for \$36,000, hire a math teacher to replace Ms. Brown. By modifying the flex block schedule, moving Ms. Brown back to music, hiring a replacement math teacher, this will get younger students with instruments some lessons.

Motion made by Mr. Deschamps and seconded by Mrs. Pease to authorize the Superintendent to make the necessary scheduling, personnel, and financial decisions in order to expand the music program to include more access to varied opportunities with instrumental lessons and musical groups.
The motion passed by a vote of 12-1-0 with Mr. Kelly opposed.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT – Numerous parents thanked the Committee for their willingness to work to reinstate music.

7. SCHOOL COMMITTEE CONCERNS

- None.

8. NEW BUSINESS

- None

9. REQUEST FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

- None

10. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 9:35 p.m.
The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Jessica A. Bennett
School Committee Secretary