



**QUABBIN REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
School Committee Minutes
Thursday, December 10, 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
	Marcelino Sarabia	Member, Hardwick
	Lori Siefert	Member, Hardwick
	Peggy Thompson	Member, New Braintree

ALSO PRESENT

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

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Mrs. Siefert and seconded by Mr. Labarre to approve the minutes of November 12, 2015. The motion passed unanimously.

3. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

- a) Superintendent of Schools – Dr. Marshall reported that since the last meeting there was a very successful NJROTC inspection as well as a successful John & Abigail Adams Scholarship breakfast. This evening the NJROTC is sponsoring a spaghetti supper and expect to serve approximately 900 people. The QRSD School Committee voted to sanction the participation of Quabbin students in sports cooperatives. However, the vote needs to be amended to include the participation fee. Motion made by Mr. Wolanin and seconded by Mrs. Siefert to amend the vote taken on sport cooperatives to include that the student athlete will only be charged the applicable athletic fee of the co-op school.
- b) Assistant Superintendent - No report was given.

- c) Director of Administrative Services –
 - Presentation of Warrants: Payroll Warrants 11 & 12 and AP warrants 11A, 12A and 12B were approved by the Warrant Subcommittee.
 - Mrs. Duval reported that the District had received the Moody's report on the District. Last year we were given an A1 rating, but negative outlook. Moody's has removed the negative rating in this year's report.
- d) Teacher Advisory Council
 - Evan Barringer, QRTA President, reported that the faculty is pleased to know that the No Child Left Behind Act has been reformed.
- e) Student Advisory Council
 - Celine Aubochon, sophomore at the HS, reported that HS Student Government conducted a very successful food drive during the month of November and received 1,068# in donations for the local food pantries. Celine reported that the faculty brought in the greatest amount of donations with 430#.

4. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

- a) Administrative Review
 - No report was given.
- b) Audit
 - No report was given
- c) Budget
 - No report was given
- d) Central Office
 - Solar update – no new information at this time.
- e) Elementary Schools (Barre Subcommittee)
 - Discussion ensued about the possibility of this subcommittee being organized as an adhoc committee. Suggestion was given that the group move from elementary school to elementary school to discuss topics of concern at each individual school.
- f) Collective Bargaining
 - No report was given
- g) Plant and facilities
 - Dr. Marshall reported that there is currently a water issue in Hardwick which has been being addressed for the past month. The tank has been drained, patched, and the breaks in the coating repaired. Water is now potable in all respects. Hubbardston is having a problem with their subservice disposal system and it seems that the pumps have gone. It appears that someone (a vendor, recreational trailer owner, etc.) has put their refuse down the two manholes which has stressed the pumps.
- h) Policy & Review
 - Dr. Allan reported that the Policy subcommittee met on December 7th. Motion made by Dr. Allan and seconded by Mr. Wolanin to place Policy JHCD – Administering Medication to Students and Policy JKAA – Physical Restraint of Students on the table for 30 days for public comment. The motion passed unanimously. School lunch charge policy EFA was then discussed. This had been brought to the Policy & Review/Reform Subcommittee back in November. Director Duval was asked by the Subcommittee to make modifications to the policy and come back with a revised policy and informational flyer for the December meeting. Motion made by Dr. Allan and seconded by Mr. Wolanin to place Policy EFA – School Meal Charges on the table for 30 days for public comment. The motion passed unanimously. The Policy & Review/Reform Subcommittee also met this evening to discuss the Program of Studies for 2016-2017. Discussion ensued in regard to the course entitled Gender Studies & Identity. After much discussion at the Subcommittee level, it was recommended to change the course title to Human Studies and Cultural Identity. Motion made by Dr. Allan and seconded by Mr. Wolanin to accept the Program of Studies with the course name change. Motion passed by a vote of 10-1-1 with Mr. Miller abstaining and Mr. Labarre opposed.

Discussion ensued in regard to the MCAS results for 2014-2015. There has been some progress in language arts, but needs to be more progress in math. The fact that we have data on each individual student's strengths and weaknesses has been a determining factor in helping with test scores. The next Policy & Review/Reform Subcommittee meeting will be held on Monday, February 1, 2016.

- i) Special Education
 - No report was given
- j) Technology
 - No report was given
- k) Task Force
 - Dr. Marshall reported that the last task force meeting involved discussion on the student population with special emphasis on the population at New Braintree which included substantially separate programs which are housed at New Braintree and the discussion that these programs may possibly need to be moved.
The Task Force has directed Dr. Marshall to continue to gather information on sharing services with neighboring school districts as well as pursuing the Community Compact grant.

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS – none

6. PUBLIC COMMENT – none

7. SCHOOL COMMITTEE CONCERNS - Mrs. Chamberlain has had parents speak to her of their concerns with their children traveling to Washington after the recent terror attacks. Mrs. Musnicki is in continuous contact with the travel agent for this trip and, at this time, there is no travel advisory nor threat. Of course, this will be revisited if deemed necessary.

8. NEW BUSINESS

9. REQUEST FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Dr. Allan and seconded by Mr. Wolanin to enter into executive session to discuss strategy with respect to litigation and negotiations of the Superintendent's contract.

The committee will return to open session.

The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

The meeting adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

The meeting returned to open session at 9:05 p.m.

A motion was made by Mr. Wolanin and seconded by Dr. Allan to extend the contract with Superintendent of Schools Maureen Marshall for a period of two years effective July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2018, under the same terms and conditions as established in the current contract of employment.

The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

10. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Dr. Allan and seconded by Mrs. Siefert to adjourn the meeting at 9:06 p.m.
The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Jessica A. Bennett
School Committee Secretary