



**QUABBIN REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
School Committee Minutes  
Thursday, March 9, 2017  
Educational Support Center**

**PRESENT**

Chair	Lee Wolanin	Member, Barre
Vice-Chair	Mark Brophy	Member, Barre
	Dr. Richard Allan	Member, Barre (arrived 6:18)
	Debra Chamberlain	Member, Hubbardston
	David Deschamps	Member, Barre
	William Hansen	Member, Hubbardston
	Ned Kelly	Member, Hardwick
	Jason Leclair	Member, Hubbardston
	Walter Nutter	Member, Oakham
	Ada Pease	Member, Oakham
	Geoffrey Spier	Member, Hardwick
	Peggy Thompson	Member, New Braintree
	Mark Wigler	Member, Hubbardston

**ALSO PRESENT**

Dr. Maureen Marshall	Superintendent of Schools
Sheila Muir	Assistant Superintendent
District Administrators/Staff	Gregory Devine; Cherie McComb; Sue Musnicki; Clare Barnes; Julie Vincentsen
Absent:	Tricia Worthington, Joanna Cackett, Cheryl Duval
Press:	Brad Miner, T & G
Parents/Town Officials	

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion was made by Mr. Kelly and seconded by Mr. Spier to approve the minutes of February 16, 2017. The motion passed by a vote of 11-0-1 with Mr. Nutter abstaining.

**3. PUBLIC BUDGET HEARING**

- In the absence of Director Duval, Dr. Marshall reviewed the PowerPoint presentation of the FY18 budget. The operational and capital budgets were reviewed, as well as the process in which assessments are calculated.  
Question was raised as to the increase in the Superintendent's salary. It was explained that, in the Superintendent's retirement year, the Superintendent can earn 20% of salary that would be made if he or she were working full time from January 2018 – June 2018.  
Dr. Marshall answered questions that were asked by audience members. Discussion also ensued in regard to the safety issue at New Braintree and Oakham with the lack of working PA systems.

#### **4. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

- a) Superintendent of Schools – No report was given on anything that is not covered later in the agenda
- b) Assistant Superintendent
  - Dr. Muir reported that the District anticipates entering the next phase of Parent Portal access to Aspen. Beginning with trimester 3, MS and HS parents will have access to assignments as well as grades three times during the trimester. Piloting during this trimester will enable “kinks” to be worked out prior to the new school year.
- c) Director of Administrative Services
  - Director’s Report – no report was given  
Chairman Wolanin reported that it was his understanding that the District has received all the credits due for solar.
- d) Teacher Advisory Council
  - No report was given
- e) Student Advisory Council
  - Cassie Whitelaw reported the NHS has opened a tutoring center on Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday during flex block for any student that needs additional help. Students need to sign up prior to the flex block.  
Cassie also reported that the Capstone Project Presentation night on Wednesday was well attended by parents and community members. Mr. Deschamps attended the presentation and spoke in high regard of the work done by the students.

#### **5. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

- a) Administrative Review
  - No report was given.
- b) Audit
  - No report was given.
- c) Budget
  - No report was given. Anticipate another meeting within the next few weeks.
- d) Central Office
  - No report was given.
- e) Collective Bargaining
  - Negotiations with the QRTA will begin on March 13, 2017. Custodial has made contact with Human Resources to schedule work on their negotiations. Communication has been sent to the five district towns asking for a representative of the towns to participate in the negotiation process.
- f) Elementary School
  - No report was given.
- g) Plant and facilities
  - A brief meeting was held this evening. Anticipate another meeting in a few weeks after confirming some figures with the Plant and Facilities Manager.
- h) Policy & Review
  - No report was given.
- i) Special Education
  - No report was given.
- j) Task Force
  - Collins Center is hoping to have their final report available mid to end of April. A good majority of attendees of the World Cafes expressed interest in having the HS used a bit differently and to try to incorporate some technical school courses into the curriculum. Dr. Marshall and Dr. Muir are planning to meet with the Superintendent of Monty Tech to investigate the possibility of working with them for

courses that do not require the facilities of a technical school (i.e., Criminal Justice). Dr. Marshall is also planning to meet with Mount Wachusett Community College to discuss school to college work. She has also had some interest from other Superintendents with declining enrollment on the possibility of other schools coming in on a tuition basis.

k) Technology

- No report was given.

l) Solar/Retrofit

- No report was given. Volunteers are needed for this subcommittee.

**6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- None

**7. PUBLIC COMMENT**

- None

**8. SCHOOL COMMITTEE CONCERNS**

- Mr. Brophy expressed his gratitude to the Chief for coming in and meeting with the Committee and is happy to see the initiatives, especially SRO, that he wishes to bring forth.
- Chairman Wolanin expressed his regret that Strength and Conditioning Coach Meg Matthews is leaving the QRSD. She has done an amazing job with our students.

**9. NEW BUSINESS**

- Introduction of Barre Police Chief John Carbone – Chief Carbone introduced himself to the Committee and audience members and discussed some initiatives he would like to introduce to the school with the permission of the Committee. The Chief would like to have a School Resource Officer in the building beginning with the new school year. This position will be funded by the police department and will have no effect on the QRSD budget. QRHS-MS will need to provide an office for the officer, which will be no problem at this time. Until the time that a School Resource Officer is in place, an officer will do unscheduled visits once or twice a day in the building. The reason for these visits is to build a rapport with the students. The Chief also discussed his desire to fundraise for a K-9 program. His goal is to raise \$30,000. Total cost to implement this type of program is \$60,000, but approximately \$30,000 is available in grant money. A K-9 would serve three purposes: narcotics, tracking, and handling protection. The Chief would like to see the K-9 as a part of the community and, most importantly, the school community. The Committee welcomed and thanked the Chief for coming and were in agreement with his initiatives.
- Acknowledgement of receipt of FLLAC Annual Report and Audit Report – Chairman Wolanin informed the Committee that the FLLAC Annual Report and Audit Report were available for review in Central Office. The Committee was informed today that a vote needed to be taken on the FLLAC Collaborative agreement to include the North Middlesex Regional School District to FLLAC. Motion made by Mr. Kelly and seconded by Dr. Allan to approve the amendment to the FLLAC Collaborative Agreement to include the North Middlesex Regional School District as a member of the Collaborative, effective July 1, 2017. The motion passed unanimously.
- Approval of out of state computer programming field trip to Phillips Exeter Academy on Saturday, April 15, 2017. Motion made by Dr. Allan and seconded by Mrs. Thompson to approve an out of state computer programming field trip to the Phillips Exeter Academy on Saturday, April 15, 2017 with the usual provisos. Motion passed unanimously.

## **10. REQUEST FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION**

- None

## **11. ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Dr. Allan and seconded by Mr. Kelly to adjourn the meeting at 8:07 p.m.  
The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Jessica A. Bennett  
School Committee Secretary