



Approved by QRSD  
School Committee  
9/12/19

**QUABBIN REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
School Committee Minutes  
Tuesday, July 16, 2019  
Educational Support Center**

**PRESENT**

Chair	Lee Wolanin	Member, Barre
Vice-Chair	Mark Brophy	Member, Barre
	Dr. Richard Allan	Member, Barre
	Deb Chamberlain	Member, Hubbardston
	Dave Deschamps	Member, Barre
	William Hansen	Member, Hubbardston
	Jean-Francois, Fred	Member, Oakham
	Ned Kelly	Member, Hardwick
	David Marsh	Member, Barre
	Walter Nutter	Member, Oakham
	Marcelino Sarabia	Member, Hardwick
	Geoffrey Spier	Member, Hardwick
	Mark Wigler	Member, Hubbardston

**ALSO PRESENT**

Dr. Sheila Muir	Superintendent of Schools
Cheryl Duval	Director of Administrative Services
District Administrators/Staff	Sue Musnicki; Greg Devine; Colleen Mucha; Andrew Walsh; Kristin Campione;
Press:	Ellie Downer, Barre Gazette;
Parents/Town Officials	Dan Galante, Hubbardston Selectboard; Joseph Chenevert, New Braintree Selectboard

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m. by Chair Lee Wolanin.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion was made by Dr. Allan and seconded by Mr. Kelly to approve the minutes of June 6, 2019.  
The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

**3. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

a) Superintendent of Schools

- Superintendent's Report – Dr. Muir announced that the Quabbin Regional School District has received a \$60,000 Safety & Security Grant from the Executive Office of Public Safety. The funds will be used to replace locks throughout the district. In the event of an emergency, some doors cannot be locked without the teacher going out into the hallway and locking the door with a key. This grant will cover the cost of all locks with the exception of NBGS. The district will find funds from the facility budget or find an additional grant to fund locks at NBGS.

- Dr. Muir also reported that Hubbardston Center School has been invited into the MSBA Accelerated Roof Repair Project.

b) Director of Administrative Services

- Director's Report
  - Presentation of warrants - Since our last meeting, the following warrants were approved: Payroll 26, 26.1, & 27 to close the FY19 Fiscal Year; For FY20, Payroll warrants 1, 1.1 were approved. Accounts Payable warrants 40A, 41A, 41S & 41V to close the FY19 Fiscal Year; For FY20, Accounts Payable Warrants 1A, 1BV.
- Ms. Duval reported that the "chiller" had died at the beginning of the summer. The company needed to reload all information into their computer system, which has been very time consuming and costly.
- Due to the fact that we do not have a budget approved by all of the towns as yet, Ms. Duval put together a presentation explaining the timeline for reconsideration of the FY20 budget.
- FY20 Budget update – a 2/3 vote will be required. Three of the district towns did not put the district number on their warrants, which may be in violation of 603 CMR 41:05(2). District budget numbers should be on the warrants, and then allow officials to make recommendation to alter that number. It has been recommended that when new assessment letters are sent to the towns, reference to this regulation is made.

Mrs. Chamberlain reported to the Committee that the Chair of the Hubbardston Finance Committee spoke to the gathering at the Hubbardston Annual Town Meeting and gave her own personal perspective of the district budget and, in some areas, was untrue. Mrs. Chamberlain felt that this was very disrespectful to the Hubbardston School Committee members and expressed this to the Hubbardston Selectboard Chair, Dan Galante, who was in the audience for the meeting this evening. In turn, district representatives were not able to speak to the information that the FinCom chair spoke to.

Dan Galante, Hubbardston Selectboard chair, addressed the Committee and stated that a 6.31% assessment for the town of Hubbardston would still be devastating to the town. The town would have to cut an EMT, cut a second officer on shifts, cut the HR Administrative Assistant and the Economic Development Coordinator.

Ms. Duval reported that savings in line 5100-5250 Benefits has allowed a decrease of \$115,855 in the overall budget.

Motion made by Mr. Kelly and seconded by Mr. Wigler to approve administration recommendation to decrease the FY20 budget by \$115,855 to \$34,823,261 which represents an increase of \$649,271 or 1.90% over the FY19 budget.

Motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote: Dr. Allan – yes; Mr. Marsh – yes; Mr. Brophy – yes; Mr. Deschamps – yes; Mr. Kelly – yes; Mr. Sarabia – yes; Mr. Spier – yes; Mrs. Chamberlain – yes; Mr. Hansen – yes; Mr. Wigler – yes; Mr. Nutter – yes; Mr. Jean-Francois – yes; Chairman Wolanin – yes. (12.91 weighted vote).

c) Teacher Advisory Council

- No report was given

d) Student Advisory Council

- No report was given

**4. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

a) Administrative Review

- Documents were sent out for the Superintendent's evaluation. An Administrative Review subcommittee meeting will be held prior to the next Committee meeting on August 8<sup>th</sup>.

b) Audit

- No report was given

c) Budget

- Mr. Wigler reported that there had been no subcommittee meeting, but there had been discussion with Hubbardston relative to looking at alternative methods of assessment. One is by enrollment numbers. The towns have all stated that they have no projections going forward for their planning purposes. At this time, assessment are based upon required minimum local contribution. If an alternative method of calculation were to be chosen, it would have to be voted on yearly and accepted by all five towns. Ms. Duval will contact the Commissioner's office to see what other regional school districts use to calculate their assessments.  
The towns are also speaking with their state and local representatives to see if all towns could be on the same re-evaluation schedule.

d) Central Office

- No report was given

e) Collective Bargaining

- No report was given

f) Plant & Facilities

- No report was given

g) Policy Review/Reform

- Motion made by Dr. Allan and seconded by Mr. Sarabia to remove the Wellness Policy from the table for final approval.  
Motion passed by a roll call vote of 11-1-0 with Mr. Spier abstaining. Dr. Allan – yes; Mr. Marsh – yes; Mr. Brophy – yes; Mr. Deschamps – yes; Mr. Kelly – yes; Mr. Sarabia – yes; Mr. Spier – abstain; Mrs. Chamberlain – yes; Mr. Hansen – yes; Mr. Wigler – yes; Mr. Nutter – yes; Mr. Jean-Francois – yes; Chairman Wolanin – yes.

h) Special Education

- No report was given.

i) QEMP

- A meeting was originally scheduled for August 6, 2019. This will be postponed until September or October.

j) Technology

- A subcommittee meeting was held this evening. Discussion included a new email provider and the 1-1 Chromebook initiative at the M/H school. All students will receive their Chromebooks in flex and have 5 minutes at the end of the day to return them to their flex block.  
Andrew Walsh gave instructions to the committee members in regard to accessing their email via gmail.

## 5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- Possible lease of New Braintree Grade School – Dr. Muir referred to the summary of correspondence in the School Committee packets in regard to the parameters requested for the lease of the New Braintree Grade School. Dr. Muir met with the Selectboard on June 24, 2019 and discussed additions to the parameters.  
Discussion then ensued in regard to the awarding authorities. The Selectboard requests to be the awarding authority, but there cannot be 2 awarding authorities. There can be a team who looks at the RRP, which can have a NB Selectboard member on it. There would then be an evaluative team that comes up with the evaluative criteria. Once the evaluative team ranks responses and meet the criteria, that is who the RFP gets awarded to.  
Mrs. Chamberlain suggested putting out an RFP for Oakham Center School as well as we have rooms available there.  
If New Braintree were to become vacant, there has been some discussion about using that building for an expansion of our Innovative Pathways program for HS students and/or adult education.

**6. PUBLIC COMMENT**

- None

**7. SCHOOL COMMITTEE CONCERNS**

- None

**8. NEW BUSINESS**

- Request for approval – Service Learning Trip to Camp Sunshine, Casco, ME  
Motion made by Dr. Allan and seconded by Mr. Brophy to approve the Service Learning trip to Camp Sunshine with the usual provisos.  
The motion passed unanimously.

**9. REQUEST FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION**

- None

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

A motion made by Dr. Allan and seconded by Mr. Brophy to adjourn the meeting at 8:09 p.m.

The motion passed by an unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Jessica A. Bennett  
School Committee Secretary