

Berkley School Committee
Regular Meeting
February 10, 2020

AGENDA ITEM #1: CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The regular meeting of the Berkley School Committee was held at the Berkley Middle School Library on Monday, February 10, 2020. Mrs. Weber, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present

Jenifer Andrews
Jennifer Vincent
Christopher Ghilarducci
Tara Weber
Daniel Fagan

Other

Thomas Lynch, Superintendent
Patricia Silva, Executive Assistant to Supt. & SC
Jennifer Francisco, Principal, BCS
Kimberly Hebert, Principal, BMS
Andrea Porter, Business Administrator
Diane Maxwell, Public,
Grace Sedell, Emily Rose

Mrs. Weber stated "Let the record show that this meeting is being electronically recorded. If anyone in the audience wishes to electronically record this meeting, you should notify the Committee at this time. Any such recording may be subject to reasonable restrictions imposed by the Chair to the extent permitted under the Open Meeting Law."

AGENDA ITEM #2: INVITED GUESTS

Two kindergarten students were recognized by the School Committee for their perfect attendance. Mrs. Francisco reported that over 20 students have perfect attendance so far this year and just over 200 students have met the criteria of the Strive for Five Challenge.

AGENDA ITEM #3: APPROVE BILLS AND PAYROLLS

It was moved by Mrs. Vincent, seconded by Mr. Ghilarducci and VOTED to approve bills and payrolls.

Vote: UNANIMOUS

AGENDA ITEM #4: APPROVE AND SIGN MINUTES

It was moved by Mrs. Andrews, seconded by Mrs. Vincent and VOTED to approve the regular meeting minutes of January 13, 2020 as written.

Vote: UNANIMOUS

AGENDA ITEM #5: CORRESPONDENCE AND ENCLOSURES
ENCLOSURES

- Berkley School Committee minutes (1/13/20)
- Principals' Reports
- Budget Report (2/8/20)
- School Year Calendar draft, 2020/21

- SBRHS The Blue Raider Read, Feb. 2020 & DECA announcement
- Policies for 2nd reading: Definitions Related to Collective Bargaining Policy #8100, Determination of Bargaining Agent Policy #8200, Agency Service Fee Policy #8220, School Committee Negotiating Agents Policy #1141, Sexual Harassment/Harassment Policy #1145, Objectives Policy #1131, Evaluation Process for Review of School Committee Policies & Procedures
- Capital Expense Needs info.
- Enrollment 2/3/20

ONE COPY FOLDER

- Principals' Newsletters, Feb. 2020
- Berkley School Committee Newsletter, January 2020
- February 2020 Office Schedule
- READS Annual Report for 2018-2019
- BPS, BMS & BCS 2019 Report Card cover letters
- Thank you letters to Lions Club & BAA for Bournedale Scholarships

NIGHT OF MEETING FOLDER

- Superintendent's Mid-Cycle Review

Mr. Lynch referenced the posting for vacation week office hours, thank you letters to Berkley Lions Club (\$850) and BAA (\$425) for their continued support of Camp Bournedale, DESE report card cover letters to parents and READS Collaborative Annual Report for 2018/19.

AGENDA ITEM #6: PUBLIC INPUT

AGENDA ITEM #7: EDUCATIONAL REPORTS

AGENDA ITEM #7a: PRINCIPALS' REPORTS ON SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Mrs. Hebert stated middle school basketball ended today and unified basketball is beginning, items are being collected for the New Hope Shelter in Attleboro, and a team of teachers are working with DESE on the middle school career and academic frameworks. This year's drama production of Into the Woods, Jr. was incredible! It was noted that the two creative directors are former Berkley students who attend SBRHS.

Mrs. Francisco stated the students in grades 3 and 4 had a great time visiting BMS for the dress rehearsal of Into the Woods Jr. She thanked Ms. Durand for all her work installing the 129 pieces of new technology recently received and stated students are doing very well with the new Google classroom platform.

AGENDA ITEM #8: ADMINISTRATIVE & SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPORTS

AGENDA ITEM #8a: SOMERSET BERKLEY REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE

The Committee acknowledged that SBRHS student representative Grace Sedell selected by MA DECA to serve as a social media correspondent at the State Career Development Conference. Grace stated that schedule preparations for next year are underway, this month's activities include an art exhibit and dodgeball tournament. She reported on AAA driver's ed. classes, Raider Dress Boutique and DECA. Emily Rose reported on B/P happenings. This month freshmen were placed in their shops and juniors are on co-op. The Community Service Club is travelling to Florida to work with Habitat for Humanity on housing for veterans. The Skills USA and DECA competitions are this month. Mr. Ghilarducci commended Mrs. Francisco and Mrs. Hebert for all they do to prepare our students for high school. He reported that 20 of the 59 students inducted at the SBRHS National Honor Society are Berkley residents and the guest speaker this year was a former Berkley student who attends Bryant University.

AGENDA ITEM #8b: SUPERINTENDENT'S MID-CYCLE PROGRESS REPORT

Mrs. Weber reported that four out of the five goals are on target to be met for 2019/20.

Professional Practice Goal:

- The Superintendent will work closely with the Administrative Team and the Berkley Police and Fire Departments to provide for the safety of our students and staff during the 2019/2020 school year.

Student Learning Goals:

- During the 2019/2020 school year, the Superintendent will form and oversee the Mathematics Curriculum Review Committee, resulting in purchasing (if funds are available), Mathematics programs for Berkley Public Schools.
- In Grades K-5, the newly acquired My View ELA curriculum materials will be utilized to address ELA standards in differentiated small group learning experiences during the 2019/2020 school year.

District Improvement Goals:

- By utilizing the current appropriated budget, Berkley Public Schools will maintain current average class sizes, preserve and possibly restore educational programs, and increase integration of technology in the classroom setting in the 2019/2020 school year.
- The Superintendent will work with the Facility Subcommittee and the MA School Building Authority (MSBA) during the 2019/2020 school year to prioritize the capital improvement needs of Berkley Public Schools. (will reapply in April)

AGENDA ITEM #8c: FACILITIES UPDATE

Mr. Lynch reported that the electrical engineer walked the entire Berkley Community School to identify every light and bulb that needs replacing. Once the specifications are complete, we will go to bid for the project that will be done in the summer when there are no classes in session.

AGENDA ITEM: #8d: STATE EDUCATION BUDGET & STUDENT OPPORTUNITY PLAN

Governor Baker's proposed Chapter 70 funding for FY '21 has been released. The Student Opportunity Act (SOA) is providing Berkley with an increase of \$30 per child, for a total increase of \$22,920. Mr. Lynch reported that the new funding assists only 35 districts out of 371 in the state. We may get some assistance with special ed. transportation and circuit breaker but not enough to implement or re-implement programs. Our student opportunity short form plan will be completed and shared with the Committee in March so it may be submitted to DESE as required by April 1.

AGENDA ITEM #9: UNFINISHED BUSINESS

AGENDA ITEM #9a: POLICY READINGS

It was moved by Mrs. Vincent, seconded by Ms. Fagan, and VOTED to approve 2nd readings for: Definitions Related to Collective Bargaining Policy #8100, Determination of Bargaining Agent Policy #8200, Agency Service Fee Policy #8220, School Committee Negotiating Agents Policy #1141, Sexual Harassment/Harassment Policy #1145, Objectives Policy #1131, Evaluation Process for Review of School Committee Policies & Procedures

Vote: UNANIMOUS

AGENDA ITEM #9b: SCHOOL DEPARTMENT BUDGET FY '20

FY'20 remains in good shape.

AGENDA ITEM #10: NEW BUSINESS

AGENDA ITEM #10a: SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR DRAFT, 2020/21

Mr. Lynch reviewed the draft calendar for 2020/2021. It shows staff professional development/orientation on Tuesday, Sept. 1; Grades 1-8 first day Wednesday, Sept. 2; holiday break from Thursday, December 24 through Friday, January 1 and the last day of school with no snow days on Thursday, June 17, 2021. It will be shared with the teachers for their feedback. It was suggested that if agreeable to teachers, change staff professional development/orientation day to Monday, August 31 and have no school on Friday, Sept. 4; move March 2 PD day to a Monday or Friday (provided there's no voting that day), and make December 23 a half day. This will be further reviewed and voted at the March meeting.

AGENDA ITEM #10b: JUNE 2020 SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

Two members are unable to attend the June 8 SC meeting. There was agreement to cancel the June 8 meeting and schedule a meeting for June 1 at 5:30 PM at BCS prior to the annual town meeting.

AGENDA ITEM #10c: CAPITAL EXPENSE REQUEST FY '21

The Superintendent reviewed capital budget requests recommended for next year which are, in order of priority:

- 1) Grades K-5 math program: \$41,475
- 2) Dump truck with plow/sander: \$62,680
- 3) BCS classroom furniture: \$51,156

It was moved by Mrs. Andrews, seconded by Mrs. Vincent and VOTED to approve the capital budget requests for FY '21 as presented.

Vote: UNANIMOUS

AGENDA IEM #11: SUPERINTENDENT’S PERSONNEL REPORT

AGENDA ITEM #11a: RESIGNATION/RETIREMENT

AGENDA ITEM #11b: APPOINTMENT/TRANSFER

Deborah Thomas, Long Term Substitute Paraprofessional (BCS)

James Baldi, Long Term Substitute Paraprofessional (BMS)

AGENDA ITEM #12: ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Mrs. Vincent, seconded by Mr. Ghilarducci and VOTED to adjourn at 7:18 PM.

Vote: UNANIMOUS

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Vincent, Secretary