

**Berkley School Committee
Regular Meeting
July 27, 2020**

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

The regular meeting of the Berkley School Committee was held at the Berkley Community School Library on Monday, July 27, 2020. Mrs. Weber, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:33 PM, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present

Tara Weber
Christopher Ghilarducci
Daniel Fagan
Jilleen Solomon
Jennifer Vincent

Other

Thomas Lynch, Superintendent
Patricia Silvia, Executive Assistant to Supt. & S.C.
Jennifer Francisco, Principal, BCS
Kimberly Hebert, Principal, BMS
Diane Maxwell, BTA Co-President
Public

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: APPROVE BILLS AND PAYROLLS

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

Vote: UNANIMOUS

AGENDA ITEM #3: APPROVE AND SIGN MINUTES

It was moved by Mrs. Vincent, seconded by Mr. Fagan and VOTED to approve the regular meeting minutes of May 11, 2020, Executive Session minutes of May 11, 2020 and special meeting minutes of June 9, 2020 as written.

Vote: UNANIMOUS

AGENDA ITEM #4: CORRESPONDENCE AND ENCLOSURES

Enclosures:

- School Committee meeting minutes (5/11/20, 6/9/20)
- Proposed School Committee Meeting Schedule, 2020/21
- BCS School Improvement Plan, 2020/21
- BMS School Improvement Plan, 2020/21
- District Curriculum Accommodation Plan 2020/21
- Enrollment June 1, 2020
- School Committee Listing, 2020/21

One Copy Folder:

- MASC Resolution Communication, 6/15/20
- BPS End of Year Audit, June 30, 2019
- FY '20 ESSA Program Monitoring Completion notice, 6/24/20
- South Coast Educational Collaborative Agreement, 7/1/20
- Resignation letter, Dennis Faria
- Retirement letters: Leslie Rafferty, Henry Botelho
- BCS Lighting Upgrade bid summary from William Starck Architects, Inc.

Night of Meeting Folder:

- School Re-opening Drafts: BPS Hybrid Model, BCS School Year Details 2020/21, BMS Reopening Plan 2020/21

Mr. Lynch referenced the letter and bid summary from William Starck Architects, Inc. The low bidder for the BCS Lighting upgrade project was Young Electrical Services from Taunton. Mr. Lynch reported he met with the Board of Selectmen regarding special education costs of high school students who are outplaced. This issue will be considered when the high school regionalization agreement is reviewed this year; the plan is reviewed every five years. Mr. Lynch referenced the FY' 19 school department audit results which show no findings.

AGENDA ITEM #5: PUBLIC INPUT

AGENDA ITEM #6: EDUCATIONAL REPORTS

No reports this month.

AGENDA ITEM #7: ADMINISTRATIVE AND SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPORTS

AGENDA ITEM #7a: PLANS FOR RE-OPENING SCHOOLS

Mr. Lynch reported that a hybrid model is being considered for reopening schools in September. A preliminary plan is due to DESE by July 31; the final plan is due by August 10. BCS and BMS plans are similar, they provide a safe learning environment and follow DESE regulations. Mrs. Francisco provided a thorough review of the draft BCS re-opening plan. At this time, parents should assume Surround Care will not be available. Transportation was discussed in length as it may be the more difficult aspect of re-opening to manage. Transportation costs \$372K/year for seven buses. If it's necessary to stagger start times and add bus runs, the number could double. A meeting will be held with our bus vendor to further discuss the regulations and options. Survey results indicated 93% of parents plan to send their students to school in September; 60% plan to use the bus in the morning and 65% plan to use the bus in the afternoon. Mr. Lynch reported that the town has agreed to purchase chrome books out of Cares Act funds so all students have a device if it's necessary to go full remote; additional funds also may be requested for increased transportation costs. It was stated that the preferred model for Berkley at this time is the cohort model where students would have five days of learning, three at home and two in school. Wednesday would be a deep clean day.

This could change any time based on state and DESE regulations. Amy Comeau, a parent, asked the Committee when parents will be notified and asked if sibling grouping includes high school.

AGENDA ITEM #7b: SOMERSET BERKLEY REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Mrs. Vincent reported the high school is in the same place as Berkley right now. They are reviewing policies for any that need changing due to Covid-19.

AGENDA ITEM #7c: FACILITIES UPDATE

The Board of Selectmen awarded the BCS Lighting upgrade bid on July 22 to Young Electric at a price of \$168,298. Work will begin next week and should be done by August 18. Cleaning and floor waxing are complete in both schools.

AGENDA ITEM #8: UNFINISHED BUSINESS

AGENDA ITEM #8a: BERKLEY SCHOOL DEPARTMENT BUDGET FY '21

No budget at this time.

AGENDA ITEM #9: NEW BUSINESS

AGENDA ITEM #9a: SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULE

A proposed schedule for 2020/21 was circulated. There was agreement to meet August 4 at 4:30 in the BMS Library to approve the school re-opening plan that is due to DESE by August 10.

AGENDA ITEM #9b: SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLANS (SIP), 2020/21

Postpone to next meeting.

AGENDA ITEM #9c: CURRICULUM ACCOMMODATION PLAN (CAP), 2020/21

Postpone to next meeting.

AGENDA ITEM #9d: PROPOSED DISTRICT GOALS 2020/21

Postpone to next meeting.

AGENDA ITEM #9e: END-OF-CYCLE SUMMATIVE EVALUATION REPORT: SUPERINTENDENT

Postpone to next meeting.

AGENDA ITEM #9f: STUDENT OPPORTUNITY PLAN (SOA)

Postpone to next meeting.

AGENDA ITEM #9g: NEW MEMBER DISTRICTS, SOUTH COAST EDUCATIONAL COLLABORATIVE

New Bedford Public Schools and Westport Public Schools have requested to join the South Coast Educational Collaborative. Berkley, as a member district, is required to vote acceptance of each district separately.

It was moved by Mr. Ghilarducci, seconded by Mrs. Vincent and VOTED to approve that **Westport School District** join the South Coast Educational Collaborative, as a member, with full benefits, privileges and responsibilities and subject to the terms and conditions of the Collaborative Agreement, approval by the Department of Education and subject to applicable Commonwealth rules and regulations; and

moved that the Chairman of this School Committee is authorized, on behalf of the Committee, to execute all appropriate documentation to consummate the Committee's decision; and

moved that the Superintendent of Schools is appointed as the District's representative on the Collaborative Board.

Vote: UNANIMOUS

It was moved by Mr. Ghilarducci, seconded by Mr. Fagan and VOTED to approve that **New Bedford School District** join the South Coast Educational Collaborative, as a member, with full benefits, privileges and responsibilities and subject to the terms and conditions of the Collaborative Agreement, approval by the Department of Education and subject to applicable Commonwealth rules and regulations; and

moved that the Chairman of this School Committee is authorized, on behalf of the Committee, to execute all appropriate documentation to consummate the Committee's decision; and

moved that the Superintendent of Schools is appointed as the District's representative on the Collaborative Board.

Vote: UNANIMOUS

AGENDA ITEM #9h: RESOLUTION ON COVID-19 FUNDING (VOTE)

MASC has recommended approval of this resolution.

COVID-19 STATE FUNDING RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, if schools are to re-open this fall in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, it is the responsibility of each school district to do so safely and responsibly; and

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of the state to ensure that each school district is able to pay for the enormous additional staffing, transportation and material expenses required to do this; and

WHEREAS, the state cannot expect mandatory COVID-19 safety guidelines to be followed without also ensuring that each school district has the funds required to implement these guidelines; therefore, let it be

RESOLVED: that the state must guarantee every school district full reimbursement for whatever COVID-19 expenses are required to follow state mandates.

We must ensure a statewide school re-opening that is safe, responsible and equitable.

It was moved by Mrs. Vincent, seconded by Mr. Ghilarducci and VOTED to approve the Covid-19 State Funding Resolution as written.

Vote: UNANIMOUS

AGENDA ITEM #9i: RESOLUTION ON DIVERSITY (VOTE)

MASC has recommended approval of this resolution.

ANTI-RACISM RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, as schools have the responsibility to equip students with their civil right of obtaining a free and appropriate public education, it is the responsibility of each school to ensure we create a welcoming community for ALL students; and

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility that every district provides to all district staff, including School Committee members' annual professional development on diversity, equity and inclusion; and

WHEREAS, every district will commit to recruiting and retaining a diverse and culturally responsive teaching workforce; and

WHEREAS, every district will examine their policies for institutional and systemic racialized practices and implement change with sustainable policies that are evidence based; and

WHEREAS, every district will incorporate into their curriculum the history of racial oppression and works by black authors and works from diverse perspectives; and

WHEREAS, we as school district leaders can no longer remain silent to the issues of racism and hate that continue to plague our public and private institutions;

RESOLVED: that Berkley and all the school districts in the Commonwealth must guarantee that racist practices are eradicated, and diversity, equity and inclusion is embedded and practiced for our students, families, faculty and staff.

We must ensure our own school culture and that of every district in the Commonwealth is anti-racist, that acknowledges that all lives cannot matter until black lives matter.

Mr. Fagan asked if there is a curriculum, questioned if it will be forthcoming and stated he is not in support of this without having additional details.

It was moved by Mrs. Vincent, seconded by Mr. Ghilarducci and VOTED to approve the Anti-Racism Resolution as written.

**Vote: Mrs. Weber – AYE
Mrs. Vincent – AYE
Mrs. Solomon – AYE
Mr. Ghilarducci – AYE
Mr. Fagan – NAY**

AGENDA ITEM #10: SUPERINTENDENT'S PERSONNEL REPORT

AGENDA ITEM #10a: RESIGNATION

Amanda LaMeire, Gr. 7 Sp. Ed. Teacher

RETIREMENTS

Diane Renaud, Paraprofessional, BCS
Henry (Hank) Botelho, Gr. 8 Science Teacher
Leslie Rafferty, Gr. 8 Sp. Ed. Teacher (June 2021)

AGENDA ITEM #10b: APPOINTMENTS

Christian DeLano, Gr. 8 Science Teacher
Brenda Froio, Long Term Sub. Teacher, Grade 5
Jeffrey Carreiro, Special Ed. Teacher/The Learning Center
Amy Lee-Vieira, Board Certified Behavior Analyst/Behavior Specialist

TRANSFER

Timothy Marcel, Life Skills to Gr. 7 Sp. Ed. Teacher

AGENDA ITEM #11: EXECUTIVE SESSION (ROLL CALL VOTE)

It was moved by Mr. Ghilarducci, seconded by Mrs. Vincent and VOTED to enter Executive Session at 6:34 PM in accordance with MGL Chapter 30A, Sec. 21 to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining and/or litigation with union personnel and will not return to Open Session to adjourn.

**Vote: Mrs. Weber – AYE
Mrs. Solomon – AYE
Mrs. Vincent – AYE
Mr. Fagan – AYE
Mr. Ghilarducci - AYE**

It was moved by Mrs. Vincent, seconded by Mr. Fagan and VOTED to exit Executive Session at 6:55 PM and to adjourn the meeting.

**Vote: Mrs. Weber – AYE
Mrs. Solomon – AYE
Mrs. Vincent – AYE
Mr. Fagan – AYE**

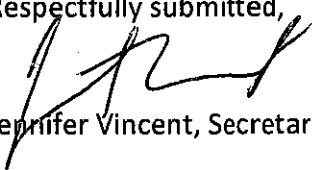
Mr. Ghilarducci - AYE

AGENDA ITEM #12: ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Mrs. Vincent, seconded by Mrs. Solomon and VOTED to adjourn the meeting at 6:55 PM.

Vote: UNANIMOUS

Respectfully submitted,


Jennifer Vincent, Secretary