

**Berkley School Committee  
Regular Meeting & Public Hearings  
April 11, 2022**

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

The regular meeting of the Berkley School Committee and Public Hearings were held in the Berkley Middle School Library on Monday, April 11, 2022. Mrs. Weber, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 6:47 PM, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Present**

Jennifer Vincent  
Kaitlyn Robichaud  
Tara Weber

**Excused**

Daniel Fagan  
Jilleen Solomon

**Other**

Melissa Ryan, Superintendent  
Patricia Silvia, Executive Assistant  
Jennifer Francisco, Principal, BCS  
Kimberly Hebert, Principal, BMS  
Andrea Porter, Business Administrator  
Michelle Bringle, Dona Andreasen, Laura Dietz

It was announced that this is Jennifer Vincent's last School Committee meeting. Mrs. Weber thanked her and presented her with a certificate to recognize all her work on the Committee the last three years.

**AGENDA ITEM #2: PUBLIC HEARING ON SCHOOL DEPARTMENT BUDGET FY '23**

The public hearing was held on the FY '23 School Department budget as is required by MA General Law Chapter 71, Section 38N. Ms. Ryan reported there have not been any changes to the preliminary FY '23 budget request that was previously presented. She has met with Finance Committee; however a final number has not been provided as the state has not yet released their numbers for next year.

**AGENDA ITEM #3: PUBLIC HEARING ON SCHOOL CHOICE 2022/23**

The public hearing on School Choice was held as required by MA General Law Chapter 76, Section 12B. Mrs. Ryan reviewed current choice numbers by grade and school, which total 114. Policy Subcommittee recommends a change to the School Choice Policy to align the policy with the MASC policy which approves choice seats by school rather than by grade. It is recommended that the School Committee vote later in the meeting to accept School Choice students in 2022/23 with up to 40 choice slots at BCS and up to 15 choice slots at BMS.

**AGENDA ITEM #4: APPROVE BILLS AND PAYROLLS**

It was moved by Mrs. Vincent, seconded by Mrs. Robichaud and VOTED to approve the bills and payrolls.

**Vote: UNANIMOUS**

**AGENDA ITEM #5: APPROVE AND SIGN MINUTES**

Table to next meeting.

**AGENDA ITEM #6: CORRESPONDENCE AND ENCLOSURES**

- Berkley School Committee minutes (3/14/22)
- Principals' Reports
- Budget Statement (4/9/22)
- Enrollment (4/1/22)
- Policy Subcommittee minutes (3/28/22)
- Policies for 1st Reading: School Choice Policy #6133 / MASC JFBB, School Day #5533, Non-Discrimination Policy Including Harassment and Retaliation #1148 / MASC AC-R, Harassment of Students #1146 / MASC JICK, and Sexual Harassment #1145 / MASC ACAB.
- Enrollment

**One Copy Folder**

- April Office Schedule
- Newsletters
- Letter to Grace Tweedle (Writing Contest 2<sup>nd</sup> place)
- Berkley Fire & Rescue letter (75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary)
- MASC Charting the Course

Mrs. Ryan referenced Charting the Course training that some School Committee members will attend in May and a letter to Grace Tweedle who placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in a the writing contest.

**AGENDA ITEM #7: PUBLIC INPUT**

**AGENDA ITEM #8: EDUCATIONAL REPORTS**

**AGENDA ITEM #8a: PRINCIPALS' REPORTS**

BCS: Mrs. Francisco reported on the return to original scheduling, Spring PD Day, Staff Service Awards, Kindergarten guest readers, 120<sup>th</sup> day of school celebration, MCAS, Square One Art fundraiser, PBIS and core value recognition, and Parent/Teacher conferences.

BMS: Mrs. Hebert reported on student bus stop changes, middle school start/end time changes (7:55/2:20), Megan Costa's Cradle to Clothing Project (BMS 351 Ambassador), Spring sports, After School Programs, Unified Basketball, spring pictures, and grade 8 year-end activities.

**AGENDA ITEM #8b: CURRICULUM ACCELERATION TEAM (CAT)**

The April 7 professional development day focused on curriculum. Staff are doing a lot of good work documenting their curriculum in Atlas. The end result will be a comprehensive curriculum document for the district. CAT will meet again after April vacation to discuss PD for the summer.

**AGENDA ITEM #9: ADMINISTRATIVE & SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**AGENDA ITEM #9a: SOMERSET BERKLEY REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE**

Mrs. Vincent reported on upcoming high school events: May 6 is prom, Little Mermaid production is April 28 – May 1. HS Summer Learning Center information will be out soon, June 3 is graduation (rain date June 4). The budget hearing was held at the end of March; a 3.33% increase was approved for next year's budget.

**AGENDA ITEM #9b: SCHOOL BUILDING COMMITTEE/BCS PROJECT**

MA School Building Authority (MSBA) has notified us of a meeting scheduled April 27 for final review of the BCS building project application.

**AGENDA ITEM #9c: POLICY SUBCOMMITTEE**

The Subcommittee recommends the School Choice Policy #6133 be aligned to match the MASC policy to approve choice seats by school rather than by grade. A total number of spots per school will be recommended. In the new process, Principals will receive and recommend approval of requests and forward them to the Superintendent for final approval. Approval is based on enrollment in the grade and class size. This change will give current students/ families the opportunity to remain in Berkley schools as school choice students if they move out of town.

**AGENDA ITEM #10: UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**AGENDA ITEM #10a: POLICY READINGS**

It was moved by Mrs. Vincent, seconded by Mrs. Robichaud and VOTED to approve 1<sup>st</sup> readings to amend the following policies: School Choice Policy #6133 / MASC JFBB, School Day #5533, Non-Discrimination Policy Including Harassment and Retaliation #1148 / MASC AC-R, Harassment of Students #1146 / MASC JICK and Sexual Harassment #1145 / MASC ACAB as presented.

**Vote: UNANIMOUS**

**AGENDA ITEM #10b: SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR 2021/22**

It is recommended that the Committee vote **Tuesday, June 21, 2022** the last day for this school year; the last day is an early release day (two snow days were used). Grade 8 graduation will be on Thursday, June 16.

It was moved by Mrs. Vincent, seconded by Mrs. Robichaud and VOTED to approve June 21, 2022 as the last day of school for the 2021/22 school year.

**Vote: UNANIMOUS**

**AGENDA ITEM #10c: SCHOOL DEPARTMENT BUDGET 2021/22**

The budget remains in good standing.

**AGENDA ITEM #11: NEW BUSINESS**

**AGENDA ITEM #11a: SCHOOL CHOICE FOR 2022/23**

A vote is recommended to accept School Choice students for the 2022/23 school year by school rather than by grade with up to 40 choice slots at BCS and up to 15 choice slots at BMS.

It was moved by Mrs. Robichaud, seconded by Mrs. Vincent and VOTED to approve Choice students be accepted by school for 2022/23 as recommended (BCS up to 40 choice slots, BMS up to 15 choice slots).

**Vote: UNANIMOUS**

**AGENDA ITEM #12: SUPERINTENDENT'S PERSONNEL REPORT**

**AGENDA ITEM #12a: RESIGNATION/RETIREMENT**

None

**AGENDA ITEM #12b: APPOINTMENT/TRANSFER**

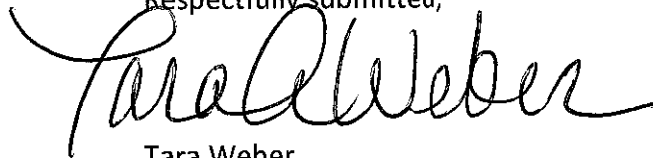
None

**AGENDA ITEM #13: ADJOURNMENT**

It was moved by Mrs. Vincent, seconded by Mrs. Robichaud and VOTED to adjourn at 7:15 PM.

**Vote: UNANIMOUS**

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tara Weber". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Tara" and last name "Weber" clearly distinguishable.

Tara Weber  
Chair