

TRANSCRIPT OF RECORDED MINUTES

OF

THE METHUEN SCHOOL COMMITTEE

BUSINESS SESSION

OF

DECEMBER 11, 2017

SUBMITTED FOR THE APPROVAL OF:

THE METHUEN SCHOOL COMMITTEE

AND

THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

“AN OPEN MEETING ADVANTAGE FOR THE COMMUNITY OF METHUEN”

RECORDED BY:  
MARTHA SIROIS, PUBLIC RECORDER

**TRANSCRIPT OF RECORDED MINUTES**  
**METHUEN SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**BUSINESS SESSION**  
**DECEMBER 11, 2017**

This Business Session of the Methuen School Committee was held at Methuen High School, Media Center, and was posted for 6:30 PM.

**ROLL CALL**

Mr. Dennis D.J. Deeb (P)  
Mr. Robert F. Vogler, Secretary (P)  
Ms. Lynne Hajjar Kumm, Vice Chairperson (P)  
Ms. Joyce C. Campagnone (P)  
Mr. Nicholas DiZoglio (NP) (Entered meeting at 6:40pm)  
Ms. Jana DiNatale (P)  
Mayor Stephen Zanni, Chairperson (P)

**MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Mr. Dennis D.J. Deeb  
Mr. Robert F. Vogler, Secretary  
Ms. Lynne Hajjar Kumm, Vice Chairperson  
Ms. Joyce C. Campagnone  
Mr. Nicholas DiZoglio (Entered meeting at 6:40pm)  
Ms. Jana DiNatale  
Mayor Stephen Zanni, Chairperson

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Mrs. Judith Scannell, Superintendent of Schools  
Dr. Brandi Kwong, Assistant Superintendent of C.I.A. and Grants  
Mr. Ian Gosselin, Business Administrator  
Ms. Haley Hamilton Student Representative  
Ms. Martha Sirois, Public Recorder

**1. CALL TO ORDER AND ATTENDANCE:**

Mayor Stephen N. Zanni called this Business Session to order at 6:30 p.m. with a quorum of members in attendance, and listed above.

**MOTION:** Ms. Campagnone motioned to accept the agenda as presented  
Mr. Deeb seconded the motion to approve as presented.

**DISCUSSION:** None

**VOTE:** 6-0-0 APPROVED

**a. FLAG SALUTE**

Superintendent-She introduced Christopher Reeve, Supervising Principal at the Comprehensive Grammar School. Principal Reeve introduced the out going School Committee Member's children and grandchildren to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

**2. PARTICIPATION BY OTHERS:****a. SOAR Award**

Seth Pare was the recipients of the S.O.A.R. Award at this meeting. Mr. Lenfest, Social Studies Department Chair, chose Seth for this award.

**b. STUDENT****1. 2017 Veterans Day Poster Contest Winners**

Superintendent-She introduced Tom Hargreaves, Director of Methuen Office of Veteran's Service, who introduced the winners. Each winner received a \$50.00 Gift Card and each runner-up received a \$25.00 Gift Card. Donations given towards the Gift Cards are from American Legion Post 122, Methuen, Arnold F. Greenwood Post 8349 VFW, Methuen, Lawrence Vietnam Memorial and John Hancock Masonic Lodge.

Kindergarten-Grade 2

1st Place Alan Twomey Kindergarten - CGS

2nd Place Benjamin Garcia Grade 1 - Tenney

Grades 3-5

1st Place Summer Tadiello Grade 5 - CGS

2nd Place Sofia Federico Grade 4 - Marsh

Grades 6-8

1st Place Carolyn Gray Grade 7 - Tenney

2nd Place Calista Catarius Grade 6 - Marsh

**2. Student Advisory Council**

Ms. Haley Hamilton, Student Representative-MHS recently had their National Honor Society induction of Juniors and Seniors. Senior students created a grateful wall. The patio outside of the dining area has been completed and students are eating outside.

**c. Public**

NONE

**d. Final Comments from Outgoing Committee Members**

Citations were given by State Representative Linda Dean Campbell's Office, Senator Kathleen Ives' Office, Methuen Public Schools and Methuen Public Schools Leadership Team.

Final Comments were given by Outgoing School Committee Members Joyce Campagnone, Lynne Hajjar Kumm and Mayor Stephen Zanni.

Recess at 7:02pm for photos

Meeting resumed 7:13

### **3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION:** Mr. Vogler motioned to accept the Minutes for September 11, 2017, September 25, 2017 and November 13, 2017 as presented  
Ms. Campagnone seconded the motion to approve as presented.

**DISCUSSION:** None

**VOTE:** 7-0-0 APPROVED

**MOTION:** Mr. Vogler motioned to accept the Minutes for October 10, 2017 as presented

Ms. Campagnone seconded the motion to approve as presented.

**DISCUSSION:** None

**VOTE:** 6-0-1 APPROVED (Mayor Zanni Abstained)

**MOTION:** Mr. Vogler motioned to accept the Minutes for October 23, 2017 as presented

Ms. Campagnone seconded the motion to approve as presented.

**DISCUSSION:** None

**VOTE:** 6-0-1 APPROVED (Mr. DiZoglio Abstained)

**MOTION:** Mr. Vogler motioned to accept the Minutes for November 27, 2017 as presented

Ms. Campagnone seconded the motion to approve as presented.

**DISCUSSION:** None

**VOTE:** 5-0-2 APPROVED (Mayor Zanni and Ms. DiNatale Abstained)

### **4. STAFF REPORTS:**

#### **a. Superintendent's Monthly Report**

Mr. DiZoglio commented on the MHS Theater Presentation of a Christmas Carol. "It was great".

1. **Ameresco Update**-Ed Lapore from Ameresco gave his presentation.

Mr. DiZoglio-Is the project on time? Is it under budget?

Mr. Lapore-We are presently \$150,000.00 under budget. He will not have an actual figure until the project is complete.

Mr. DiZoglio-What percentage of the project is completed?

Mr. Lapore-40% completed.

Mr. DiZoglio-Can we speed up any parts of the project?

Mr. Lapore-He has put out RFP's and will see who can do the worker quicker.

Mr. DiZoglio-Why is there no Demand Control Ventilation going in at the Marsh?

Mr. Lapore-It is already at the Marsh. There would be no equity savings.

Ms. DiNatale-What percentage of the lighting is LED?

Mr. Lapore-70%

Ms. DiNatale-Will the Ice Rink Dehumidification System allow the Ice Rink to be used all year? Will it eliminate fogging and slushy ice?

Mr. Lapore-Yes, the Ice Rink will be able to be used all year. There will be no fog and the humidity should be totally gone.

Mayor-One of the biggest concerns was lighting. LED lighting over time will save money. The Ice Rink will be open all year. We will need a new Zamboni.

## **2. Academic Bowl Update**

Ms. DiNatale-She thanked the Superintendent for the update. She is concerned about the size of the teams. Are all students allowed to participate in the tryouts?

Superintendent-Yes. It is always our goal to build up the numbers.

Ms. Hajjar Kumm-Is there specific criteria?

Dr. Kwong-It is open for all students.

Ms. Hajjar Kumm-Is there expectations and standards?

Dr. Kwong-Yes. Expectations and team challenges.

Ms. DiNatale-There are 4 competition dates in the memo. Are there practices and team meetings?

Dr. Kwong-The advisors will decide how many. They have received a packet of examples. They know what is expected during the time period.

Mayor-How many members on each team?

Dr. Kwong-Teams of 6 along with alternates.

Mayor-In the future, he would like them to challenge other school districts.

## **3. Eureka Math**

Superintendent-Dr. Kwong did a verbal video for her webpage about Eureka Math. Hopefully this will make a difference.

### **b. Instructional Technology Monthly Report**

NONE

### **c. Facilities and Grounds Monthly Update**

Mayor-He met with the track designer. They are also putting up a building to house equipment. The track is out to bid. There is \$295,000.00 left from the building fund to go towards the track, Timony Auditorium repairs and the CGS roof repairs. The crash bars are completed at MHS.

Mr. DiZoglio-Is the Timony auditorium being used while waiting for the repairs?

Superintendent-Yes

Mr. DiZoglio-Please keep us updated on the progress.

### **d. Physical Education, Health, F.C.S. & Wellness Monthly Update**

NONE

### **e. Residency Monthly Update**

NONE

### **f. School Resource Officers Monthly Update**

NONE

### **g. Student Services Updates**

**1. Homeless Update** NONE

**2. PreK Numbers** NONE

**3. Out of District Update** NONE

**4. Medicaid Update** NONE

## **5. OLD BUSINESS AND OTHER PENDING MATTERS**

NONE

**6. NEW BUSINESS**

**a. Game Change: the Patriots Anti-Violence Partnership**

MHS Supervising Principal Barden and MHS Athletic Director Matthew Curran gave a brief presentation.

Ms. Hajjar Kumm-How was MHS selected for this Partnership?

Mr. Curran-They submitted and were awarded a Grant.

**7. FINANCE AND OPERATIONS:**

a. Expenditure Report - Monthly

NONE

b. Revolving Funds Report – Monthly

Mr. DiZoglio-The Ice Rink is showing a negative balance.

Mr. Gosselin-He just made another deposit to the account. This deposit should bring the account out of the red.

Mayor-The Ice Rink will show a profit once it is opened all year.

1. Methuen High School Auditorium-Update

Superintendent-The Auditorium has been very busy with rentals.

c. Grants Report - Monthly

NONE

d. Student Activity Accounts - Monthly

NONE

e. Food Services – Monthly

NONE

f. Bid Awards

NONE

g. Contract Approval

1. Snow Plowing/Removal Services for FY'18-Approval

**MOTION:** Ms. Hajjar Kumm motioned to accept the Snow Plowing/Removal Services for FY'18

Mr. Vogler seconded the motion

**VOTE:** 6-0-1 UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED (Ms. Campagnone was not in the room during the vote)

h. Budget Transfers

NONE

**8. NOTIFICATION OF APPOINTMENTS AND OTHER PERSONNEL MATTERS:**

a. Personnel Transactions

NONE

b. Professional Staff

NONE

c. Support Staff

NONE

d. Personnel Matters Requiring Committee Action.

NONE

e. Notification of Vacancy Postings  
NONE

**9. Executive Session:**

**Enter into Executive Session**

8:09PM

**MOTION:** Mr. Vogler motioned to go into Executive Session for the purpose to discuss the Superintendent's evaluation and then return to the Business Meeting

Mr. Deeb seconded the motion

**VOTE:** 7-0-0 UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

Roll Call to go into Executive Session to Review the Superintendent's Evaluation

**ROLL CALL**

Mr. Dennis D.J. Deeb (P)

Mr. Robert F. Vogler, Secretary (P)

Ms. Lynne Hajjar Kumm, Vice Chairperson (P)

Ms. Joyce C. Campagnone (P)

Mr. Nicholas DiZoglio (P)

Ms. Jana DiNatale (P)

Mayor Stephen Zanni, Chairperson (P)

**Enter Back into Business Session**

8:38PM

**MOTION:** Mr. Vogler motioned to leave Executive Session and return to the Business Meeting

Ms. Campagnone seconded the motion

**VOTE:** 7-0-0 UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

**ROLL CALL**

Mr. Dennis D.J. Deeb (P)

Mr. Robert F. Vogler, Secretary (P)

Ms. Lynne Hajjar Kumm, Vice Chairperson (P)

Ms. Joyce C. Campagnone (P)

Mr. Nicholas DiZoglio (P)

Ms. Jana DiNatale (P)

Mayor Stephen Zanni, Chairperson (P)

Entered Back into Business Session

**10. BUSINESS FROM THE COMMITTEE**

a. Superintendent Evaluation-Approval

Mr. Vogler-Superintendent Scannell received an overall Evaluation score of 3.6 which is proficient +.

Mr. Deeb-The Superintendent received another outstanding evaluation. They are fortunate and proud. This Superintendent is a gift to our Community.

Mr. Vogler-He is very proud of the Superintendent. He has served 4 Superintendents. This Superintendent is approachable, involved and knows parents. She is very dedicated.

Ms. Hajjar Kumm-Methuen is very lucky to have this Superintendent. She leads by example. Our District pride is off the charts.

Ms. Campagnone-She thanked the Superintendent for putting in 110%. She has taken this District to a higher level. She is proud Superintendent Scannell is their leader.

Mr. DiZoglio-He is glad and grateful to be working with Judy. She creates partnerships. He asks questions and gets answers. He looks forward to continuing the partnership.

Ms. DiNatale-Proficient means the Superintendent is meeting every goal. She has done great things for our students and parents, no fee sports, no fee transportation and no fee after school programs. We are lucky our Superintendent is very involved. She meets the needs of every student in every building. She continues to rise to the challenges.

Mayor-We were not in a very good place when Superintendent Scannell started. She does not cave in, she gives her opinions. She answers emails and telephone calls. It is not an easy job and he appreciates what she has done.

Superintendent-She thanked the School Committee for their thoughtful words. She thanked them for being a great team around her and hopes they continue to work together. She thanked the departing School Committee Members for helping her to move the District forward. The Students and Staff are thriving. There are fantastic things going on in this Community.

The Committee each thanked the departing members, Joyce Campagnone, Lynne Hajjar Kumm and Mayor Zanni. It was a pleasure working with each of them and they wished them well.

**11. ADJOURNMENT:**

With no further business to discuss at this Business Session, Mayor Zanni entertained a motion to conclude the Business Session for the evening at 9:03 pm.

**MOTION:** Mr. Vogler moved to adjourn the Business Session at 9:03 pm.

Ms. Campagnone seconded the motion

**VOTE:** 7-0-0 UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

Respectfully submitted,  
 Martha Sirois, Public Recorder  
 Methuen Public Schools