

TRANSCRIPT OF RECORDED MINUTES

OF

THE METHUEN SCHOOL COMMITTEE

BUSINESS SESSION

MARCH 9, 2020

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:

DEIDRE RUNGE, PUBLIC RECORDER

TRANSCRIPT OF RECORDED MINUTES
METHUEN SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
BUSINESS SESSION
MARCH 9, 2020

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

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ATTENDANCE:

Mayor Perry called the Organizational/Business Meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. with a quorum of members in attendance, and listed below.

ROLL CALL

Ryan DiZoglio (P)
Karen Hallbauer (P)
Jessica MacLeod (NP)
Susan M. Nicholson (P)
Louann Santos (P)
Jana Zanni Pesce (P)
Mayor Neil P. Perry, Chairperson (P)

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Ryan DiZoglio
Karen Hallbauer
Susan M. Nicholson (left at 8:02 p.m)
Louann Santos
Jana Zanni Pesce
Mayor Neil P. Perry, Chairperson

MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE:

Jessica MacLeod

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Brandi Kwong, Superintendent of Schools
Eric McGee – Assistant Superintendent (arrived at 7:00 p.m.)
Ian Gosselin, Business Administrator
Caitlin Jalbert – Student Representative
Deidre Runge, Public Recorder

Acceptance of the Agenda

MOTION: Member Nicholson motioned to approve the agenda
Seconded by Member Pesce

VOTE: 6-0-0 APPROVED

1a Flag Salute

Joshua Magnan, a fourth grade student at the Marsh Grammar School, led the Committee in Opening Exercises of this meeting.

2. PARTICIPATION BY OTHERS

a. Students

(2a1) Arianna Savoia was the recipient of the S.O.A.R. Award at this meeting. The Foreign Language Department chose Arianna for this Award.

(2a2) Theodore Higginbottom of the Tenney Grammar School is the Project 351 representative for Methuen. Theodore showed a presentation about Project 351.

(2a3) Moynihan Scholar Athlete Award Recipient Xavier Metivier

b. The Committee thanked Lisa Williams Director of the AFC Urgent Care in Methuen for their Scholarship donation.

c. Public Participation – Ann Babagallo, Marsh Grammar School Teacher

3. Approval of Minutes

MOTION: Member Hallbauer motioned to approve the minutes of January 13, 2020

Member DiZoglio seconded the motion

VOTE: 6-0-0 APPROVED

MOTION: Member Santos motioned to approve the minutes of January 27, 2020

Member DiZoglio seconded the motion

VOTE: 5-0-1 APPROVED (Member Pesce voted present)

4. Staff Reports

a. Superintendent's Monthly Report

Mayor – I am looking for a correlation of students whose parents don't have access to those that do have access to the student's account. I would like to have a comparison to include three things: parent involvement; student performance; and student absenteeism.

b. Assistant Superintendent Report

Member Hallbauer asked for a copy of the teacher evaluation and rubric.

c. School Resource Officers Monthly Update

None

5. Old Business and Other Pending Matters

a. Revise and Readopt S.C. Policy #BDE-Subcommittees of the School Committee – Second Reading Approval

MOTION: Member DiZoglio motioned to approve the second read

Member Santos seconded the motion

DISCUSSION: The Committee reviewed and voted for changes one change at a Time

Member Pesce – Do we have to appoint a chairperson

Member DiZoglio – Yes it is in the homerule charter

MOTION: Member Pesce moved to Change Section #2 to read "The Committee to The Mayor and to delete (comprised of a sub-majority of the school committee)

Member DiZoglio approved the motion
VOTE: 6-0-0 UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED
MOTION: Member Pesce moved to strike #4
 Member DiZoglio approved the motion
VOTE: 6-0-0 UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED
MOTION: Member Nicholson motioned to amend section #5 to Read:
 “All other non-school committee members will be selected by the Superintendent of Schools along with the sub-committee”
 Member Santos seconded the motion
VOTE: 5-1-0 APPROVED (Member Pesce voted no)
MOTION: Member Pesce motioned to combine Strike #7 and have #6 read :
 The sub-committee at the first meeting will provide a list of it’s functions and duties to be reflected in the minutes by-laws.”
 Member Santos seconded the motion
VOTE: 6-0-0 UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED
MOTION: Member Pesce motioned to approve as amended
 Member DiZoglio seconded the motion
VOTE: 6-0-0 UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

Member Nicholson left the meeting @ 8:02 p.m.

6. New Business

a. MHS Handbook (updated 3/4/2020) - Approval

MOTION: Member Hallbauer motioned to approve
 Member Santos seconded the motion
DISCUSSION: Superintendent Kwong told the Committee the only changes for approval are the policies that they already have approved at previous meetings.
VOTE: 5-0-0 UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

b. Ice Rink Summer Rates - Approval

MOTION: Member DiZoglio motioned to approve
 Member Santos seconded the motion
DISCUSSION: Member Pesce just asked if we start running in the red that they come back to the Committee
 Mayor – I agree at the endo of the summer we should reexamine.
VOTE: 5-0-0 UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

c. The Superintendent went over the Staff Licensure Update with the Committee

d. The Superintendent went over the DRAFT Student Opportunity Act – Long Form
 that she gave to them to Review. She explained the way you can use the SOA funds is very purposeful, and specifically designated by data and analysis.

7. Finance and Operations

a. Expenditure Report – Monthly - None

1. Transfer of Funds – Approvals

1a – \$38,729.27 from Professional Salaries to Supplies

MOTION: Member DiZoglio motioned to approve
Member Hallbauer seconded the motion

DISCUSSION: Member Pesce – Did we go out to bid on this?
Mr. Gosselin – no we went off the state list.
Member DiZoglio – Do we have other machines that are starting to get old too?
Mr. Gosselin – yes
Member DiZoglio – I would like an inventory list please.

VOTE: 5-0-0 UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

b. Revolving Funds Report – Monthly - None

c. Grants Report – Monthly - None

d. Student Activity Accounts – Monthly - None

e. Food Services – Monthly

Member Pesce – It looks like significant progress has been made in contacting families
Mr. Gosselin – Schools are really in a good place right now

8. Notification of Appointments and Other Personnel Matters

a. Personnel Transactions – None

b. Notification of Vacancy Postings – None

c. Personnel Matters Requiring Committee Action - None

9. BUSINESS FROM THE COMMITTEE

a. Motion to Remove from the Table - Appointment of Chairperson to the Residency Check Sub Committee by the Mayor

MOTION: Member Hallbauer motioned to remove from the TABLE
Member Pesce seconded the motion

VOTE: 5-0-0 UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

b. Appointment of Chairperson to the Residency Check Sub Committee by the Mayor

MOTION: Member DiZoglio motioned to approve
Member Santos seconded the motion

DISCUSSION: A discussion ensued amongst the Committee.

VOTE: 5-0-0 UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

c. Residency Check Sub Committee Update

Member Pesce – we made some treat runs tonight. We focused on other districts policies. We encourage all to attend and come with input.

d. Motion to Remove from the Table Create a School Committee Policy Review Sub-Committee as req. by Member Hallbaeur

MOTION: Member DiZoglio motioned to Remove from the table
Member Pesce seconded the motion

VOTE: 5-0-0 UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

e. Create a School Committee Policy Review Sub-Committee as req. by Member Hallbaeur (the Mayor added Chairperson)

MOTION: Member Hallbauer motioned to create the sub-committee
Member DiZoglio seconded the motion

VOTE: 5-0-0 UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

DISCUSSION: Mr. Gosselin noted that 2 member were absent.

A decision to table due to two absent members to offer to volunteer to be on the sub-committee

MOTION: Member Pesce motioned to put volunteer appoint on the table
Member DiZoglio seconded the motion

VOTE: 5-0-0 UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

f. Joint Meeting as per S.C. Policy #BEB – Discussion

Superintendent told the Committee she will be presenting the Student Opportunity Act at the Joint Meeting with the City Council on March 16, 2020 at 5:30 p.m.. This will be the first of the two joint meetings per S.C. policy #BEB that are needed.

g. Relay for Life Participation by S.C. Members had a discussion about participating in the event and getting the community back involved.

h. Other Business from the Committee

Superintendent – AT this time of year we look at adding budget workshops, and possibly Public Hearing and budget adoption dates.

We would like to add Monday April 6, May 4 and May 18 to the Calendar. We are looking at May 18th as possibly being the Public Hearing and holding the Budget approval at the May 26th workshop. We will have a 5:30 start since the Mayor has City Council Meetings on these days remember we can always do these on a different day than Mondays.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

MOTION: Member Pesce motioned to go into executive session @ 9:00 p.m.
Member Hallbauer seconded the motion

The Mayor read the Motion to go into Executive Session Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, Section 21(a)(3) to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares – Unit A. We will NOT reconvene into open session at the conclusion of the executive session

ROLL CALL

Ryan DiZoglio (Y)

Karen Hallbauer (Y)

Jessica MacLeod (NP)

Susan M. Nicholson (NP)

Louann Santos (Y)

Jana Zanni Pesce (Y)

Mayor Neil P. Perry, Chairperson (Y)

VOTE:

5-0-0 APPROVED

Respectfully submitted,
Deidre Runge, Public Recorder
Methuen Public Schools