

TRANSCRIPT OF RECORDED MINUTES

OF

THE METHUEN SCHOOL COMMITTEE

BUSINESS SESSION

SEPTEMBER 14, 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
SEPTEMBER 14, 2020

The 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:

ROLL CALL

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

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Brandi Kwong, Superintendent of Schools
Ronald Noble, Assistant Superintendent
Ian Gosselin, Business Administrator
Deidre Runge, Public Recorder

Acceptance of the Agenda

MOTION: Member Nicholson motioned to approve the agenda as presented
Seconded by Member Santos

DISCUSSION: The Mayor asked for a motion to amend the agenda and add 8c –
New Upper School Resource Room, 1-year permanent substitute
position

MOTION: Member DiZoglio motioned to amend the agenda and add 8c
Seconded by Member Santos

ROLL CALL

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

VOTE: 7-0-0 APPROVED

The Mayor asked to approve the agenda as amended

MOTION: Member Hallbauer motioned to approve the agenda as amended
Seconded by Member Pesce

ROLL CALL

Ryan DiZoglio (Y)

Karen Hallbauer (Y)
Jessica MacLeod (Y)
Susan M. Nicholson (Y)
Louann Santos (Y)
Jana Zanni Pesce (Y)
Mayor Neil P. Perry, Chairperson (Y)
VOTE: 7-0-0 APPROVED

1a Flag Salute by the Committee

2. PARTICIPATION BY OTHERS

a. Public Participation

Mayor read out loud: PUBLIC PARTICIPATION was POSTED as: Individuals that would like to participate at this meeting may do so in writing (see Policy #BEDH #7 referring to remote meetings) before 3:00 p.m. Monday, September 14, 2020 via email to derunge@methuen.k12.ma.us which will be printed and given to the Chairperson of the meeting to read to the public.

There were no emails sent or anyone present.

Mayor: Remember if you would like us to read a comment at the next meeting please send to derunge@methuen.k12.ma.us by September 28, 2020 before 3:00 p.m.

Mayor: At this time we will close the Public Participation part of this meeting.

3. Approval of Minutes

MOTION: Member Nicholson motioned to approve the minutes of June 29, 2020

Member Pesce seconded the motion

DISCUSSION: None

VOTE: 7-0-0 APPROVED

MOTION: Member Pesce motioned to approve the minutes of July 13, 2020

Member Santos seconded the motion

DISCUSSION: None

VOTE: 7-0-0 APPROVED

MOTION: Member MacLeod motioned to approve the minutes of July 30, 2020

Member Hallbauer seconded the motion

DISCUSSION: None

VOTE: 7-0-0 APPROVED

MOTION: Member Santos motioned to approve the minutes of August 5, 2020

Member Pesce seconded the motion

DISCUSSION: None

VOTE: 7-0-0 APPROVED

MOTION: Member Nicholson motioned to approve the minutes of August 6, 2020
Member DiZoglio seconded the motion
DISCUSSION: None
VOTE: 7-0-0 APPROVED

4. Staff Reports

a. School Opening Update

The Superintendent gave an update on today's remote learning opening day. She told the Committee they were looking at athletics for the year. We are moving forward with caution but meeting again after Wednesday's report and the Commissioner will give them guidance before they actually play games with other city teams.

5. Old Business and Other Pending Matters

a. Unit A – Teacher's Memorandum of Agreement – Discussion - Approval

MOTION: Member Nicholson motioned to approve the Unit A MOU
Member Pesce seconded the motion
DISCUSSION: None
VOTE: 7-0-0 APPROVED

b. FY'21 Amended School Calendar – Approval

MOTION: Member Pesce motioned to approve the Amended FY'21 School Calendar
Member DiZoglio seconded the motion
DISCUSSION: None
VOTE: 7-0-0 APPROVED

c. Motion to Remove – Acceptance of the Superintendent's Evaluation off the Table

MOTION: Member DiZoglio motioned to Remove Acceptance of the Superintendent's Evaluation off the table
Member Pesce seconded the motion
DISCUSSION: None
VOTE: 7-0-0 APPROVED

d. Acceptance of the Superintendent's Evaluation

MOTION: Member Santos motioned to accept the Superintendent's Evaluation
Member Pesce seconded the motion
DISCUSSION: Member Nicholson shared a brief presentation on the process of the superintendent's evaluation. The goal is to let the community know how we evaluate the superintendent and what we based our evaluation on. Member Nicholson went on to say that she would review the goals of the superintendent, what the standards are for the evaluation, overall summative performance rating and you will see our comments and recommendations. After the presentation School Committee Members, each thanked the Superintendent. At the end

Member Nicholson asked that at an upcoming meeting we put “Merit Goals Discussion” on an agenda.

VOTE: 7-0-0 APPROVED

6. New Business

- a. Newly Adopted – EBC-A – COVID 19 Employee Policy: Recreational Travel & Mandatory Self-Quarantine – First Reading

MOTION: Member Pesce motioned to approve the first reading of S.C. Policy EBC-A

Member Santos seconded the motion

DISCUSSION: Member Hallbauer asked if this policy includes School Committee Members.

The Mayor and the Superintendent said yes

Member Pesce asked what the ramifications are if someone doesn't tell us.

Superintendent – This policy came to me from Atty. Maccaro so I will check with him.

VOTE: 7-0-0 APPROVED

- b. Newly Adopted – EBC –S –Temporary Policy on COVID Related issues – First Reading

MOTION: Member Hallbauer motioned to approve the first reading of S.C. policy EBC-S

Member Santos seconded the motion

DISCUSSION: Mayor – Where it says “such suspension will expire as declared by the governor” Does this mean if the governor expires the emergency in, lets say Feb or March, we would just go back to normal

Superintendent – No, I am sure just like everything else there will be some kind of phased in process.

Member Pesce had some questions about the policy, like would this give you the authority to make decisions like whether we went to hybrid or remote?

Superintendent – No this policy is based around the reopening plan the Committee already approved.

Member Pesce asked to table so she had more time to review it first.

Member Hallbauer and Santos withdrew their motion

MOTION: Member Pesce motioned table the first reading of S.C. policy EBC-S

Member DiZoglio seconded the motion

VOTE: 7-0-0 APPROVED

- c. COVID 19 - Wellness Policy Update/Epi Pen Policy Amendment - Approval

MOTION: Member MacLeod motioned to approve the amendment to the Wellness Policy

Member DiZoglio seconded the motion

DISCUSSION: None
VOTE: 7-0-0 APPROVED

7. Finance and Operations

- a. Expenditure Report – Monthly
NONE
- b. Revolving Funds Report – Monthly
NONE
- c. Grants Report – Monthly
NONE
- d. Student Activity Accounts – Monthly
NONE
- e. Food Services – Monthly
NONE

8. Notification of Appointments and Other Personnel Matters

- a. Personnel Transactions
NONE
- b. Notification of Vacancy Postings
NONE
- c. New CGS Upper School Resource Room, 1-year permanent substitute position –
Approval

MOTION: Member Santos motioned to approve the CGS Upper School
Resource Room position for 1 year
Member DiZoglio seconded the motion

DISCUSSION: None

VOTE: 7-0-0 Approved

9. BUSINESS FROM THE COMMITTEE

- a. Residency Sub-Committee Update
Member Pesce told the Committee they met a month ago and they wanted to make sure
SRO's were doing residency checks. They are and that was a big one. We will be
meeting again in the near future.
- b. Other Business from the Committee

ADJOURNMENT

The Mayor asked with no further business if he could have a motion to adjourn the
meeting

MOTION: Member Pesce motioned to adjourn the meeting @ 8:05 p.m.
Member Santos seconded the motion

VOTE: 7-0-0 APPROVED

Respectfully submitted,
Deidre Runge, Public Recorder
Methuen Public Schools