

**TRANSCRIPT OF RECORDED MINUTES**

**OF**

**THE METHUEN SCHOOL COMMITTEE**

**BUSINESS SESSION**

**MARCH 13, 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:**

**DEIDRE RUNGE, PUBLIC RECORDER**

**TRANSCRIPT OF RECORDED MINUTES**  
**METHUEN SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**BUSINESS SESSION**  
**MARCH 13, 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 (P)  
Ms. Lynne Hajjar Kumm, Vice Chairperson (P)  
Ms. Joyce C. Campagnone (P)  
Mr. Nicholas DiZoglio, Secretary (P)  
Ms. Jana DiNatale (P)  
Mayor Stephen Zanni, Chairperson (P)

**MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Mr. Dennis D.J. Deeb  
Mr. Robert F. Vogler  
Ms. Lynne Hajjar Kumm, Vice Chairperson  
Ms. Joyce C. Campagnone  
Mr. Nicholas DiZoglio, Secretary  
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. Nika Nguyen, Student Representative  
Ms. Deidre Runge, 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:** Mr. Vogler motioned to accept the agenda as presented  
Ms. Campagnone seconded the motion to approve as presented.  
**DISCUSSION:** None  
**VOTE:** 7-0-0 APPROVED

**a. FLAG SALUTE**

Sam Hesketh, a fourth grade student at the Tenney Grammar School, led the Committee in Opening Exercises of this meeting.

## **2. PARTICIPATION BY OTHERS:**

### **a. SOAR Award**

Karen Lara was the recipient of the S.O.A.R. Award at this meeting. The Foreign Language Department chose Karen for this Award.

### **b. STUDENT**

#### **1. JROTC Briefing and Academic and Leadership Team Update**

Student's briefed the Superintendent and Committee with a PowerPoint presentation

#### **2. Project 351 Student Representative**

Haad Naeem, our City's Ambassador to Project 351 for Gov. Baker was recognized by the Committee.

#### **3. Eagle Scout Proposal/Presentation**

Benjamin Walko, MHS Student that is trying to earn his Eagle Scout came to the Committee to pitch his plan for a new outside patio for lunches and for students to enjoy.

Mayor – What will the total budget be?

Mr. Walko – a little of 10,000.00

Mayor told Mr. Walko he thought this was a great idea.

The Mayor entertained a motion for a first read.

**MOTION:** Mr. Vogler moved to approve a first read on the project

Ms. Campagnone seconded the motion

**VOTE:** 7-0-0 Unanimous

#### **4. Student Advisory Committee**

Nika Nguyen told the Committee she thought the patio was a great idea and that she planned on helping. She also updated the Committee on the Cheer Team and how they received the Division 1 Title and how at the DECA Competition, our students came in 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Districts and 2<sup>nd</sup> in a category and were invited to nationals in Anaheim CA.

### **c. PUBLIC**

NONE

### **d. STAFF**

Donna Gogas, MEA President came up to the podium. She addressed the Committee – We know you are considering Unit D, Secretaries contract tonight and we, Unit A, request you ratify it. I think we have a contract they can live with.

#### **d(1) Relay for Life Presentation**

Sara Boyd Teacher, along with student leaders and a community leader came and gave a presentation and then told the committee that anything they can do to help would be appreciated.

## **3. APPROVAL OF TRANSCRIPT OF RECORDED MINUTES OF DECEMBER 12, 2016, JANUARY 9, 2017 ORGANIZATIONAL AND JANUARY 9, 2017 BUSINESS MTG.**

**MOTION:** Mr. Vogler moved to adopt the Transcript of Recorded Minutes of December 12, 2016 as presented and waived the reading;

Mr. DiZoglio seconded the motion to approve as presented.

**DISCUSSION:** None

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

**MOTION:** Mr. Vogler moved to adopt the Transcript of Recorded Minutes of January 9, 2017 Organizational Meeting as presented and waived the reading;

Ms. Kumm seconded the motion to approve as presented.

**DISCUSSION:** None

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

**MOTION:** Mr. Vogler moved to adopt the Transcript of Recorded Minutes of January 9, 2017 Business Meeting as presented and waived the reading;

Ms. Kumm seconded the motion to approve as presented.

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. DiZoglio asked for a correction adding his new title of Secretary to his name and removing it from Mr. Vogler.

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

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

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

Superintendent – Updated the Committee of all the events this month and upcoming events.

Mr. DiZoglio – Said great job to the students at the telethon.

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

Mr. DiZoglio – Is the student portal account up and running and is it completely separate from the parent portal?

Mr. Lussier – The parent and student portals are set up and identical. Parents do have the ability to request changes to the demographics, students do not. We do need

Ms. DiNatale – Is there a way parents can set up a time to come in and provide this information to us so it would be secure?

Mr. Lussier – We are having those discussions right now.

Ms. DiNatale – What is the time line of having this up and running.

Mr. Lussier – There is no timeline but we are trying for this summer.

Ms. Kumm – Can you comment on course selections?

Mr. Lussier – I talked to Mr. Crocker and all seem to be going smoothly.

Ms. Kumm – Please continue to keep us posted.

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

Ms. DiNatale – I want to thank Mr. Stella and his Team (re: water testing action plan) I appreciate them for getting it done. The water is safe for our kids. Also want to thank Mr. Stella for the wonderful work at the Family Resource Center. It is beautiful.

Superintendent – Yes they did.

Ms. Kumm – the high school doors is there any relief we can get here.

Superintendent – Yes, it is a design piece. We had a team come out and we continue to work on this.

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

Ms. Kumm – shout out to Mr. Osgood and team for the Dr. Pottee’s presentation. This was a great presentation and you should check it out it is worth the time.

**e. Residency Monthly Update**

NONE

**f. School Resource Officers Monthly Update**

Mr. Vogler – I hope to see the SRO’s out at the schools especially before & after school. I also would like to see them helping with traffic. I would like Sgt. Aiello to come and update the Committee once or twice a year. I want to emphasize to him the importance of helping with traffic.

Ms. DiNatale – I had the opportunity to go by all the schools and noticed at a couple of schools not only the resource officer but the principals were outside assisting with traffic. It is a nice way to greet the students.

Ms. Nguyen – At the high school Mr. Barden and the Police are outside every day.

**g. Student Services Updates**

**1. Homeless Update**

**2. PreK Numbers**

NONE

**3. Out of District Update**

NONE

**4. Medicaid Update**

Superintendent – We had a productive meeting with City Councilor Jajuga to explain to him the Medicaid process. He left with a good understanding that we do our part that UMASS has quite a list to review.

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

**a. Revise & Readopt S.C. Policy JCDAB – Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drug Use by Students Prohibited – Second Reading**

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. DiZoglio – on the last page there it states if something happens, not at the schools with us but on their personal time, what then?

Superintendent – All depends on the situation. We look at them case by case. We follow M.G.L. for school related incidents and athletic rules at any event.

Ms. DiNatale – I want to thank the attorney for this. I do have some concerns that his suggestions doesn’t point/mention any laws. Section 4 recommends in the Policy to give school the right to choose if they send to police department. When a crime happens in my opinion reporting to the Police is the best decision.

Mayor – So Ms. DiNatale you would like the word “will report to the police”.

Ms. DiNatale – Yes. Also 2h regarding DCF – If we have a child that has a prohibited substance in school and parent fails to come in, DCF is the best department to contact. They specialize in this.

Mayor – again you would like the word “will” put in the policy.

Ms. DiNatale – Yes.

**MOTION:** Mr. Vogler motioned to table 5a and have a final draft.

Ms. Campagnone seconded the motion

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

**6. NEW BUSINESS**

**a. MHS Band Trip to Disney World February 2018 - Approval**

**MOTION:** Mr. Vogler moved to approve the Band Trip  
Ms. Campagnone seconded the motion  
**DISCUSSION:** NONE  
**VOTE:** 7-0-0 UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

**b. Roll Call to go into Executive Session for the purpose of contract negotiations as regulated by MGL #39-1**

Mayor asked for a motion to go into Executive Session for the purpose of negotiations  
**MOTION:** Mr. Vogler motioned to enter into executive session @ 7:58 p.m.  
Ms. Campagnone seconded the motion

**ROLL CALL to go into Executive Session**

Mr. Dennis D.J. Deeb (Y)  
Mr. Robert F. Vogler, Secretary (Y)  
Ms. Lynne Hajjar Kumm, Vice Chairperson (Y)  
Ms. Joyce C. Campagnone (Y)  
Mr. Nicholas DiZoglio (Y)  
Ms. Jana DiNatale (Y)  
Mayor Stephen Zanni, Chairperson (Y)

**VOTE:** 7-0-0 Approved

**The Committee entered back into a formal business meeting at 9:14 p.m.**

**c. Unit D – Methuen Educational Secretaries Ratification - Approval**

**MOTION:** Mr. Vogler moved to table  
Ms. Campagnone seconded the motion  
**DISCUSSION:** NONE  
**VOTE:** 6-1-0 APPROVED (Mr. DiZoglio Voted No)

**9b. Superintendent’s Contract Extension – Approval MOVED**

**MOTION:** Ms. Campagnone moved to approve the contract extension  
Mr. Vogler seconded the motion  
**DISCUSSION:** The Committee all spoke about the Superintendent and her  
Commitment to the Methuen Community.  
**VOTE:** 7-0-0 APPROVED

**7. FINANCE AND OPERATIONS:**

- a. Expenditure Report - Monthly**  
NONE
- b. Revolving Funds Report – Monthly**
  - 1. Methuen High School Auditorium - Update**
- c. Grants Report - Monthly**  
NONE
- d. Student Activity Accounts - Monthly**  
NONE

**MOTION:** Ms. Campagnone motioned to extend the business meeting past 9:30.  
Ms. Kumm seconded the motion  
Mr. Deeb asked to amend to extend for only 15 minutes  
Mr. Vogler seconded the motion

**ROLL CALL to Extend meeting 15 minutes**

Mr. Dennis D.J. Deeb (Y)  
Mr. Robert F. Vogler, Secretary (Y)  
Ms. Lynne Hajjar Kumm, Vice Chairperson (Y)  
Ms. Joyce C. Campagnone (N)  
Mr. Nicholas DiZoglio (N)  
Ms. Jana DiNatale (N)  
Mayor Stephen Zanni, Chairperson (N)

**VOTE:** 3-4-0 Motion Failed

**ROLL CALL to Extend Business Meeting**

Mr. Dennis D.J. Deeb (N)  
Mr. Robert F. Vogler, Secretary (N)  
Ms. Lynne Hajjar Kumm, Vice Chairperson (N)  
Ms. Joyce C. Campagnone (Y)  
Mr. Nicholas DiZoglio (Y)  
Ms. Jana DiNatale (Y)  
Mayor Stephen Zanni, Chairperson (Y)

**VOTE:** 4-3-0 Motion Approved

**e. Food Services – Monthly**

**f. Bid Awards**

NONE

**g. Contract Approval**

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. BUSINESS FROM THE COMMITTEE**

**a. Discussion of the places where the School Committee meetings take place req. by**

**Mayor Zanni**

Mayor – I asked for this so I can say since you have your Business Meetings here at the high school you can use the Searles Building for your workshops.

Mr. Deeb – Thank you Mayor for taking the initiative. I feel workshops should be televised

Ms. Kumm – I think there is a benefit going into the buildings. I don't think we gave it a fair shake.

Mr. Vogler – I agree with Ms. Kumm. The Committee unanimously was in agreement to go into the schools. I don't see anyone saying "I have to go home to watch that meeting". Very few school systems televise their workshops. I would like to revisit this in September.

Ms. DiNatale – No one comes to the schools so we need to make it convenient for those who want to watch and cannot come. Minutes are not a full record of our meeting. I just want people to be informed. They ask what surrounding communities do and they are televising their budget meetings. This is a matter of transparency. The minutes do not show our full conversations.

Mr. DiZoglio – I don't think having it at City Hall is the answer. Maybe we base it off events at the schools.

Ms. Campagnone – I think at budget time we should bring to the different schools.

Mayor – I will tweak the policy.

**b. Superintendent's Contract Extension – Approval MOVED TO 6B**

**c. Athletic Expenses requested by Committee Member Vogler**

Mr. Vogler – I would like you to look at these and maybe we can discuss at another meeting.

**\*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 7:59 pm.

**MOTION:** Ms. Kumm moved to adjourn the Business Session at 9:48 pm.

Ms. Campagnone seconded the motion

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

Respectfully submitted,  
**Deidre Runge, Public Recorder**  
**Methuen Public Schools**