

Southern Berkshire Regional School District

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING #1,574

Date: Thursday, January 9, 2020

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Location: Mt. Everett Regional School Library, 491 Berkshire School Road, Sheffield, MA

A g e n d a

All interested members of the public are invited to attend.

[The listing of matters is those reasonably anticipated by the Chairman which may be discussed at the meeting. Not all items listed may in fact be discussed and other items not listed may also be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law.]

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Standing Reports**
 - a. Approval of Minutes of School Committee Meeting #1573 of December 19, 2019
 - b. Enrollment
 - c. Miscellaneous Correspondence
3. **Student Representative Report**
4. **Student Spotlight**
5. **Public Comment**
6. **New Business**
 - a. School Committee Meetings in Member Towns
 - b. Adoption of School Committee Goals and Discussion
 - c. School Committee Retreat Dates to Debrief on MASC Conference and Self-Evaluation Process
7. **Unfinished Business**
 - a. Vote on School Committee Norms and Beliefs
8. **Business with District Member Towns**
9. **Subcommittee Reports**
 - a. Finance Subcommittee
 - b. Policy Subcommittee
 - c. Building, Grounds & Technology
 - d. Community Outreach and Input
 - e. Executive Evaluation
 - f. Negotiations
 - g. Curriculum
10. **Chairman's Report**
11. **Superintendent's Report**

12. **Curriculum & Professional Development Coordinator's Report**
13. **Director of Student Services Report**
14. **Business Manager's Report**
 - a. Approval of Warrants – December 27, 2019
 - b. Vote to Accept Grants and Gifts
 - c. Budget Transfers
15. **Future Agenda Items**
16. **Executive Session**
 - a. Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, s. 21(a) (2) to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for and to conduct contract negotiations with nonunion personnel (Superintendent of Schools) and not to reconvene in Open Session. Roll Call Vote.
17. **Adjourn**

Next School Committee Meetings:

February 14, 2019 March 7, 2019 (Open Hearing) March 14, 2019 (Adoption FY 20 Budget)
April 4, 2019 April 25, 2019 May 9, 2019 June 13, 2019 June 27, 2019

The SBRSD shall post all School Committee and Subcommittee meetings on its website (<http://www.sbrsd.org/school-committee.html>) in compliance with Open Meeting Law and pursuant to the regulations of the Massachusetts Attorney General's Office 940 CMR 29.03(4). Please visit the SBRSD's website for all meeting information. All approved meeting minutes of the SBRSD school committee are posted on the district's website on the school committee page.

School Committee: Jane Burke, Jonathan Bruno, Maryellen Brown, Marcella Bush, Dennis Sears, Bonnie Silvers, Danile Kelly, Jeffrey Blaugrund, Art Batacchi, David Travis

Administrators: Superintendent Regulbuto, Charles Miller, Jesse Carpenter, Judy Houle, Doug Daponde, Sandra Hubbard

Press: CTSB TV; Evan Triantafilidis – Berkshire Record

Others: Vicky Russell, Mr. Thieriot, Karen Blodgett

1. **Call to Order**

Jane Burke, Chair, called school committee meeting #1573 to order at 6:35 p.m.

Ms. Silvers motioned to amend the agenda to add an item to #10 being Negotiation Subcommittee.

Second: Jeff Blaugrund

Vote: Unanimous

2. **Standing Reports**

a. Approval of Minutes of School Committee Meeting #1572

Motion to approve the school committee minutes #1572 of November 14, 2019 as presented.

By: Bonnie Silvers

Second: Dennis Sears

Discussion: None

Vote: Unanimous

b. Enrollment: Superintendent Regulbuto reported that as of December 1, 2019 enrollment was at 682 students, down by one student from November 2019.

c. Miscellaneous Correspondence – None

3. **Student Representative Report**

Austin Murray, Junior Class President, reported on the many activities and events that have been occurring at the schools, for e.g. coin wars, candy grams, winter concerts, spirit week.

4. **Student Spotlight** – None

5. **Public Comment**

Karen Blodgett introduced herself to the committee. She would like to see more involvement from the Superintendent, e.g. greet students, attend more activities and sporting events and have an open door policy.

6. **New Business**

A. Approval of FFA Overnight Field Trip to North Oxford, MA (January 10-11, 2019)

Motion to approve the FFA Overnight Field Trip to North Oxford, MA from January 10 to January 11, 2019.

By: Bonnie Silvers

Second: Jeffrey Blaugrund

Discussion: Jesse Carpenter informed the committee about the field trip which is focused on FFA leadership activities. Some school committee members wanted to know if students were not attending because of financial hardship. They also wanted to know if the trip was limited to just a select few members of the FFA or the whole group. Mr. Carpenter said he would look into it and get back to them.

Vote: Unanimous

B. School Improvement Plans

i. Elementary School Improvement Plan – Charles Miller

Mr. Miller presented the 2019-2020 Elementary School Improvement Plan to the Committee. Mr. Miller spoke on Priority #1 – Academic Rigor and Priority #2 – School Culture. (Report attached).

Discussion and questions and answers ensued

Motion to approve the Elementary School Improvement Plan as presented for 2019-2020.

By: Bonnie Silvers

Second: Art Batacchi

Vote: Unanimous

ii. Middle/High School Improvement Plan – Jesse Carpenter

Mr. Carpenter and Mr. Daponde presented the School Improvement Plan for the Middle and High Schools for 2019-2020 and spoke on Goal 1 – Creation of Pathways and Goal 2 Positive School Culture (report attached).

Discussion and questions and answers ensued.

Motion to approve the Middle and High School Improvement Plan for 2019-2020

By: Bonnie Silvers

Second: Jeff Blaugrund

Vote: Unanimous

C. Approval of Superintendent's Goals – Vote Required.

David Travis explained how the goals were developed with guidance from DESE. The Executive Evaluation Subcommittee decided on 6 goals as set forth in the packet (attached). Superintendent Regalbuto also explained how the goals were developed and the key actions under each goal. Mr. Travis explained that what the committee is voting on tonight are the six goals. Further discussion ensued.

Motion to approve the Superintendent's goals as set forth under Standards, Indicators and Elements as laid out tonight.

By: Jeffrey Blaugrund

Second: Art Batacchi

Discussion ensued.

Vote: Maryellen Brown – Abstain; All others Yes. Motion carries.

Goal 1

Standard

I. Instructional Leadership

Indicator

I-B Instruction

Element

I-B-1 Student Engagement

Goal 2

I. Instructional Leadership

I-D Evaluation

I-D-1 Educator Goals

Goal 3

II. Management and Operations II-C Scheduling and Management Info II-C-1 Time for Teaching & Learning

Goal 4

III. Family & Community Engagement III-B Sharing Responsibility III-B-1 Student Support

Goal 5

IV. Professional Culture IV-A Commitment to High Standards IV-A-3 Meetings

Goal 6

IV. Professional Culture IV-D Continuous Learning IV-D-1 Continuous Learning of Staff

- D. Discussion and possible action on forming a Student Advisory Committee for SBRSD
Dennis Sears talked about forming a Student Advisory Committee to the school committee as required by MGL Chapter 71, Section 2. This committee will provide input to the school committee on a regular basis covering all areas of student interests and/or concerns and will also provide participating students growth in opportunities such as governance, democratic processes, rule of law, public service and others.

Motion that the SBRSD School Committee approve the establishment of a Student Advisory Committee.

By: Bonnie Silvers

Second: Jeff Blaugrund

Discussion: Mr. Blaugrund suggested amending the motion to address policy. Ms. Silvers suggested reporting back at the next meeting on what needs to be done regarding policy, etc. Mr. Bruno advised that there is a policy in place (JIB).

Mr. Carpenter would hope that we can put something in place for next year, so as not to confuse students. Ms. Silvers responded that at this time the committee is looking to rectify an error and would be consulting with Mr. Carpenter on how to implement this.

Vote: Unanimous

There was further discussion on who would be designated as the student outreach coordinator. Ms. Silvers volunteered to do this.

Motion that the school committee designate Bonnie Silvers as the student outreach coordinator at this time to take the initial steps in working with Mr. Carpenter.

By: Dennis Sears

Second: Art Batacchi

Vote: Unanimous

7. **Unfinished Business** - None

8. **Business with District Member Towns** – None

9. **Subcommittee Reports**

a. Finance Subcommittee met to reorganize (Dennis Sears is Chair) and review the budget calendar for FY21. Very preliminary at this time.

b. Building, Grounds & Technology met to reorganize. Art Batacchi is Chair.

- c. Community Outreach and Input met. Discussions on the issues dealing with the merger of consolidation and shared services with districts and to get out a FAQ to the community. Will wait to get the necessary details before putting out the information.
- d. Curriculum – No meeting.
- e. Executive Evaluation met to reorganize (Dave Travis is Chair). They worked on the Superintendent’s goals and this is what was brought forward tonight for the school committee to vote on.
- f. Policy met to reorganize (Dennis Sears is Chair). There are policies that need to be looked at.
- g. SBEF – Mr. Sears reported that there was no meeting since the last school committee meeting. Because this is an AdHoc committee would recommend disbanding this committee.
- h. Negotiation – Ms. Silvers asked for school committee approval of a MOU for all three Units regarding attendance incentive stipends. This change would be in effect for the remainder of the contracts (Unit A, Unit D and Unit E).

Motion to approve the MOUs as presented for Unit A, Unit D and Unit E for sick leave incentives.

By: David Travis

Second: Dennis Sears

Vote: Art Batacchi – Abstain; All others Yes. Motion Carries

Superintendent Regalbuto informed the school committee that she had taken a look at other substitute rates in the area and decided that the pay rate for substitute teachers should be increased to \$92.50 per day and for certified subs \$110 per day.

Motion to approve the increase in substitute teacher rates to \$92.50 per day and for certified substitutes \$110 per day effective January 2, 2020.

By: Dennis Sears

Second: Bonnie Silvers

Vote: Unanimous

10. **Chairman’s Report**

Jane Burke reported that the school committee had a very productive and informative retreat on December 3rd. The committee will take on their own goals and create a manual to help inform every one of their duties.

Superintendents Dillon and Regalbuto worked together on a \$50,000 consultancy grant application on behalf of both school districts and the 8 towns.

11. **Superintendent’s Report**

- Superintendent’s Roundtable met on December 18th. Very productive meeting.
- Students will be involved with the upcoming census
- Activities planned for Alumni day
- Holiday Breakfast put on by the Administrative Team with assistance from Jeremy Wells and the kitchen staff.

12. **Curriculum & Professional Development Coordinator’s Report** – No Report

13. **Director of Student Services Report** – Attached

14. **Business Manager's Report**

a. Approval of Warrants:

Motion to approve Accounts Payable and Payroll Warrants from 9/30/19 to 12/13/29

By: Bonnie Silvers

Second: Dennis Sears

Vote: Unanimous

b. Vote to Accept Grants and Gifts - None

c. Budget Transfers – None

Motion to approve payment of a FY19 invoice from Teachers Direct in the amount of \$162.84

By: Dennis Sears

Second: Bonnie Silvers

Vote: Unanimous

15. **Future Agenda Items**

16. **Executive Session – Time: 8:19 p. m.**

Motion to enter executive session pursuant to M.G.L.c.30A, s. 21(a) (3) to discuss strategy with respect to litigation as an open meeting law may have a detrimental effect on the litigating position of the public body, as declared by the chair and not to reconvene in open session.

By: David Travis

Second: Jeffrey Blaugrund

Roll Call Vote:

Art Batacchi - Yes ; D. Kelly - Yes ; J. Blaugrund - Yes ; D. Travis - Yes ; J. Burke – Yes;
J. Bruno – Yes; M. Bush - Yes ; M. Brown - Yes ; B. Silvers - Yes ; D. Sears – Yes

Motion to enter executive session pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A. s. 21(a) (2) to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for and to conduct contract negotiations with nonunion personnel (Superintendent of Schools) and not to reconvene in open session.

By: David Travis

Second: Jeffrey Blaugrund

Roll Call Vote:

Art Batacchi - Yes ; D. Kelly - Yes ; J. Blaugrund - Yes ; D. Travis - Yes ; J. Burke – Yes;
J. Bruno – Yes; M. Bush - Yes; M. Brown - Yes ; B. Silvers - Yes ; D. Sears – Yes

Documents Presented at this meeting

- *Agenda #1573*
- *Minutes of meeting #1572*
- *Enrollment Report*
- *Overnight Field Trip Request FFA January 10-11, 2020*
- *SIP – Elementary and MSHS*
- *Superintendent's Goals*
- *Student Advisory Committee*
- *Director of Student Services Report*
- *Warrant Report*

ENROLLMENT 2019-2020

As of	8/1/2019	9/1/2019		10/1/2019		11/1/2019		12/1/2019		1/2/2020		2/1/2020		3/1/2020		4/1/2020		5/1/2020	#####
Undermountain																			
Pre-K	24	24		21	-3	21		21		21									
Early K	11	13	2	16	3	16		17	1	17									
Kindergarten	28	29	1	29	0	29		29		29									
Grade 1	29	30	1	30	0	30		30		30									
Grade 2	28	29	1	28	-1	28		28		28									
Grade 3	37	38	1	37	-1	37		36	-1	35	-1								
Grade 4	40	42	2	42	0	42		42		42									
Grade 5	46	45	-1	44	-1	44		43	-1	43									
Total UME	243	250	7	247	-3	247		246	-1	245	-1								
New Marlborough																			
Pre K	11	11		11	0	11		11		10	-1								
Early K	4	6	2	6	0	6		6		6									
Kindergarten	10	11	1	11	0	11		11		11									
Grade 1	16	16		16	0	16		16		16									
Grade 2	4	5	1	5	0	5		5		5									
Grade 3	16	17	1	18	1	18		18		19	1								
Grade 4	10	12	2	12	0	12		11	-1	11									
Total NMC	71	78	7	79	1	79		78	-1	78									
S. Egremont																			
Early K	0	0		0		0		0		0									
Kindergarten	11	9	-2	9	0	9		9		9									
Total S.Egremont	11	9	-2	9	0	9		9		9									
Total Elementary	325	337	12	335	-2	335		333	-2	332	-1								
Mt Everett																			
Grade 6	42	40	-2	39	-1	39		39		39									
Grade 7	51	55	4	54	-1	54		55	1	56	1								
Grade 8	40	41	1	42	1	42		41	-1	41									
Grade 9	56	56		55	-1	55		55		55									
Grade 10	53	50	-3	50	0	50		50		52	2								
Grade 11	50	50		51	1	51		52	1	52									
Grade 12	55	57	2	57	0	57		57		56	-1								
Total MSHS	347	349	2	348	-1	348		349	1	351	2								
Total all Schools	672	686	14	683	-3	683		682	-1	683	+1								



SOUTHERN BERKSHIRE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

7a.

SBRSD Norms and Beliefs

Who We Represent

We represent the needs and interests of all students in the district and place their interests above all others in the decisions we make.

How We Govern

- We shall conduct business through a set agenda that is tied to district goals with a focus on student needs, growth, and achievement. Emerging items shall be addressed in subsequent meeting unless circumstances require immediate action. Requests to add agenda items shall be made to the chair of the appropriate committee.
- We shall make each meeting effective and efficient, giving each member an equal opportunity to express their views and convey the input in a concise and topic-focused manner. We shall attend meetings prepared to discuss agenda items and to participate in efficient decision making.
- We shall base our decision on the best available information, avoid bias, and vote our conviction in conjunction with constituent input.
- We shall respect staff and fellow committee members and exhibit professional conduct and behavior at all times.
- We shall uphold all applicable state and federal laws and regulations, including the code of ethics.
- We shall maintain confidentiality of privileged information, including but not limited to, items discussed in executive session

How We Treat Each Other

- We shall debate the issues keeping an open mind regarding other member's opinion and or positions.
- We shall work to build trust between and among School Committee members, the Superintendent and the administration by treating everyone with dignity and respect, even in times of disagreement.

How We Communicate

- The Superintendent and the School Committee recognize the importance of proactive communication. School Committee members should make their best effort to convey their questions or concerns to the chair and the Superintendent in advance of the meeting. We support the "no surprises" philosophy.
- We will follow and respect the chain of command and direct others to do the same, referring constituent complaints and concerns to the appropriate individual within the district chain of command and referring personnel complaints and concerns to the Superintendent.

How We Will Improve

- All newly elected School Committee members will attend a MASC orientation session
- All members will be open to continued personal growth through participating in training opportunities
- We shall review and revise operating protocols at the beginning of each new term.
- We shall develop and maintain a district new member mentoring and orientation program



FY20 WARRANTS REPORT

December, 2019

	Date	Voucher #	Total Amount:	General Fund Amount:	Other Funds
Payroll Warrants					\$ -
					\$ -
					\$ -
			\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Accounts Payable Warrants					
	12/27/2019	1203	\$ 395,854.84	\$ 374,912.46	\$ 20,942.38
					\$ -
					\$ -
					\$ -
					\$ -
					\$ -
					\$ -
			\$ 395,854.84	\$ 374,912.46	\$ 20,942.38
Total of all warrants:			\$ 395,854.84	\$ 374,912.46	\$ 20,942.38

Submitted by The Management Solution, Inc.



PO Box 217
Auburn, MA 01501-0217



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(855) TMS-0411
info@themanagementsolution.com

MEMORANDUM

TO: Southern Berkshire Regional School Committee
Beth Regulbuto, Superintendent of Schools

FROM: Judy Houle and Chris Desjardins, Business Management Services

DATE: January 6, 2020

RE: Donation from the Kare Bear Foundation

We have received a donation from the Kare Bear Foundation in the amount of \$3,750.00, which has been broken out as follows:

- \$1,500.00 for grades 9-12
- \$750.00 for grades 6-8
- \$750.00 for grades PK-5
- \$750.00 toward food support.

We respectfully request approval of the receipt of this generous gift from the Kare Bear Foundation.

Thank you for your consideration.