

School Committee Members: Bonnie Silvers, Dennis Sears, Bob Law, Genis Melandez-Delaney, MaryEllen Brown, Carl Stewart, Marcella Bush, David Travis, Fran Lartigue, Art Batacchi

Absent: Sandi Hubbard

Administration: Superintendent Regalbuto (arrived at 7pm), Christine Regan, Kerry Burke, Glenn Devoti

Press: CTSB, Cory Wiley – Berkshire Record

Student Representatives: None

Others: Karen Frighetto, Marya Makuc, Sarah Sikett, Suzanne Scalion

1. **Call To Order:** Mr Stewart called meeting #1530 to order at 6:03 pm

*Mr. Stewart made a motion to amend the agenda to add and item regarding DACA. Ms. Lartigue seconded the motion.*

Mr. Stewart explained that this motion was to supplement the motion passed last spring regarding sanctuary and protection of students in the schools. Chris Regan asked if this was the same as the item on the agenda (5e). The motion was dismissed.

2. **Standing Reports:**

a. Approval of Minutes: None Submitted

b. Enrollment: Ms. Burke explained the enrollment figures. As of September 1, 2017 there were 291 students enrolled at Undermountain (down five from August 1, 2017); 88 at New Marlborough Central (up four from 8/1/17) and 301 at Mt. Everett (down seven from 8/1/17). The total enrollment for the district was 680 (down eight from 8/1/17).

Ms. Lartigue asked if anything is being done to find out why these decreases are happening. Ms. Burke responded that this is being explored. There was further discussion on the declining enrollment at Southern Berkshire.

c. Miscellaneous Correspondence

3. Student Representative Report: None

4. Public Comment: None

5. **New Business:**

a. New Superintendent Induction Program – Introduction of Coach

As Superintendent Regalbuto had not arrived as yet this item was put on hold till she arrived.

b. Approval of Lateral Movements on the Unit A Salary Schedule, Effective September 1, 2017

*Ms. Lartigue made a motion to approve the lateral moves on the Unit A Salary Schedule, effective September 1, 2017 as presented. Mr. Travis seconded the motion. There was no further discussion and the motion was unanimously approved.*

c. Discussion on Options for the South Egremont School

Mr. Stewart informed the school committee that we currently have a settlement agreement with the Town of Egremont. The agreement requires that by October 1, the school committee must vote on either of the following two options in order to be in compliance with the court order:

- Start a procedure in accordance with the Regional Agreement to close the school; or
- Fund the Egremont School for the 2018-2019 school year.

Chris Regan reported that if the school committee decides to fund the program the money will be put into the budget and the School Committee would have the authority to transfer the money to another purpose if the program does not run.

If the district votes to start the procedure to close the Egremont school, the money to fund the program still needs to be available in the event the towns vote not to close the school.

Mr. Stewart stated that the policy subcommittee could write a policy for any of the town schools that states there is a critical mass. If there is a policy that states we do not run a program if the student population falls below the critical mass, the money would come back for whatever use the school committee deems fit.

Ms. Melendez-Delaney reported that the Town of Egremont received the \$50,000 grant and they voted to approve the \$250,000 to renovate the school building.

*Mr. Travis made a motion that the Southern Berkshire Regional School District fund the Egremont school program for the 2018-2019 school year. Ms. Lartigue seconded the motion.*

*There was a lengthy discussion.*

*Roll Call Vote:*

*Art Batacchi – Yes; Genis Melendez-Delaney – Yes; Fran Lartigue – Yes; David Travis – Yes  
Bonnie Silvers – Yes; Dennis Sears – No; Bob Law – Yes; Maryellen Brown – Yes;  
Marcella Bush – Yes; Carl Stewart – Yes. Motion passes 9 yes - 1 no*

*Mr. Sears made a motion that the district commence proceedings prior to October 1 to close the Egremont School. There was no second and the motion was dismissed.*

d. Discussion on Scheduling school Committee Meeting at Each Town

Mr. Stewart informed the school committee that at the last meeting Carol Edelman had requested that the school committee meetings be held at each of the five towns. Mr. Stewart suggested that this item be tabled to the next meeting so as to give us some time to work on the logistics.

Superintendent Regulbuto will attend a meeting at the Town of Monterey on September 13, 2017.

Maryellen Brown will ask the Monterey Select Board to send a notice to Superintendent Regulbuto if a meeting at the Town of Monterey is still required after her meeting on September 13<sup>th</sup>.

e. Revisit the School Committee Resolution of March 9, 2017

*Mr. Stewart made a motion to have the school committee determine as a policy matter, that dreamers as defined by DACA, should consider the school, buildings and grounds to be safe spaces. Further, the administrators of the school will be guided in terms of allowing agents of ICE entry to the school only under certain circumstances. Ms. Lartigue seconded the motion.*

Mr. Stewart explained the supreme court of the United States and courts in Massachusetts have determined that every school age child is entitled to an education. Agents of Immigration and Customs Enforcement can only come in to a school if they are admitted. They must have a legitimate purpose, i.e. a warrant. We would need to put in place a system whereby anyone who seeks to detain a student in this school will be required to satisfy the administration that they have legitimate grounds to be in the school.

Further discussion ensued.

*Mr. Stewart amended his motion that the resolution incorporates by specific reference the resolution passed by this school committee on March 9, 2017 and expands that definition to include people defined as dreamers under the act known as DACA. Ms. Silvers seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.*

5a. New Superintendent Induction Program – Introduction of Coach

Superintendent Regalbuto arrived at 7 p.m.

Dr. Suzanne Scalion introduced herself to the School Committee. Superintendent Regalbuto is in Dr. Scalion's 2<sup>nd</sup> cohort of new superintendents. This program was put together eight years ago by MASS and MASC. She continued by saying it is a very rigorous curriculum and that Beth is going to be very busy during this year. They will be doing work very relevant to what the school committee does. Developing an entry plan which will evolve to entry findings which will be presented early winter. Superintendent Regalbuto will be meeting with her cohort of 26 other members monthly in Marlborough. Part of the induction program is going to classrooms and doing visitations together. Superintendent Regalbuto is committed to the social and emotional learning of the students, student engagement, passion going on in the classrooms. She will present to the school committee before the end of the year a well-articulated strategy which the school committee will hopefully endorse and which will be linked to the budget.

Ms. Lartigue asked Dr. Scalion what the school committee could do to support the Superintendent. Dr. Scalion suggested that they cultivate the relationship and let the superintendent know what is important to them. She also suggested that every couple of months the school committee meet individually with the superintendent to keep the lines of communication open and provide support, especially during the first year.

Ms. Silvers asked for some points and guidelines regarding the superintendent evaluation. Dr. Scalion recommended that Superintendent Regalbuto bring two goals forward, professional practice and student achievement goals.

6. **Unfinished Business**

a. World Education Alliance (SBRSD Host District)

Principal Devoti reported that Mt. Everett is moving forward with the symposium. Students from India, Hong Kong and Egypt may be attending. We have received donations to support this venture. Berkshire Hills, Lee, Taconic and Housatonic Valley were invited to participate.

*Mr. Travis made a motion to approve the World Education Alliance during the week of October 14-22, 2017 with SBRSD as the host district. Ms. Lartigue seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.*

Superintendent Regalbuto informed the committee that the Gala Performance is on October 19<sup>th</sup>, at the Mahaiwe, which is the same night as our school committee meeting and asked if the meeting date could be changed.

*Mr. Travis made a motion to change the date to October 18<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Lartigue seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.*

b. School Committee Goal Settings

Superintendent Regalbuto would like to have a discussion on continuing the work started at the school committee retreat and would like to set aside a short meeting time of a couple of hours to formulate the

norms and goals. Mr. Stewart suggested that she send an email to everyone on the committee within the next 2 weeks.

#### 7. **Business with District Member Towns**

Superintendent Regulbuto reported that she has met with the Egremont Board at a meet and greet and the New Marlborough Board and thanked the school committee members for arranging this.

Ms. Lartigue stated that the Town of New Marlborough would like to increase communication and interaction with the school committee and extend a conversation on a more ongoing basis as an opportunity for the select board to find out what is going on in the schools.

#### 8. **Subcommittee Reports**

Mr. Stewart asked that for future meetings the Chairs of the subcommittee indicate if they want to be on the agenda.

*Ms. Lartigue made a motion to move Item #11 ahead of items 9 and 10. The motion was seconded by Mr. Stewart. The motion was unanimously approved.*

#### **11. Curriculum & Professional Development Coordinator's Report** (See report attached)

Ms. Burke gave an overview of the 2017 Curriculum Frameworks that MA DESE published for English Language Arts and Literacy and for Mathematics in their final form on June 29.

Ms. Burke would like to launch the Curriculum Subcommittee of SBRSD School Committee by scheduling an initial meeting with identified members before the October meeting of the full school committee to explore relevant issues in more dept.

Ms. Lartigue, Mr. Travis, Ms. Silvers, Mr. Law and Ms. Melendez-Delaney will be on the curriculum subcommittee.

#### 9. **Chairman's Report**

Mr. Stewart has had a conversation with Mr. Foster regarding the upcoming contract negotiations and would like to have an initial meeting the first week in October. Mr. Stewart would like clarification of who is on the negotiation subcommittee and hopes it still includes Nat Yohalem from New Marlborough. The Municipal representative is selected by all five towns.

Mr. Stewart also suggested that everyone should try to attend the New Marlborough Central Harvest Supper.

#### 10. **Superintendent's Report** (See attached report)

Ms. Lartigue left the meeting at 8:05 p.m.

Mr. Stewart had to leave at 8:12 to meet with Mr. Devoti and handed over the Chair to Ms. Silvers.

#### 12. **Director of Student Services Report** (See attached report)

#### 13. **Business Manager's Report** (See attached report)

##### 1. Approval of Warrants: August 25, 2017

*Mr Sears made a motion to approve the warrant of August 25, 2017 as submitted. Mr. Batacchi seconded the motion. There was no further discussion and the motion was unanimously approved.*

##### 2. Vote to Accept Grants & Gift

*Ms. Bush made a motion to accept the grants and gifts in the amount of \$102,080 as submitted. Mr. Batacchi seconded the motion. There were no further discussions and the motion was unanimously approved.*

<i>Title II-B</i>	<i>\$78,628</i>
<i>Eagle &amp; Janet Fund</i>	<i>\$15,300</i>
<i>Eagle &amp; Janet Fund</i>	<i>\$ 3,750</i>
<i>BHG Wellness Program</i>	<i>\$ 2,000</i>
<i>DoD Food Fresh</i>	<i>\$ 2,402</i>

Marya Makuc reported on the Eagles Loft update. The room was painted over the summer. Looking into other options of what they want to do to improve it, a survey was sent out at the end of last year. Along with that they are also working on improving the Library. The main focus is on students and their needs.

3. Budget Transfers – There were no budget transfers

#### **14. Future Agenda Items**

*Mr. Sears made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m. Mr. Batacchi seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously.*

##### ***Documents presented at this meeting:***

- *Agenda meeting #1530*
- *Enrollment Report*
- *Resolution of March 9, 2017*
- *Lateral Move Request*
- *Superintendent's Report*
- *Curriculum & Professional Development Report*
- *Director of Student Services Report*
- *Business Manager's Report*