

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

Absent: Marcella Bush

Administration: Superintendent Regulbuto, Christine Regan, Sandi Hubbard, Mary Turo, Kerry Burke, Glenn Devoti

Press:

Others: Courtney English, Tara White, Liz O'Donnell, Trish Zucco, Lynette Gagnon

1. **Call to Order:** Bonnie Silvers, Chair, called meeting #1538 to order at 6:03 p.m.

**Out of order:** The school committee presented a plaque to Mr. Stewart. The school committee recognized Mr. Stewart for his distinguished leadership and vision in guiding the committee as chair. Mr. Stewart thanked everyone.

2. **Standing Reports:**

a. Enrollment.

Superintendent Regulbuto informed the school committee that as of January 2, 2018 the enrollment was at 686 down by two (2) from December 1, 2017. Mr. Stewart asked if we have the reason for the drop in enrollment.

b. Miscellaneous Correspondence

A letter from the Town of Egremont regarding Article 3 the District Schools of the Regional Agreement of the SBRSD (attached) was shared with the school committee. This letter was received today. The letter also ties in with the letter from the Town of Monterey (Item 7a). Mr. Stewart asked if these letters required a response from the school committee. Ms. Silvers responded that it is a statement from the Towns reiterating that we would follow the regional agreement for any decisions regarding the schools.

Superintendent Regulbuto informed the committee that she, Mary Turo and Kerry Burke will be meeting with George McGurn on Friday regarding the South Egremont school.

3. **Student Representative Report** - None

4. **Public Comment** - None

5. **New Business**

a. Student Spotlight – Jazz Band trip to Lincoln Center, New York

Courtney English introduced herself and Odie Fields a student (trumpet player) to the school committee. The jazz band had gone on a field trip to New York City on January 10-12, 2018. She presented a slide show to the committee. The students were able to observe professional jazz musicians rehearsing and performing. They attended the Benny Goodman King of Swing 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Landmark Concert at Lincoln Center with Wynton Marsalis. The group also attended “Come From Away” and the 911 Museum.

b. School Resource Officer

Superintendent Regulbuto informed the committee that she and Chief Munson have been working together on the safety and security protocols in the school district. Upon analysis of what we are currently doing, we recognized a need for a School Resource Officer in the district.

The chief had suggested to the school committee and superintendent that they had grant funding and were able to contribute towards a part time school resource officer. The school district would have a matching contribution of up to \$4000. The School Resource Officer would have a presence in the district, build relationships with students, and look at our current safety in the building. Chief Munson has recommended Officer Zucco for this position to begin February 1, 2018.

*Mr. Batacchi motioned to accept the part time School Resource Officer position from February 1, 2018 to the end of the school year. Bob Law seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*

Discussion and question and answer session followed.

Officer Trish Zucco introduced herself to the school committee. She will continue to be the part time school nurse at New Marlborough Central and perform her school resource duties before and after this position. She will be present on campus in the mornings when the busses arrive and at the end of the day. She stated that she already feels a connection with the students. Officer Zucco will be interacting with students, attending games, eating lunch with them. She is also planning to hold classes on self-defense, safe dating, and anti-drugs.

c. Proposed District Calendar for 2018-2019

Superintendent Regulbuto presented the draft 2018-2019 academic calendar to the school committee. The calendar was developed with some common professional development days between the districts in South Berkshire County.

Ms. Brown requested that the dismissal times for half days be added to the calendar.

Mr. Travis asked why Election Day in November is a day off. Kerry Burke responded by stating that Pittsfield and North Adams Public Schools hold elections in their schools, and this also gives the districts in Berkshire County to hold a professional day for teachers, support staff and ESPs.

Ms. Lartigue brought up the half-day professional days. She would like to see the district offer an extended day program to include lunch and activities on these days.

Superintendent Regulbuto responded that this is not something new, and is support of after school activities. The issue is getting someone to run this program because the staff will be involved in professional development, but she is open to the idea.

Mr. Batacchi asked if the staff had seen the calendar. Superintendent Regulbuto responded that Jamie Foster, Union Representative had been given the calendar to share with staff.

Mr. Travis asked if the professional days line up with the other districts.

The calendar will be brought forward at the February 15<sup>th</sup> meeting for a vote of approval.

d. Remote Participation at School Committee Meetings

Ms. Silvers stated that the school committee needed to entertain the idea of looking into Remote Participation.

*Ms. Lartigue moved that the school committee direct the policy subcommittee to look into what a remote participation policy would look like. Mr. Travis seconded the motion.*

*Discussion followed. Vote: 3 yes; 5 no – motion fails.*

Mr. Sears stated that this is not a policy choice. It needs to go with a full vote of the school committee and is not a policy issue. The school committee as a public body needs to decide if the committee will adopt remote participation.

Mr. Stewart suggested that Remote Participation at School Committee Meetings be added to the agenda for the school committee to discuss and vote on. Also, if remote participation is voted on this would apply to all sub-committee meetings as well.

*Mr. Batacchi motioned to bring the topic of Remote Participation back to the February 15<sup>th</sup> meeting. Mr. Stewart seconded the motion. There was brief discussion and the motion passed unanimously.*

**6. Unfinished Business**

a. Subcommittee Alternates

The following members were added as alternates:

Finance Subcommittee Alternate is Bob Law

Policy Subcommittee Alternate is Genis Melendez-Delaney

Regional Agreement Review Committee alternate is Mary Ellen Brown

SBRSD Future of Education in South County – Fran Lartigue is now the alternate

**7. Business with District Member Towns**

- a. The letter from the Town of Monterey (attached) was shared with the school committee. The letter is the same as the one sent by the Town of Egremont. No further action will be taken at this time.

**8. Subcommittee Reports:**

a. Policy Subcommittee – Dennis Sears

Mr. Sears informed the school committee that this is the second reading of the following policies:

JJIF – Athletic Concussion Policy

*Mr. Sears made a motion to adopt the updated JJIF Policy. Mr. Batacchi seconded the motion. A discussion ensued and the motion was unanimously approved.*

Mr. Stewart stated that policy BGB makes no mention of the first reading, second reading and when discussion is allowed. Mr. Sears stated that our practice has been a two-step practice and we should change the policy. Ms. Silvers recommended that the policy subcommittee look at this policy and bring any changes forward to the full committee.

JJIF-R – Concussion Regulations with Actions

*Mr. Sears made a motion to adopt the updated JJIF-R Policy Regulations. Mr. Batacchi seconded the motion. A discussion ensued. Vote: 1 - No; 7 – Yes. Motion passes.*

Mr. Stewart objected to the policy regulations as submitted. Mr. Sears explained that the policy subcommittee had worked on this for the past five months. The committee should vote on adopting the regulation and if we want to make changes later we can do that.

*At this point Mr. Sears called the question. Vote: 5 no; 3 yes. Further discussion followed.*

GCG – Substitute Professional Staff Employment

*Mr. Sears made a motion to adopt Policy GCG. Mr. Batacchi seconded the motion. There was no further discussion and the motion was unanimously approved.*

#### JC – Attendance Areas

*Mr. Sears made a motion to adopt Policy JC. Mr. Batacchi seconded the motion. There was no further discussion and the motion was unanimously approved.*

#### JCA – Assignment of Students to Schools

*Mr. Sears made a motion to adopt Policy JCA with intra-district school choice added. Mr. Batacchi seconded the motion. A discussion followed. Vote: 1- No; 8 – Yes. Motion passes.*

Mr. Stewart asked how this policy would affect attendance to South Egremont and would everyone in the district know what school their children should attend. Parents will be informed of the schools their children should attend when they enroll. School bus transportation will not be provided for students attending schools outside their attendance area, (intra-district school choice), unless there is space on the bus or unless specific permission is granted by the Superintendent. Ms. Regan stated that the Our Lady of the Valley bus route was added for this year only. Superintendent Regulbuto also stated that the parents were informed that this bus route was added for this year only.

#### b. Finance Subcommittee – Dennis Sears

Mr. Sears reported that the Finance Subcommittee had met today. The Governor's budget was received yesterday. Superintendent Regulbuto stated that the preliminary revenue projections for FY19 will be posted on the web. Mr. Sears requested a copy of the report be distributed to the school committee members.

*Mr. Law made a motion that the district invite Senator Hinds and Representative Pignatelli to attend a meeting. Mr. Batacchi seconded the motion. There was no further discussion and the motion was unanimously approved.*

#### c. Negotiation Subcommittee – C. Stewart

Mr. Stewart reported that the Negotiation Subcommittee had met yesterday and that it was going to be a long process to get the three unit contracts completed. Meetings have been scheduled through May. The next meeting is on January 29<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Stewart also reported on the Eagle Fund meeting that was held this morning. He suggested that Superintendent Regulbuto attend the next meeting which is scheduled for February 15<sup>th</sup>.

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

Ms. Silvers thanked everyone for their help with the letter to the Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities. The letter has been signed and will be mailed out tomorrow. The letter will also be sent to the five towns.

Ms. Silvers mentioned that there is a conflict developing amongst all the meetings scheduled and is hoping to find a way to solve this.

### 10. **Superintendent's Report**

- Budget – Will try some different strategies, and get information on the website. Building relationships with finance committee members.
- There was a meeting at the Mass world coalition. There are many legislative opportunities to express our voice. Seventy districts qualified for additional funding and SBRSD ranked 24 in order of need, based on 2016-2017 numbers.

- The Mid-Winter Superintendents meeting was today in Marlborough. This was an amazing professional learning opportunity. They talked about the importance of technology in the future of project-based learning, and how to work with businesses and communities.

**11. Curriculum & Professional Development Coordinator’s Report (Attached)**

Kerry reported on the Middle School Task Force. The first meeting is on February 7, 2018 at 3:15 p.m.

The Curriculum Subcommittee is planning on meeting on February 2, 2018 at 10:30 a.m.

**12. Director of Student Services Report (Attached)**

**13. Business Manager’s Report**

- a. Approval of Warrants – January 12, 2018 (Attached)

*Mr. Stewart made a motion to approve the January 12, 2018 warrant as submitted. Ms. Lartigue seconded the motion. There was no further discussion and the motion was unanimously approved.*

- b. Vote to Accept Grants and Gifts

Karebear Foundation \$2000  
 Gulotta Brothers \$500  
 Anonymous Donors \$600  
 Mass Cultural Council - \$1900 STARS

*Mr. Sears made a motion to approve the Grants and Gifts as presented. Mr. Batacchi seconded the motion. There was no further discussion and the motion was unanimously approved.*

- c. Budget Transfers

*Ms. Lartigue made a motion to approve the Budget Transfer Requests as presented. Mr. Batacchi seconded the motion. There was no further discussion and the motion was unanimously approved.*

**14. Future Agenda Items**

- a. Report of College Submissions and Early Acceptances  
 b. College and Career Planning Initiatives for FY19 and Beyond

**15. Adjourn**

*Mr. Batacchi made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m. Ms. Lartigue seconded the motion. Motion passes unanimously.*

*Documents Presented at this Meeting:*

*Agenda #1538*

*Enrollment Figures*

*Proposed District Calendar for 2018-2019*

*Subcommittee List*

*Letter from the Town of Monterey*

*Policies: JJIF, JJIF-R, GCG, JC, JCA*

*Warrant January 12, 2018*

*Grants and Gifts*

*Budget Transfers*