

School Committee Members: Bonnie Silvers, Dennis Sears, MaryEllen Brown, Art Batacchi, Ken Knox, Marcella Bush, (David Travis and Fran Lartigue arrived late)

Absent: Carl Stewart

Administration: Superintendent Regulbuto, Christine Regan, Sandi Hubbard, Glenn Devoti

Press: Corey Willey, Berkshire Record, CTSB TV

Others: Danielle Melino, Stephanie Graham

1. **Call to Order:** Bonnie Silvers, Chair, called meeting #1547 to order at 6:02 p.m.
2. **Executive Session:**
Mr. Sears moved to enter Executive Session to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining with the SBREA, Unit A, as an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the Committee's bargaining position, as declared by the Chair, and the Committee will return to Open Session.
Mr. Batacchi seconded the motion.
Roll Call Vote:
Art Batacchi – Yes Ken Knox – Yes Dennis Sears – Yes Bonnie Silvers – Yes
Marcella Bush – Yes Maryellen Brown – Yes Tim Schroepfer – Yes
Fran Lartigue and David Travis arrived after the vote
The school committee reconvened in Open Session at 6:40 p.m.
3. **Introduction of New School Committee Member from Sheffield**
Ms. Silvers introduced Tim Schroepfer from Sheffield as the newly appointed school committee member to replace Bob Law.
4. **Standing Reports**
 - a. Approval of Minutes of School Committee Meetings #1546
Ms. Lartigue moved to approve school committee meeting minutes #1546 of May 23, 2018.
Mr. Batacchi seconded the motion. The minutes were approved with the following corrections: correct the spelling of Gali to Galli, and Item #10 the meeting to appoint Tim Schroepfer was the Sheffield meeting of school committee members and select board members. There was no further discussion and the motion was unanimously approved.
 - b. Enrollment
Superintendent Regulbuto informed the committee that as of June 1, 2018 enrollment is up by 2 to 692.
 - c. Miscellaneous Correspondence – Ms. Silvers read a note received from Bob Law's daughter to the committee.
5. **Student Representative Report – None**
6. **Public Comment - None**
7. **Student Spotlight - None**
8. **New Business**
 - a. Preliminary approval on an international trip to Ecuador: Galapagos Islands during April Vacation 2020 – D. Melino

Ms. Melino was seeking preliminary approval and presented information to the committee. *Ms. Lartigue moved that the school committee grant preliminary approval on the international trip to Ecuador: Galapagos Islands during April Vacation 2020. Mr. Batacchi seconded the motion. There was a brief discussion and the motion was unanimously approved.*

- b. Approval of Overnight Field Trip: National FFA Convention, Indianapolis, Indiana October 23-27, 2018 – D. Melino

Ms. Melino was seeking approval and gave a brief presentation on the conference. The cost of the trip is \$600. Ms. Silvers asked that Ms. Melino scan and send page 3 with cost information to the school committee members.

Ms. Lartigue moved to approve the overnight field trip to the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana during October 23-27, 2018. Mr. Batacchi seconded the motion. Discussion ensued and the motion was unanimously approved.

- c. Long Term Student Exchange Program Proposal - Stephanie Graham (Proposal attached)
Ms. Graham gave a brief presentation on the Long Term Student Exchange proposed program. She explained that the SBRSD is SEVIS certified, which allows us to award a visa to an international student for one year on a tuition basis. The approximate cost for the 2018-2019 school year is \$18,000 and the tuition can be allocated to any part of the budget the district deems appropriate. One of the problems would be housing. If the district goes forward with this we would need to do the following: Develop a program; create a policy; and Develop a Recruitment Plan.

Ms. Lartigue moved that the school committee grant approval and allow Ms. Graham to explore the Long Term Student Exchange Program proposal as presented. Mr. Batacchi seconded the motion. Discussion ensued. The motion was unanimously approved.

- d. Vote to ratify the Memorandum of Agreement for a Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Committee and the SBREA, Unit A, for the period September 1, 2018 through August 31, 2021.

Mr. Sears moved to vote to ratify the Memorandum of Agreement for a Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Committee and the SBREA, Unit A, for the period September 1, 2018 through August 31, 2021. Mr. Batacchi seconded the motion.

Superintendent Regulbuto stated that this was a thoughtful process that resulted in a three-year agreement that reflects how the district values its teachers and supports the work that they do.

Roll Call Vote:

*Art Batacchi – Yes Ken Knox – Yes Davis Travis – Yes Dennis Sears – Yes
Tim Schroepfer – Yes Bonnie Silvers – Yes Fran Lartigue – Yes Marcella Bush – Yes
Maryellen Brown – Yes*

Ms. Silvers then read the following statement:

“It is with great pleasure that I announce that the Southern Berkshire Regional School Committee ratified the Memorandum of Agreement for a Collective Bargaining Agreement between the School Committee and Unit A of the SBREA, our teachers, for the period September 1, 2018 to August 31, 2021. This agreement represents the outcome of a year of negotiation and compromise with the end goal of providing the best possible education for our students. We owe the citizens of all five of our towns a debt of gratitude for supporting our district’s budget. Our teachers, we believe are being given a fair contract and one that also recognizes the increasing difficulty of supporting excellent education in the face of limited

resources. We look forward to joining with our staff to bring many more accolades to the Southern Berkshire Regional School District.

- e. Introduction of Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Professional Development
Ms. Silvers introduced Peter Dufresne, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Professional Development to the Committee.

9. **Unfinished Business**

- a. Update on South Egremont School
Beth Regulbuto stated there is no update other than the foundation is in. Superintendent Regulbuto had met with some parents since the last school committee meeting and went over the program and plans for the school. The district will send a letter to the Town of Egremont requesting that all the necessary documentation is in place prior to the start of school.

10. **Business with District Member Towns**

- a. Letter from the Town of Monterey regarding the Monterey School Building
The School committee requested that Superintendent Regulbuto send a letter to the Town of Monterey in response to their request of May 31, 2018 regarding the removal of district contents from the Monterey School Building.
- b. Letter from New Marlborough regarding roads. Superintendent Regulbuto stated that she will meet with the New Marlborough road crews to go over their concerns regarding the current bus routes.

11. **Subcommittee Reports**

At the request of Mr. Knox, Ms. Silvers appointed him to be on the SBRSD Future of Education in South County Subcommittee, Policy and Curriculum Subcommittees; and Tim Schroepfer to be on the Executive Evaluation, BG&T and SBRSD Future of Education in South County Subcommittees.

- a. Building, Grounds & Technology – A. Batacchi
Mr. Batacchi stated that the committee had not met.
- b. Policy – D. Sears

Mr. Sears moved to suspend the first reading and go to the second reading for policies AC, GBA, GCF, JB, JFBB and BEA. Mr. Batacchi seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion was approved unanimously.

Mr. Sears moved that there will now be a second reading on policies AC, GBA, GCF, JB, JFBB and BEA. Mr. Batacchi seconded the motion. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Travis raised a question regarding item #4 and #6 on Remote Participation Policy BEA. Mr. Travis wanted clarification on why remote participation is limited to a maximum of 3 meetings per year. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Travis moved to strike items #4, #6 and #7 from Policy BEA. Ms. Lartigue seconded the motion. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Batacchi suggested that policy BEA be tabled to the next meeting. Mr. Knox suggested striking #4 and #6 and amending #7 to include exception for illness.

Mr. Travis moved to rescind his above motion. Ms. Lartigue seconded the motion.

Mr. Travis moved to strike item #4 from policy BEA. Ms. Lartigue seconded the motion. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Sears explained that the policy subcommittee developed the Remote Participation Policy BEA based on policies developed by other districts and towns. Further discussion followed.

Mr. Travis called the question. Ms. Lartigue seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Roll Call Vote on striking item #4:

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|----------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <i>Art Batacchi – No</i> | <i>Dennis Sears – No</i> | <i>Maryellen Brown – No</i> |
| <i>Ken Knox – Yes</i> | <i>David Travis – Yes</i> | <i>Francoise Lartigue – Yes</i> |
| <i>Marcella Bush – Yes</i> | <i>Tim Schroepfer – Yes</i> | <i>Bonnie Silvers - Yes</i> |

Motion carries 6 to 3

Mr. Travis moved to strike item #6 from policy BEA. Ms. Lartigue seconded the motion. Discussion ensued.

Roll Call Vote:

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|---------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <i>Mr. Batacchi – No</i> | <i>Dennis Sears – No</i> | <i>Maryellen Brown – No</i> |
| <i>Bonnie Silvers – No</i> | <i>Ken Knox – Yes</i> | <i>Tim Schroepfer – Yes</i> |
| <i>Francoise Lartigue – Yes</i> | <i>Marcella Bush – Yes</i> | <i>David Travis – Yes</i> |

Motion passes 5 to 4

Ms. Lartigue moved to make item #7 less harsh. Mr. Travis seconded the motion. Discussion ensued.

Item #7 amended as follows:

The School Committee Chair or Vice Chair, or the Subcommittee chair shall be notified at least 48 hours in advance of request for remote participation. It is at the discretion of the School Committee Chair, or Vice Chair or Subcommittee Chair to waive the 48 hour requirement.

Roll Call Vote:

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|------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <i>Art Batacchi – Yes</i> | <i>Ken Knox – Yes</i> | <i>David Travis – Yes</i> |
| <i>Tim Schroepfer – Yes</i> | <i>Bonnie Silvers – Yes</i> | <i>Francoise Lartigue – Yes</i> |
| <i>Maryellen Brown – Yes</i> | <i>Marcella Bush – Yes</i> | <i>Dennis Sears – Yes</i> |

Motion passes unanimously

Mr. Sears moved to approve Policy BEA as altered. Ms. Lartigue seconded the motion. There was no further discussion and the motion was unanimously approved.

Ms. Lartigue moved to approve Policy AC as presented. Mr. Batacchi seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Ms. Lartigue moved to approve Policy GBA as presented. Mr. Batacchi seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Ms. Lartigue moved to approve Policy GCF as presented. Mr. Travis seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Ms. Lartigue moved to approve Policy JB as presented. Mr. Batacchi seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Ms. Lartigue moved to approve Policy JFBB as presented. Mr. Batacchi seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Sears moved, seconded by Mr. Batacchi to reinstate the First Reading and Second Reading process of approving policies going forward. The motion was unanimously approved.

- c. **Regional Agreement Review Committee – Art Batacchi**
The Regional Agreement Review Committee met with the town select board members. The Assessment Committee have reorganized and meetings will be posted at the town level and will be open to the public.
- d. **Executive Evaluation – D. Travis**
The Executive Evaluation Subcommittee met recently and confirmed the timeline for the year end evaluation of the Superintendent. The survey will need to be completed by the school committee members.
- e. **Negotiations – on going.**

12. **Chairman’s Report**

Ms. Silvers stated it was good to have a full school committee. Reported on the first Tedx event organized by Ms. Raszl and Marya Makuc, which was very successful and professionally done. New agreement with Shakespeare and Co for the upcoming year. Ms. Silvers also mentioned on whether the committee will hold summer meetings.

13. **Superintendent’s Report**

Superintendent Regulbuto stated she had attended concerts, open houses, Tedx event, MASBO conference and attended her first graduation. The Admin team met today to put together a summer send-off cookout for the faculty and staff and school committee members. Safety meetings have been scheduled with the police chiefs and fire departments of the five towns. The district is still interviewing to fill the Elementary Principal position.

14. **Director of Student Services Report**

Report attached.

15. **Business Manager’s Report**

- a. **Vote to approve Warrants: June 1, 2018**
Ms. Lartigue moved to approve the warrant of June 1, 2018 as presented. Mr. Batacchi seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.
- b. **Vote to Accept Grants and Gifts**
- c. **Budget Transfers**

16. **Future Agenda Items**

17. **Executive Session**

Motion to go into Executive Session to discuss strategy with regard to nonunion personnel contracts and not to reconvene in Open Session. Roll Call Vote Required.

Mr. Sears moved to go into Executive Session at 8 p.m. to discuss strategy with regard to non-union personnel contracts and not to reconvene in Open Session. Roll Call Vote:

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|------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <i>Art Batacchi – Yes</i> | <i>Ken Knox – Yes</i> | <i>David Travis – Yes</i> |
| <i>Tim Schroepfer – Yes</i> | <i>Bonnie Silvers – Yes</i> | <i>Francoise Lartigue – Yes</i> |
| <i>Maryellen Brown – Yes</i> | <i>Marcella Bush – Yes</i> | <i>Dennis Sears – Yes</i> |

Documents presented at this meeting:

- *Agenda 1547*
- *Minutes #1546*
- *Field Trip Requests*
- *Memorandum of Agreement – Unit A*
- *Director of Student Services Report*
- *Warrant: June 1, 2018*