

School Committee Members: Bonnie Silvers, Dennis Sears, MaryEllen Brown, Carl Stewart, Ken Knox, Tim Schroepfer

Absent: David Travis, M. Bush, Fran Lartigue, Art Batacchi

Administration: Superintendent Regulbuto, Christine Regan, Peter Dufresne, Sandi Hubbard

Press: Cory Willey, Berkshire Record, CTSB TV

Others:

**1. Call to Order**

Ms. Silvers, Chair, called meeting #1549 to order at 6:02 p.m.

**2. Standing Reports**

- a. Approval of School Committee Meeting Minutes #1547 and #1548

*Mr. Sears moved to approve the minutes of meeting #1547, June 12, 2018 as presented.*

*Mr. Schroepfer seconded the motion. Motion was approved (Mr. Stewart abstained).*

*Mr. Stewart moved to approve the minutes of meeting #1548, June 26, 2018, as presented.*

*Mr. Schroepfer seconded the motion. Motion was approved with one abstain (Mr. Stewart).*

- b. Miscellaneous Correspondence - None

**3. Student Representative Report – None**

**4. Public Comment**

Amy Truax, lives in Ashley Falls. Questions about the school safety concerns this year and the email that went home. Would like to know how the situation is being addressed. Superintendent Regulbuto suggested that she set up an appointment to discuss this further.

**5. Student Spotlight – None**

**6. New Business**

- a. MASC Conference – November 7-10, 2018

At this time, there are seven members interested in attending the conference in November.

Glenn Koocher will be in communication and can assist the district with registration. David Travis also wants to attend. The early bird registration has been extended to August 10, 2018.

Mr. Stewart suggested that if more than six school committee members attend we should post it as a school committee meeting to avoid any potential complaints.

- b. Handbooks

Superintendent Regulbuto explained that in the packet is a draft of the combined secondary and elementary parent/student handbook as a work in progress. Peter Dufresne will be developing a Handbook Committee to meet throughout the 2018-2019 school year to work on the handbook to update policies.

Mr. Stewart brought up two areas of concern: School Attire and suspension or expulsion of a student regarding a felony. Mr. Stewart will send his concerns and comments in writing.

Ms. Silvers added that all comments and suggestions regarding the handbook should be sent to Lynette.

- c. The proposed 2018-2019 School Committee meeting calendar was presented for approval. *Mr. Sears made a motion to approve the school committee meeting calendar as presented. Mr. Schroepfer seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.*

## **7. Unfinished Business**

- a. School Committee Summer Meetings (August 16)

The next school committee meeting is scheduled for August 16<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m.

- b. School Committee Retreat Date

The school committee retreat dates to work on goal settings will be the evening of Wednesday, September 12, 2018 in the evening, and either September 26 or October 3<sup>rd</sup>. Glenn Koocher, or someone from MASC, will present at one of these dates.

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

- a. South Egremont School Update

Superintendent Regulbuto gave an update on the school. They had just attended an open house that the parents had organized at The Barn in Egremont. It was very well attended by families interested in attending the school in the fall.

Discussion ensued regarding the opening of the school with the necessary waivers/documents as requested in the District's June 22, 2018 letter to the Town of Egremont.

- b. Monterey School Update

Chris Regan stated that Jeremy Wells has planned for July 24<sup>th</sup> to clean out the building. We have hired a company to come in to remove the materials with the help of the Monterey DPW.

## **9. Subcommittee Reports**

- a. Policy – D. Sears

Remote Participation Policy – BEA

Mr. Sears informed the committee that the policy subcommittee meet earlier today. The Remote Participation Policy was rescinded at the last meeting. Counsel sent the district a draft of the policy which the subcommittee worked on during the meeting. The Remote Participation Policy will be emailed to all the school committee members for their review. Mr. Sears stated that this would be considered the first reading of the policy, so the second reading will be at the next meeting.

*Mr. Stewart moved that the email of the corrected, edited copy of the Remote Participation Policy be deemed a first reading so that when the committee meets on August 16<sup>th</sup> it will be the second reading. At this time the committee will approve the policy with or without amendments. Mr. Sears seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.*

## **10. Chairman's Report**

Ms. Silvers reminded everyone to turn in their nomination papers with signatures by the due date.

## **11. Superintendent's Report**

Superintendent Regalbuto informed the committee that she and Mr. Dufresne had attended the superintendent's conference. It was a valuable conference with tremendous professional development opportunities. Commissioner Reilley offered to come visit Southern Berkshire and was very excited for the opportunity to come out to visit.

There have also been a few administrative retreats working on developing a safety flip chart for every classroom. Hope to have these available for the opening of school as part of the safety initiative.

The District Vision Statement has been printed for display in every classroom in the district, libraries and town halls.

The District Administrative Strategic Planning meeting was held today from 10-3 with administrators.

## **12. Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Professional Development**

Mr. Dufresne stated that his strategic plan on entering the district was to spend the first 30 days learning the curriculum and processes in place. Nearly done reviewing the current grants that we receive.

Operationally: He has started to have regular meetings with the Superintendent, Director of Student Services and Principals to establish ground work in moving our district towards a fully written curriculum.

## **13. Director of Student Services Report (Report attached)**

Sandi Hubbard stated that the summer programs started on July 9<sup>th</sup> and there are currently 30 students participating in this program. We also have a grant-funded English Language Learner tutoring program offered again this year. Currently there are 15 students enrolled in the Title I reading program.

## **14. Business Manager's Report**

a. Vote to approve Warrants: June 29, 2018 and July 16, 2018

*Mr. Stewart moved to approve the June 29 2018 warrant as presented. Mr. Sears seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion was approved,*

*Mr. Stewart moved to approve the July 16, 2018 warrant as presented. Mr. Sears seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion was approved.*

b. Vote to Accept Grants and Gifts - None

c. Budget Transfers - None

Chris Regan reported that the Regional Assessment Review Committee have been meeting on a regular basis, so far they have had four meetings. The committee have looked at different factors that can be considered as part of a new formula for the regional agreement. The town representatives are each going back to their town officials for the select boards and finance committees to look at what they think as factors to be fair and reasonable.

## **15. Future Agenda Items**

*Mr. Sears motioned that a joint (District and School Committee) letter of thanks be sent to Representative Pignatelli and Senator Hinds regarding the FY19 Budget. Mr. Stewart seconded the motion.*

Mr. Stewart recommended holding a gathering shortly after the opening of school to introduce our new Elementary Principal and Director of Curriculum to the community.

## **16. Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m.