

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

Absent: Marcella Bush, Fran Lartigue

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

Press: Cory Willey - Berkshire Record, CTSB TV, Terry Cowgill - Berkshire Edge

Others: (see attached sign in sheet)

1. Call to Order

Ms. Silvers, Chair, called meeting #1551 to order at 6:09 p.m.

2. Standing Reports

a. Approval of School Committee Meeting Minutes #1550. They were not available.

b. Enrollment

Superintendent Regulbuto reported that as of September 1, 2018 the enrollment was at 698.

c. Miscellaneous Correspondence

Superintendent Regulbuto presented letters from Pittsfield Public Schools asking that the school committee consider supporting them in expressing their concern and considering legislative action regarding the Foundation Budget formula.

Mr. Sears motioned to table discussion of this to the next meeting. Mr. Travis seconded the motion. There was no further discussion and the motion was unanimously approved.

3. Student Representative Report – None

4. Student Spotlight – None

5. Public Comment

The following members of the public voiced concerns and raised questions on: safety procedures, handbooks, daycare center, busses, student parking, South Egremont School, sports transportation, field trips, lack of communication, transition to middle school, cuts in the art position and the Assistant to the Principal position.

Mr. Temple, Ms. Byrne, Ms. Butler, Ms. Laine, Ms. Wilkinson, Ms. Hass, Ms. Zucco, Ms. Love, Ms. Galie

Ms. Silvers thanked everyone for their comments and felt it was important to hear what people had to say. She also stated that she was present on the day of the storm when the power went out and the students were kept at the school. Everyone did a phenomenal job getting the kids back into the school and back on the busses to go home when it was safe.

Ms. Silvers stated that concerns raised would be discussed and put on future meeting agendas.

Mr. Stewart stated that personnel matters could not be discussed in open session. There is limited ability to discuss personnel matters in open meetings. There are other avenues but not in open meetings.

6. New Business

- a. Approval of Overnight Hiking Field Trip “Hiking & Environment Class” Pat Barrett
 - *Carl Stewart moved to approve the September 30-October 2, 2018 hike as presented. Mr. Batacchi seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion was unanimously approved.*
 - *Carl Stewart moved to approve the October 14-15, 2018 hike as presented. Mr. Travis seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion was unanimously approved.*
 - *Carl Stewart moved to approve the November 4-7, 2018 hike as presented. Mr. Batacchi seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion was unanimously approved.*
- b. Approval of Memorandum of Understanding, Unit A, *Janus v. Am. Fed’n of State, Cty., & Mun. Employees, Council 31, 138S. Ct. 2448 (2018)*
 - *Carl Stewart moved to approve the MOU with modifications as presented. Mr. Batacchi seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion was unanimously approved.*
- c. Ratification of Unit A Contract September 1, 2018 – August 31, 2021.
 - *Mr. Stewart moved that the School Committee approve the Unit A Contract, September 1, 2018 – August 31, 2021 as presented. Mr. Schroepfer seconded the motion. There was no further discussion and the motion was unanimously approved.*
- d. Approval of Lateral Movements on the Unit A Salary Schedule, effective September 1, 2018.
 - *Mr. Stewart moved that the school committee approve the lateral movements on the Unit A Salary Schedule effective September 1, 2018 as presented. Mr. Batacchi seconded the motion. There was no further discussion and the motion was unanimously approved.*
- e. Award of the MFSAD Vehicles Bid

Ms. Regan informed the school committee that the district had received three bids:

 - O’Connor Bus Sales \$110,864
 - DATTCO \$118,440
 - New England Transit Sales \$120,946.

O’Connor Bus Company was the lowest bid at \$110,864 for two vehicles. These buses will be used for field trips at reduced costs. The current bus contract requires a minimum amount to be paid for field trips that are sometimes cost prohibitive.

 - *Mr. Travis moved that the school committee accept the bid from O’Connor Bus Sales. Mr. Batacchi seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved on the condition that the bid documents become part of the packet.*
- f. Award to ECI Systems for Security Work (Access and Video) from State Contract FAC64
 - *Mr. Batacchi moved to award the security work (Access and Video) to ECI. Mr. Sears seconded the motion. Discussion ensued.*

Ms. Regan informed the committee that this was part of the safety plan and the capital budget approved in the FY19 budget. This State Contract FAC64 was used to identify an approved vendor who could provide and install security measures such as access control into and within the building along with video surveillance. The district would like to contract with ECI Inc., from Salem, NH, to do this work. The cost of the access control work at the Sheffield campus and at NMC is \$60,476.95. The work to wire the Sheffield campus building in preparation of future camera installations is \$5,042.22. The total contract for this work is \$65,519.17.

Mr. Sears moved to call the question. Mr. Batacchi seconded the motion.

Roll Call vote: Carl Stewart – No; Art Batacchi – Yes; Ken Knox – Yes; David Travis – Yes; Maryellen Brown – Yes; Dennis Sears – Yes; Tim Schroepfer – Yes.

Roll Call vote for Motion:

Ken Knox – No; Carl Stewart – No; Bonnie Silvers – No

David Travis – Yes; Art Batacchi – Yes; Maryellen Brown – Yes; Dennis Sears – Yes;

Tim Schroepfer – Yes.

Motion carries 5 to 3

g. Conflict of School Committee Meeting dates with events:

- May 16th – Spring Concert
- June 6th – Grade 3-6 Chorus and Band Concert

Bonnie Silvers suggested that the committee provide alternate meeting dates at the next meeting.

7. Unfinished Business

- Parent/Student Handbook

Ms Silvers asked the committee to review the handbook and send any additional comments to the Superintendent by September 21st. The first draft of the Staff Handbook will be reviewed at the next meeting.

8. Business with District Member Towns

a. Motion to Approve the Letter to Monterey Select Board in response to their letter of August 8th regarding the Monterey School (draft attached).

Ms. Silvers stated that this letter enables the district to not have multiple hearings among the towns and enables the Town of Monterey to proceed with doing what they would like with the building.

- *David Travis moved to approve the letter to the Town of Monterey. Mr. Sears seconded the motion. Discussion ensued. The motion was unanimously approved.*

b. Status regarding South Egremont School

Superintendent Regulbuto informed the school committee that the district had received a letter from Attorney Gogel dated September 4, 2018 with regard to the South Egremont school renovations and an Indoor Air Quality Assessment (copies attached). Ms. Silvers distributed the response from the attorney to the school committee members for review.

- *Mr. Sears made a motion to approve the letter to Attorney Gogel. Mr. Batacchi seconded the motion.*

Discussion ensued.

Roll Call Vote:

Art Batacchi – Yes; Ken Knox – Yes; Carl Stewart – Yes; David Travis – Yes;

Maryellen Brown – Yes; Dennis Sears – Yes; Tim Schroepfer – Yes.

9. Subcommittee Reports

a. Building, Grounds & Technology Subcommittee – Art Batacchi

Mr. Batacchi informed the school committee that the BG&T had met twice.

The following items were discussed:

- South Egremont School
- Activity busses, bid opening

- ECI Systems for security. Work on this project began last year with the police department, BG&T and district staff.
- Rebid for the Tennis Courts. Bids will go out again this winter/spring for work to be done this coming summer.
- TACPAC – Limelight Productions did the rigging work this spring and summer. Total cost was \$26,721. Lighting and stage improvements will be done using funds already appropriated for this purpose.
- Signage – Road signs are up at the Sheffield and NMC campus. Directional signs are being ordered for the parking lot as well as interior signs to direct people once in the building.
- Lighting initiative – Chris Regan discussed the National Grid incentive.
- *Mr. Batacchi made a motion to approve the energy savings measure. Mr. Sears seconded the motion. Discussion ensued.*

Mr. Stewart would like the documentation to be part of the packet. Ms. Regan will provide the same documentation that was presented at the BG&T and Finance subcommittees.

Discussion followed.

Mr. Travis called the question. Unanimous vote.

Motion passed: Carl Stewart – No, Yes vote from everyone else to approve the energy savings measure.

b. Finance Subcommittee – D. Sears

Mr. Sears reported that there was a brief finance subcommittee meeting at which time they went over the items discussed above.

c. SBEF – D. Sears

Mr. Sears reported that the group had met in Sheffield. No decisions have been made. The next meeting is Wednesday, October 10th in Stockbridge at BHRSD.

10. Chairman's Report

Ms. Silvers stated that she and Superintendent have been working with Mr. Barrett, SBREA President and the meetings have been very positive. She also mentioned that the new elementary principal, Mr. Miller, has been making quick inroads and it has been great to work with him. She commended Chris Regan for all the work that has been done with the towns regarding working on the regional assessments.

Ms. Silvers would like to form a Good & Welfare Ad Hoc Subcommittee.

11. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Regalbuto stated that even though there have been bumps in the road overall, it has been a good start to the school year with many positive student centered activities. Safety has been a topic of discussion since before she started here. The District safety plan we are using is the plan that has been in place for many years. As part of our strategic initiatives for continuous improvement, safety and wellness has been identified as a top priority.

Over the last 15 months, SBRSD has been looking at safety as a three-prong approach. We started with social emotional and behavioral supports because that was identified last year as an area with the highest need. It was clear that we needed to make additional investments in our physical plants. The hope is to enhance and improve the plan we already have in place.

12. Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Professional Development (Report attached)

Mr. Dufresne informed the committee that trainings for faculty and staff will include:

- The use of data teams to focus growth efforts.
 - Definition of formative assessments system to gauge cohort and individual progress of students and areas of focus for each.
- The use of research based Response to Intervention curriculum.
- The implementation of new MA State Standards in the classroom
- The MCAS 2.0 versus the former PARCC high stakes assessment

This past month saw operational based trainings offered in:

- AESOP absence management training
- Further development of content for the internal Curriculum, Instruction, and Professional Development section of the SBRSD website based on faculty and staff input

13. Director of Student Services Report (Report attached)

Ms. Hubbard invited everyone to attend the SEPAC meeting on October 1, 2018 at 4:30 in the Eagles Loft. This is the annual parent rights presentation.

Ms. Hubbard also informed the committee that the final Coordinated Program Review report was received and SBRSD received commendation for no findings in Special Education and English Language Education.

14. Business Manager's Report

a. Vote to approve Warrants: August 24, 2018 and September 7, 2018

Mr. Stewart made a motion to approve both warrants as presented. Mr. Sears seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion was unanimously approved.

b. Vote to Accept Grants and Gifts

Mr. Stewart made a motion to approve the acceptance of Grants and Gifts as presented. Mr. Sears seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion was unanimously approved.

c. Budget Transfers - None

15. Future Agenda Items

16. Executive Session

Mr. Sears moved to enter executive session to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining and not to reconvene in open session. Mr. Knox seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Stewart – Abstain; Mr. Batacchi – Yes; Mr. Knox – Yes; Mr. Travis – Yes; Ms. Brown – Yes; Ms. Silvers – Yes; Mr. Sears – Yes; Mr. Schroepfer – Yes.

17. Adjourn

Mr. Schroepfer motioned to adjourn at 8:47 p.m. Mr. Sears seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion was unanimously approved.