

Amended Minutes

Southern Berkshire Regional School District
Mt Everett Library, 491 Berkshire School Road, Sheffield, MA
November 29, 2018
Meeting #1554

School Committee Members: Bonnie Silvers, Dennis Sears, MaryEllen Brown, Jeffrey Blaugrund, Ken Knox, David Travis, Tim Schroepfer, Art Batacchi, Jane Burke, Marcella Bush (arrived late)

Administration: Superintendent Regulbuto, Peter Dufresne, Sandi Hubbard, Chris Regan, Charles Miller, Jesse Carpenter

Press: CTSB TV

Others:

1. **Call to Order** – Beth Regulbuto, Superintendent called meeting #1554 to order at 5:07 p.m.

2. **Reorganization**

a. Election of Chair (will assume duties immediately upon election)

Superintendent asked for nominations for Chair of the school committee.

Dennis Sears nominated Bonnie Silvers. Ken Knox seconded.

Tim Schroepfer nominated Art Batacchi. Ken Knox seconded.

Jane Burke asked Bonnie Silvers and Art Batacchi to state why they want to be Chair.

Art Batacchi stated that he has a vested interest in the community and feels he would be a good candidate.

Bonnie Silvers stated that she is passionate about this district and looks forward to moving us ahead.

Maryellen Brown moved that the elections be done by secret ballot. Tim Schroepfer seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Art Batacchi – Yes

Ken Knox – No

Jeffrey Blaugrund – Yes

David Travis – Yes

Jane Burke – Yes

Maryellen Brown – Yes

Dennis Sears – Yes

Bonnie Silvers – Yes

Tim Schroepfer – Yes

Motions carries.

Superintendent Regulbuto tabulated the ballots.

Art Batacchi is elected Chair.

b. Election of Vice Chair

Art Batacchi assumed his position as Chair and asked for nominations for Vice Chair.

Bonnie Silvers nominated Dennis Sears. Jane Burke seconded.

David Travis nominated Tim Schroepfer. Ken Knox seconded.

Ken Knox nominated Bonnie Silvers. Dennis Sears seconded.

Dennis Sears moved that nominations be closed. David Travis seconded the motion. There was no further discussion and the motion was unanimously approved.

David Travis moved for a secret ballot. Dennis Sears seconded the motion. There was no discussion.

Roll Call Vote:

Art Batacchi – Yes

Ken Knox – Yes

Jeffrey Blaugrund – Yes

David Travis – Yes

Jane Burke – Yes

Maryellen Brown – Yes

Dennis Sears – Yes

Bonnie Silvers – Yes

Tim Schroepfer – Yes Marcella Bush - Yes

Motions carries.

At this time, Bonnie Silvers withdrew her name from the nomination.

There is a tie between Dennis Sears and Tim Schroepfer.
Art Batacchi asked if there were any more nominations.
Dennis Sears nominated Ken Knox for Vice Chair. Jane Burke seconded.
David Travis nominated Jane Burke for Vice Chair. Tim Schroepfer seconded.

Bonnie Silvers moved to close the nominations. Maryellen seconded the nomination. There was no discussion and the motion is approved unanimously.

Superintendent Regulbuto tabulated the votes. Tim Schroepfer is elected Vice Chair.

Appointment of the following:

- Secretary of the School Committee – Beth Regulbuto
Bonnie Silvers moved to appoint Beth Regulbuto as Secretary of the School Committee. Ken Knox seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion carries unanimously.
- Treasurer – Harvey Thompson
Bonnie Silvers moved to appoint Harvey Thompson as Treasurer. Dennis Sears seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion carries unanimously.
- District’s Law Firm – Murphy, Lamere & Murphy, PC
Ken Knox moved to appoint Murphy, Lamere & Murphy, PC as the District’s Law Firm. Dennis Sears seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion carries unanimously.
- Clerk to the School Committee – Lynette Gagnon
Ken Knox moved to appoint Lynette Gagnon as Clerk to the School Committee. Dennis Sears seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion carries unanimously.
- MD for the School District – Lisa Sylvia
Ken Knox moved to appoint Lisa Sylvia as MD for the School District. Dennis Sears seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion carries unanimously.

3. **Student Representative Report - None**

4. **Public Comment - None**

5. **Standing Reports**

a. Approval of Minutes of School Committee Meetings:

- Meeting #1552 – October 4, 2018
Tim Schroepfer moved to approve the minutes of October 4, 2018 #1552 as submitted. Ken Knox seconded the motion. Jeffrey Blaugrund and Jane Burke abstained. All others yes. Motion carries.
- Special Meeting of October 18, 2018
Tim Schroepfer moved to approve the Open Session minutes of the Special Meeting of October 18, 2018. Dennis Sears seconded the motion. Jeffrey Blaugrund and Jane Burke abstained. All others yes. Motion carries.
- Meeting #1553 – October 25, 2018
Tim Schroepfer moved to approve the Open Session minutes of October 25, 2018 #1553 as submitted. Dennis Sears seconded the motion. Jeffrey Blaugrund and Jane Burke abstained. All others yes. Motion carries.

b. Enrollment

Superintendent Regulbuto reported that as of November 1, 2018 the enrollment was at 696. Down by one (1) students.

c. Miscellaneous Correspondence – None.

6. **New Business**

- a. Approval of FFA Overnight Field trip to the Massachusetts State FFA Leadership Conference (January 11 – 12, 2019) – D. Melino

Tim Schroepfer moved to approve the FFA Overnight Field Trip to the Massachusetts State FFA Leadership Conference (January 11-12, 2019). Bonnie Silvers seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion was approved unanimously.

b. Global Education Program – S. Graham

Stephanie Graham presented the International Student Program (Global Education Program) to the school committee (slide show) and was seeking approval from the School Committee to begin this program.

Phase 1 (2018-2019) - Mount Everett is certified to accept F-1 visa students. The goal is to admit at least 6 students from multiple regions of the world.

Tuition is based on the per-pupil cost of education in the SBRSD and will be set at \$18,500 and includes the following incentives: Extracurricular activities; field trips and activities; host family stipends.

Question and answer session followed.

Jane Burke moved to approve the Global Education Program as presented by Stephanie Graham, with tuition at \$18,500. Jeffrey Blaugrund seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Ms. Graham continued to explain Phase 2 (2019-2020) - Establish Global Education Academy and Phase 3 (2020-2021) – Pilot Program: Mount Everett Global Experience.

c. Vote to approve Budget Development Calendar dates

Chris Regan informed the committee that the finance committee had met and developed the budget calendar.

David Travis moved to accept the Budget Development Calendar as presented. Tim Schroepfer seconded the motion. Discussion ensued. The motion was unanimously approved.

d. Strategic Plan Presentations

The SBRSD Strategic Plan for District Improvement was created for 2018-2021. Superintendent Regulbuto reported to the School Committee. There are three (3) objectives and initiatives for each objective. The Strategic plan was presented by each of the administrators (refer to attached plan for details).

Bonnie Silvers moved to accept the Strategic Plan as presented on November 29, 2018 by the administrative team. Mr. Knox seconded the motion. There was a discussion and the motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Sears moved to post the strategic plan on-line for the committee and general public to review and to make it an agenda item. Jeffrey Blaugrund seconded the motion. Discussion followed. The motion was unanimously approved.

7. **Executive Session**

Motion to go into Executive Session at 6:50 p.m. for the following purposes:

- a. *David Travis moved to enter Executive Session pursuant to M.G.L. c.30A, §21(a)(3), to discuss strategy with respect to imminently likely litigation, as an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the Committee's litigating position, as declared by the Chair, and the Committee will return to Open Session. Bonnie Silvers seconded the motion.*

Roll Call Vote:

Art Batacchi – Yes

Ken Knox – Yes

Jeffrey Blaugrund – Yes

David Travis – Yes

Jane Burke – Yes

Maryellen Brown – Yes

Marcella Bush – Yes

Dennis Sears – Yes

Bonnie Silvers – Yes

Tim Schroepfer – Yes

Motions carries.

- b. *David Travis moved to enter Executive Session pursuant to M.G.L. c.30A, §21(a)(3), to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining with the SBREA, Unit D and Unit E, 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. Bonnie Silvers seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote required.*

*Art Batacchi – Yes Ken Knox – Yes Jeffrey Blaugrund – Yes David Travis – Yes
Jane Burke – Yes Maryellen Brown – Yes Marcella Bush – Yes Dennis Sears – Yes
Bonnie Silvers – Yes Tim Schroepfer – Yes*

Motions carries.

8. **New Business (Continued) Reconvened in Open Session at 7:41 p.m.**

- a. *Vote to ratify the Memorandum of Agreement for a Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Committee and the SBREA, Unit D, for the period July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2021. Bonnie Silvers moved to ratify the Memorandum of Agreement between the Committee and the SBREA, Unit D, for the period July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2021. Marcella Bush seconded the motion.*

Roll Call Vote:

*Mr. Batacchi abstained Ken Knox – Yes Jeffrey Blaugrund – Yes David Travis – Yes
Jane Burke – Yes Maryellen Brown – Yes Marcella Bush – Yes Dennis Sears – Yes
Bonnie Silvers – Yes Tim Schroepfer – Yes*

Motions carries.

- b. *Vote to ratify the Memorandum of Agreement for a Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Committee and the SBREA, Unit E, for the period July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2020. David Travis moved to ratify the Memorandum of Agreement between the Committee and the SBREA Unit E, for the period July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2020. Tim Schroepfer seconded the motion.*

Roll Call Vote:

*Mr. Batacchi - Yes Ken Knox – Yes Jeffrey Blaugrund – Yes David Travis – Yes
Jane Burke – Yes Maryellen Brown – Yes Marcella Bush – Yes Dennis Sears – Yes
Bonnie Silvers – Yes Tim Schroepfer – Yes*

Motions carries.

- c. **Election of Subcommittee Members (previous listing enclosed for reference)**

- **Buildings, Grounds & Technology**
Maryellen Brown, Tim Schroepfer, Art Batacchi, Jeffrey Blaugrund, David Travis
- **Collective Bargaining/Negotiations**
Bonnie Silvers, Dennis Sears, Tim Schroepfer
- **Community Input & Outreach Committee**
Bonnie Silvers, Jeffrey Blaugrund, Ken Knox, Marcella Bush, Tim Schroepfer
- **Curriculum**
David Travis, Jeffrey Blaugrund, Jane Burke, Bonnie Silvers, Marcella Bush
- **Executive Evaluation**
Tim Schroepfer, David Travis, Jane Burke, Ken Knox, Marcella Bush (Alternate)
- **Finance**
Maryellen Brown, Dennis Sears, Art Batacchi, Ken Knox, Jeffrey Blaugrund (Alternate)
- **Policy**
Dennis Sears, Jane Burke, Art Batacchi, Tim Schroepfer
- **Regional Agreement Review Committee**
Ken Knox, Bonnie Silvers, Dennis Sears, Art Batacchi (Alternate)

- **SBRSD Future of South Berkshire County Education Ad-Hoc Committee**
Bonnie Silvers, Dennis Sears, Jane Burke, Marcella Bush (Alternate)
- **Warrants**
Tim Schroepfer, Dennis Sears, Bonnie Silvers
- **Berkshire County Ad Hoc Representative**
Carl Stewart
- **Eagle Fund Representative**
David Travis, Jeffrey Blaugrund (Alternate)
- **MA Association of School Committees Representative**
Dennis Sears
- **Undermountain/Mt. Everett Youth Athletics Association (UMEYAA) Liaison**
Art Batacchi
- **Liaison to Southern Berkshire Child Care Program**
Bonnie Silvers
- **Liaison to Wellness Committee**
Marcella Bush
- **Legislative Representative**
Ken Knox
- **Liaison to Early Childhood Committee**
Jane Burke

9. **Unfinished Business**

10. **Business with District Member Towns**

a. Status of S. Egremont School

Bonnie Silvers moved, Tim Schroepfer seconded, to send a demand letter to the Town of Egremont for not paying their assessment. The motion was unanimously approved.

Bonnie Silvers moved to approve the draft settlement agreement to be sent to the Town of Egremont regarding the opening of the S. Egremont School on or about January 2, 2019 contingent upon completion of lead remediation and setting up the appropriate perimeter, with a hold harmless/indemnity clause added. David Travis seconded the motion. Discussion ensued.

Dennis Sears states that he resigns and leaves the meeting at 8:39 p.m.

Roll Call Vote:

<i>Mr. Batacchi - Yes</i>	<i>Ken Knox – Yes</i>	<i>Jeffrey Blaugrund – Yes</i>	<i>David Travis – Yes</i>
<i>Jane Burke – Yes</i>	<i>Maryellen Brown – Yes</i>	<i>Marcella Bush – Yes</i>	<i>Bonnie Silvers – Yes</i>
<i>Tim Schroepfer – Yes</i>			

Motions carries.

b. Letter from the Town of New Marlborough dated October 31, 2018

The Town of New Marlborough sent a letter to the school committee on their opinion on the Town of Egremont withholding their assessment.

11. **Subcommittee Reports**

a. Executive Subcommittee – David Travis

The Executive Subcommittee had met to review the Superintendent’s goals (attached).

David Travis moved to approve the Superintendent’s goals as presented. Tim Schroepfer seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

b. Finance Subcommittee – Dennis Sears

Art Batacchi reported they had met and developed the budget calendar.

- c. Building, Grounds & Technology – Art Batacchi
The subcommittee met at the South Egremont School and discussed how to proceed.
 - d. SBEF – Dennis Sears
Superintendent Regulbuto reported that an assessment was done for each district to see how we could share resources, e.g. technology, scheduling.
 - e. Collective Bargaining/Negotiations Subcommittee – Dennis Sears
Bonnie Silvers informed that they had met to agree to the Unit E contract.
 - f. Eagle Fund – Bonnie Silvers
Bonnie Silvers turned it over to Mr. Stewart. He informed that the Eagle Fund had held their phonation on November 14th which was very successful.
12. **Chairman’s Report - None**
 13. **Superintendent’s Report - None**
 14. **Curriculum & Professional Development Coordinator’s Report - None**
 15. **Director of Student Services Report - None**
 16. **Business Manager’s Report**
 - a. Approval of Warrants: November 2, 2018, November 16, 2018
David Travis moved to accept the warrants of November 2, 2018 and November 16, 2018. Tim Schroepfer seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion was unanimously approved.
 - b. Vote to Accept Grants & Gifts
David Travis moved to accept the Grants and Gifts as presented. Bonnie Silvers seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion was approved unanimously.
 - c. Budget Transfers
 - d. Approval of Prior Year Bills
David Travis moved to approve payment of CA Lindell (\$620.40) and Wilson Engineering (\$2877.50) invoices. Tim Schroepfer seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion was approved unanimously.
Bonnie Silvers moved to approve payment of Rose Brand invoice (\$200). Marcella Bush seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion was approved, Tim Schroepfer abstained.
 17. **Future Agenda Items**
School Improvement Plans:
Elementary School Improvement Plan – Charles Miller
Middle & High School Improvement Plans– Glenn Devoti
E-Cigarettes/Vaping Education at SBRSD
 18. **Public Comment**
Mr. Stewart made a request for the production of documents pursuant to Massachusetts Public Records Law. Specifically, Mr. Stewart was requesting copies of executive session minutes for the years 2014, 2015, 2016 and 2017.)
 19. **Adjourn**
David Travis moved to adjourn at 9:08 p.m. Tim Schroepfer seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion was unanimously approved.

Documents Presented at this meeting:

- Agenda #1555
- Minutes of meeting #1554
- School Improvement Plans – Elementary and Secondary
- Letters from Town of Monterey, New Marlborough, Sheffield and Alford
- Warrant