

School Committee Members: Art Batacchi, Jane Burke, Bonnie Silvers, Jon Bruno, Marcella Bush, Maryellen Brown, Jeffrey Blaugrund, Dennis Sears, David Travis, Danile Kelly

Administration: Beth Regulbuto, Jesse Carpenter, Judy Houle, Sandra Hubbard

Others: Lynette Gagnon, Liz Lafond, Bob Kilmer, Chris Desjardins

1. **Call to Order**

Jane Burke, Chair, called meeting #1582 to order at 6:00 p.m.

Motion to amend the agenda to add an extra item under #6 New Business, regarding Graduation

By: Dennis Sears

Second: Jeffrey Blaugrund

Roll Call Vote: Bonnie Silvers – Yes; Danile Kelly – Yes; Dennis Sears – Yes; Maryellen Brown – Yes; David Travis – Yes; Marcella Bush – Yes; Jeffrey Blaugrund – Yes; Art Batacchi – Yes; Jon Bruno -Yes; Jane Burke - Yes

2. **Standing Reports**

a. Approval of School Committee Minutes of meeting #1581 (open session)

Motion to approve the April 30, 2020 school committee minutes #1581 as presented.

By: Jeffrey Blaugrund

Second: Jonathan Bruno

Discussion: None

Roll Call Vote: Bonnie Silvers – Yes; Danile Kelly – Yes; Dennis Sears – Yes; Maryellen Brown – Yes; David Travis – Yes; Marcella Bush – Yes; Jeffrey Blaugrund – Yes; Art Batacchi – Yes; Jon Bruno -Yes; Jane Burke - Yes

b. Approval of Amended Minutes of October 24, 2019 (open session)

Motion to approve the amended open session minutes of school committee meeting of October 24, 2019

By: Jeffrey Blaugrund

Second: Bonnie Silvers

Discussion: None

Roll Call Vote: Bonnie Silvers – Yes; Danile Kelly – Yes; Dennis Sears – Yes; Maryellen Brown – Yes; David Travis – Yes; Marcella Bush – Yes; Jeffrey Blaugrund – Yes; Art Batacchi – Yes; Jon Bruno -Yes; Jane Burke - Yes

c. Approval of Executive Session Minutes of October 23, 2019

Motion to approve the Executive Session Minutes from October 23, 2019 and to release the unredacted portion per order of the Attorney General office.

By: Jeffrey Blaugrund

Second: Bonnie Silvers

Discussion: None

Roll Call Vote: Bonnie Silvers – Yes; Danile Kelly – Yes; Dennis Sears – Yes; Maryellen Brown – Yes; David Travis – Yes; Marcella Bush – Yes; Jeffrey Blaugrund – Yes; Art Batacchi – Yes; Jon Bruno -Yes; Jane Burke - Yes

d. Approval of Executive Session Minutes of October 24, 2019

Motion to approve Executive Session Minutes of October 24, 2019 as presented and release the unredacted portion of the meeting minutes.

By: Jeffrey Blaugrund

Second: Dennis Sears

Discussion: Jeffrey Blaugrund explained that the first half of the executive session meeting dealt with the response to the OML complaint from J. Brown.

Bonnie Silvers stated that the motions passed at the Executive Minute Review Subcommittee meeting were different from the motions just passed. Mr. Blaugrund asked Ms. Silvers to read the motion passed regarding the minutes of October 24, 2019. Ms. Silvers read the motion

*Motion to release the minutes of executive session #1 and #2 held on October 24, 2019 and to retain the minutes of executive session #3 of October 24, 2019 as those minutes relate to negotiations.*

Mr. Blaugrund moved to amend his motion as follows

*Motion to release the minutes of executive session #1 and #2 held on October 24, 2019 and to retain the minutes of executive session #3 of October 24, 2019 as those minutes relate to negotiations.*

Second: Dennis Sears

Roll Call Vote: Bonnie Silvers – Yes; Danile Kelly – Yes; Dennis Sears – Yes; Maryellen Brown – Yes; David Travis – Yes; Marcella Bush – Yes; Jeffrey Blaugrund – Yes; Art Batacchi – Yes; Jon Bruno -Yes

Ms. Silvers asked Mr. Blaugrund if he wanted the language of the motion passed at the Executive Minute Review Subcommittee regarding the meeting of executive session from October 23, 2019 read as well. Mr. Blaugrund asked Ms. Silvers to read the motion.

*Motion to release the minutes as suggested by counsel from the special school committee meeting of October 23, 2019 held in executive session and with edits approved on May 19, 2020.*

Mr. Blaugrund accepted the above language and asked Ms. Silvers if she would amend his previous motion regarding minutes of October 23, 2019

Ms. Silvers moved to amend the motion made by Mr. Blaugrund as follows:

*Motion to replace the previous motion made regarding executive session minutes of October 23, 2019 and to release the minutes as suggested by counsel from special school committee meeting of October 23, 2019 held in executive session and with edits approved on May 19, 2020.*

Second: Jeffrey Blaugrund

Roll Call Vote: Bonnie Silvers – Yes; Danile Kelly – Yes; Dennis Sears – Yes; Maryellen Brown – Yes; David Travis – Yes; Marcella Bush – Yes; Jeffrey Blaugrund – Yes; Art Batacchi – Yes; Jon Bruno -Yes; Jane Burke - Yes

e. Approval of Executive Session Minutes of November 5, 2019

Motion to approve Executive Session Minutes of November 5, 2019 as presented

By: Jeffrey Blaugrund

Second: Bonnie Silvers

Discussion: Mr. Blaugrund explained that these minutes are being approved only. At the next Executive Minute Review subcommittee meeting it will be determined if they should be released.

Roll Call Vote: Bonnie Silvers – Yes; Danile Kelly – Yes; Dennis Sears – Yes; Maryellen Brown – Yes; David Travis – Yes; Marcella Bush – Yes; Jeffrey Blaugrund – Yes; Art Batacchi – Yes; Jon Bruno -Yes; Jane Burke - Yes

d. Miscellaneous Correspondence - None

3. **Student Representative Report - None**

4. **Student Spotlight - None**

5. **Public Comment - None**

6. **New Business**

a. Discussion on How Best to Communicate the Status of the FY21 Budget with Member Towns. Superintendent Regulbuto turned this over to Mr. Blaugrund.

Mr. Blaugrund informed the committee that the Community Outreach and Input Subcommittee were working on a flyer to help communicate the FY21 budget to the towns. He further stated that a lot of the information is fluid and asked if the committee wanted to make a motion on how they are going to communicate the budget to the communities.

Mr. Sears stated that it would be premature to do anything right now. Ms. Silvers suggested it would be better to rely on communication from the Superintendent.

Superintendent Regulbuto informed everyone that MASS hosted a presentation by Mike Long regarding the FY21 budget. It is important to make sure that there is ongoing and frequent communication with the public regarding the budget and that all school community stakeholders are aware of the process and how decisions are being made based on this information.

The revenues from March 15<sup>th</sup> through April 15<sup>th</sup> were down 25%. The earliest we might know what the House Ways & Means budget looks like will be July. Here is a breakdown of what certain levels of cut would like to SBRSD if the reductions in revenue come to fruition: 1% reduction would equal \$171,675; 2% \$343,351, 3% \$515,026; 5% 858,377; 10% 1,716,755; 15% 2,575,132 and 20% 3,433,509

Superintendent Regulbuto also stated that she has reached out to the SBREA and asked for an extension to issue reduction in force letters to June 30<sup>th</sup> and will probably ask for more time to avoid making more drastic reductions than needed. We are also waiting on the possibilities of federal funding to help with the gap in revenues.

b. College & Career Planning Initiatives for FY21 and Beyond (Report attached)

Jesse Carpenter, presented a comprehensive report on the College & Career Planning Initiatives for FY21. SBRSD has been an active participant in the South County College and Career Task Force. The goals set for South County Schools are as follows:

- All students graduate with a solid college/career plan. Starts in middle school and follows through to grade 12.
- Engage more faculty in teacher externships
- Develop pathways
- Formalize teams in each district
- Provide more resources for teachers and students

Some of the initiatives are:

Develop shared college and career pathway programming with Lee, Lenox and Monument;  
Explore the option of sharing trade skills programs and develop additional career awareness, exploration and immersion opportunities for students within the region's critical sectors, i.e. Building Trades, Healthcare, Hospitality, STEM; Promotion of externships (Comalli Electric); Enhancing career readiness programming in grades 6-8.

Some of the long-term goals are:

All students graduate with a completed college and career plan; encourage candidates to apply for externships; review existing pathways and develop more if appropriate; collaborate with partner schools to expand career teams in South County; Increase the number of students participating in internships.

Use of Career Village – a free resource to connect students with the world of work through questions and answers.

Partnership with area businesses; Encourage teachers to incorporate college and career activities into their lessons; Continue to develop partnership with Bard to offer College Level courses and work with BCC and MCLA

c. Report of College Submissions (report attached)

The class of 2020 has 55 students. There were 175 applications with 65% accepted (5 applications per student, of those that applied to college). Twenty students applied to a four-year college, ten applied to a two-year college.

d. Graduation

Jesse Carpenter informed the committee that Tanglewood had announced the cancellation of all events last Friday. Following is a summary of the Mount Everett Regional Graduation Plan. Clearance was received by the Town of Sheffield Board of Health

Part 1: Virtual Awards Ceremony on Thursday, June 4, 2020 at 6 p.m. students and families will be invited to a virtual awards ceremony that will announce department and scholarship awards.

Part 2: Graduation Ceremony on Saturday, June 6, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. (rain date June 7), senior students and families will be invited to our graduation ceremony on the Mount Everett campus. There will be short speeches by the chair of the school committee, superintendent, principal, valedictorian and salutatorian followed by delivery of diplomas to each student. CTSB will videotape and air the ceremony and there will be a school photographer to take a picture of each graduating student.

Social distancing practices will be enforced. Every person will be required to wear a face covering. Each graduating student grouping (up to four persons) will be assigned a seating area in the varsity baseball field separated from every other seating area by a minimum of six feet.

Part 3: Reception – tentative date set for Saturday, August 1 at noon (rain date of August 2) for a barbeque reception. Immediate family only.

7. **Unfinished Business - None**

8. **Business with District Member Towns**

a. Update on Regional School District Planning Board

Jane reported that she and Ms. Silvers have volunteered to be on the subcommittee to interview consulting firms and a facilitator. They have until the end of June to utilize the \$50,000 from the grant.

9. **Subcommittee Reports**

a. Finance Subcommittee – D. Sears

Mr. Sears reported that the Finance Subcommittee have held a few meetings, but it is difficult to make any plans until we have valid data.

b. Policy Subcommittee – D. Sears – No meetings held.

c. Building, Grounds & Technology – A. Batacchi – No meeting held.

d. Curriculum Subcommittee – D. Travis

Mr. Travis reported that the Curriculum Subcommittee had met. Curriculum and professional development were discussed.

- e. Executive Evaluation Subcommittee – D. Travis – No meeting held.
- f. Community Outreach and Input Subcommittee – B. Silvers – No meeting held.
- g. Negotiation Subcommittee – B. Silvers – No meeting held.
- h. Executive Session Minute Review Subcommittee

Mr. Blaugrund reported that this subcommittee had met on May 19<sup>th</sup> to review executive session minutes. This subcommittee will schedule one or two more meetings to review minutes and report out.

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

Jane Burke reported that she has been working on an article regarding New Marlborough graduates. She has had interesting conversations with the students and parents.

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

- Superintendent Regulbuto reported that she has been chosen to be a voting member of the ASBO International Professional Standards Ad Hoc Committee who is charged with reviewing the School Business Management Professional Standards and Code of Ethics.
- DESE Remote Learning Survey  
This survey is to provide the state with an understanding of how districts and schools have approached student engagement in learning during the closure and will provide the public and key stakeholders information on effective remote learning programs for all students. This information was due by May 22, 2020 and Superintendent Regulbuto had submitted responses on behalf of the District.
- New Deadline for SOA Plans  
Commissioner Riley has given districts an extension on the deadline to submit the SOA (Student Opportunity Act) Plans to June 19, 2020.

## 12. **Curriculum & Professional Development Coordinator's Report – Report attached.**

Dr. Lyn was unable to attend the meeting and provided the attached report.

Part 1 of the report is a detailed update on the professional development and resources that have been offered to faculty and staff thus far.

Part 2 is an update on the additional items that have been addressed during the past few weeks (planning for Title 1 summer school; Title 1 state report to be completed by June 30<sup>th</sup>; plans for professional development and curriculum mapping).

## 13. **Director of Student Services Report – Report attached.**

Ms. Hubbard reported that the Department of Student Services is continuing to provide services remotely to our students through Google Classroom Zoom meetings, phone conversations, emails and packets. The Individual Remote Learning Plans for students under IEPs are complete and been mailed to parents.

Virtual IEP and 504 meetings are being held in an effort to maintain timelines and discuss ideas for providing equitable access.

Still awaiting guidance from DESE regarding Extended School Year (ESY – summer services).

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

- a. Approval of Warrants: May 1, 2020 and May 15, 2020  
Motion to approve the Accounts Payable warrant report of May 1 and May 15, 2020 and payroll Warrant of 5/6/2020  
By: Bonnie Silvers

Second: Dennis Sears

Discussion: None

Roll Call Vote: Bonnie Silvers – Yes; Danile Kelly – Yes; Dennis Sears – Yes; Maryellen Brown – Yes; David Travis – Yes; Marcella Bush – Yes; Jeffrey Blaugrund – Yes; Art Batacchi – Yes; Jon Bruno -Yes

c. Vote to Accept Grants and Gifts - None

d. Budget Transfers

Motion to approve the Budget Transfers totaling \$244,038.03 as presented.

By: Dennis Sears

Second: Bonnie Silvers

Discussion: There was a brief discussion on some of the budget transfers

Roll Call Vote: Bonnie Silvers – Yes; Danile Kelly – Yes; Dennis Sears – Yes; Maryellen Brown – Yes; David Travis – Yes; Marcella Bush – Yes; Jeffrey Blaugrund – Yes; Art Batacchi – Yes; Jon Bruno -Yes

15. **Future Agenda Items**

Summer Plans

16. **Executive Session - None**

18. **Adjourn**

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:06 p.m.

By: Bonnie Silvers

Second: Danile Kelly

Roll Call Vote: Bonnie Silvers – Yes; Danile Kelly – Yes; Dennis Sears – Yes; Maryellen Brown - Yes; David Travis – Yes; Marcella Bush – Yes; Jeffrey Blaugrund – Yes; Art Batacchi – Yes; Jon Bruno -Yes

*Documents presented at this meeting:*

- *Agenda #1582*
- *Minutes of meeting #1581*
- *Amended minutes of October 24, 2019 meeting (open session)*
- *Redacted Executive Session Minutes of October 23 and October 24*
- *College and Career Readiness Initiatives*
- *College Submissions*
- *Graduation Plans*
- *Superintendent's Report*
- *Curriculum & Professional Development Coordinator's Report*
- *Director of Student Services Report*
- *Warrant Report of May 1 and May 15, 2020*
- *Budget Transfers*