

School Committee: Jane Burke, Art Batacchi, Jeffrey Blaugrund, Dennis Sears, Maryellen Brown, Marcella Bush, David Travis, Bonnie Silvers – arrived at 6:08 p.m.

Absent: Jon Bruno, Danile Kelly

Administrators: Beth Regulbuto, Jesse Carpenter, Chris Desjardins

Press: CTSB TV, Ted Remsnyder-Berkshire Record

Others: Austin Murray

**1. Call to Order**

Jane Burke, Chair, called meeting #1576 to order at 6:01 p.m.

**2. Executive Session**

Motion to enter executive session pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, s. 21(a) (2) to conduct contract negotiations with nonunion personnel (Superintendent of Schools) and to reconvene in Open Session.

By: Jeffrey Blaugrund

Second: Marcella Bush

Roll Call Vote. Jane Burke – Yes, Art Batacchi – Yes, Jeffrey Blaugrund – Yes, Dennis Sears – Yes, Maryellen Brown – Yes, Marcella Bush – Yes, David Travis – Yes

School Committee reconvened in open session at 7:05 p.m.

Jane Burke moved to amend the agenda to move Item 15 – Business Manager’s Report to the top of the meeting

**15. Business Manager’s Report**

a. Approval of Warrants: February 7, 2020

Motion to approve the payroll and accounts payable warrants as presented.

By: Dennis Sears

Second: Art Batacchi

Vote: Unanimous

b. Accept Grants and Gifts – None

c. Budget Transfers

Motion to approve the budget transfers of \$7,200 as presented.

By: Dennis Sears

Second: Jeffrey Blaugrund

Vote: Unanimous

d. Chris informed the school committee that the Excess & Deficiency Fund as of July 1, 2019 had been filed and approved in the amount of \$469,389.

Chris left the meeting.

### 3. **Standing Reports**

- a. Approval of Minutes of School Committee Meeting #1575 of January 30, 2020

Motion to approve the school committee meeting minutes #1575 as presented

By: Marcella Bush

Second: Art Batacchi

Vote: Jane Burke, David Travis, Marcella Bush – Abstain (3); Yes (5).

- b. Enrollment

Superintendent Regulbuto stated that overall enrollment was at 686 as of February 1, 2020, up by three students from January 2, 2020.

- c. Miscellaneous Correspondence - None

### 4. **Student Representative Report**

Austin Murray, Junior Class President reported on student activities: Seniors are running a Candy Gram Fundraiser, Wrestling, Expo Night (Grades 6-8); Middle School Dance put on by the Sophomore class.

### 5. **Student Spotlight**

Jack Carpenter reported on the ADL World of Difference training that has been ongoing with Monument Mountain and Lenox. These students are involved in training focusing on bias and making the schools a more positive place to be in.

### 6. **Public Comment – None**

Motion to approve moving Item 8. Unfinished Business before Item 7. New Business

By: Jeffrey Blaugrund

Second: David Travis

Vote: Unanimous

### 8. **Unfinished Business**

- a. Student Representative to School Committee

Bonnie Silvers had met with Principal Jesse Carpenter to develop a plan on how the process of student representation to the school committee will take place. The plan that was discussed is as follows:

- Put together a team consisting of one representative from each grade (8-12) that would form a committee.
- They would all be encouraged to attend school committee meetings but would rotate who would sit in at a school committee meeting.
- Elections would be held in the fall.
- Each month a different student representative would attend meetings.
- Jesse Carpenter will meet with John Hammill, Head of the Social Studies Department. John would then meet with his team to develop a plan.
- The school committee will need to put together a statement of what the role of the student representative is. This would be distributed through the secondary school.
- Get out information this year for the election in the fall. Jesse will send home a notice to families and an article would be put in the Bold Eagle.
- School committee will generate a statement for the media and information will be posted on our website.
- If this is approved tonight, Jesse will meet with John Hammill to lay out the steps.
- It was agreed that the student spotlight agenda item will remain.

- The student representative will be given the opportunity to attend any subcommittee meetings if they choose to.
- The school committee will establish a vision for this student group, such as, do we want it to be something where students gather concerns and bring them to us, or are we looking at overall increasing awareness of what the school committee does.
- Help to encourage student involvement in the whole area of citizenship.

There was general discussion regarding the above.

Motion for the school committee to approve the plan that was laid out for moving ahead with establishing a student representative to the school committee.

By: Bonnie Silvers

Second: Jeffrey Blaugrund

Vote: Unanimous

## 7. **New Business**

- a. Vote to approve the FFA Overnight Field Trip to attend the Massachusetts State Convention (March 18 – 20, 2020)

Motion to approve the FFA Overnight Field Trip to attend the Massachusetts State Convention from March 18 – 20, 2020

By: Bonnie Silvers

Second: David Travis

Discussion: None

Vote: Unanimous

- b. Vote to Approve Lateral Movements on the Unit A Salary Schedule, Effective February 1, 2020  
Motion that the school committee approve the lateral movements on the Unit A salary schedule, effective February 1, 2020 for Christine Foster from B to B15 and Timothy Schwartz from M to M9.

By: David Travis

Second: Jeffrey Blaugrund

Discussion: None

Vote: Unanimous

- c. Calendar for school year 2020-2021

Motion that the school committee approve the academic school calendar for 2020-2021 as presented.

By: Jeffrey Blaugrund

Second: Bonnie Silvers

Discussion: None

Vote: Unanimous

- e. Bullying Plan – Vote Required

Beth informed the school committee that this plan has been in place in the district as far as 2007 and that we are required by law to update it every two years. The goal is to ensure that our policies and practices align. This plan was presented at our Coordinated Program Review (now called Tiered Focus Monitoring). The administrative team went through the plan to make sure that all the forms we use have the appropriate information. We will be uploading the updated information in April for a May deadline. Policy and handbooks will also be updated based on this.

Questions followed. Jeffrey Blaugrund suggested that Undermountain Elementary Anti-Bullying Hotline be changed to Elementary hotline.

Motion that the school committee adopt the revised Southern Berkshire Bullying Prevention/ Intervention and Education Plan.

By: Jeffrey Blaugrund  
Second: David Travis  
Vote: Unanimous

f. Approval of Superintendent Contract

Jane Burke, Chair, reported that the school committee had agreed to renew the Superintendent's contract for three years.

Motion to approve the three-year contract for Superintendent Regulbuto, effective July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2023 with the amendment as noted.

By: Dennis Sears  
Second: Jeffrey Blaugrund  
Discussion: None  
Vote: Unanimous

9. **Business with District Member Towns**

a. Update on the Formation of the Regional School Planning Board

Jane Burke informed the committee that there is a Regional School Planning Board meeting on March 7<sup>th</sup> in Stockbridge.

10. **Subcommittee Reports**

a. Policy Subcommittee – D. Sears

First Reading

- I. IC/ICA – School Year/School Calendar
- II. ID – School Day
- III. IE – Organization of Instruction
- IV. IGA – Curriculum Development
- V. IGB – Support Services
- VI. IGD – Curriculum Adoption
- VII. IHAM – Health Education
- VIII. IHB – Special Instructional Programs and Accommodations
- IX. IHBEA – English Language Learners
- X. JB – Equal Educational Opportunities
- XI. JC – Attendance Areas
- XII. JCA – Assignment of Students to School
- XIII. JEB – Entrance Age

Second Reading – Vote Required

Motion to approve Policy BEDG – Minutes of Meeting as presented

By: Dennis Sears  
Second: David Travis  
Vote: Unanimous

Motion to approve Policy EFD – Meal Charges as presented

By: Dennis Sears  
Second: Art Batacchi  
Vote: Unanimous

Motion to approve Policy JJF – Student Activities Accounts as presented

By: David Travis  
Second: Art Batacchi  
Vote: Unanimous

Motion to approve Policy JBB – Educational Equity as presented

By: Art Batacchi

Second: David Travis

Vote: Unanimous

Motion to approve Policy JFABD – Homeless Students Enrollment Rights and Services as presented

By: David Travis

Second: Bonnie Silvers

Vote: Unanimous

Motion to approve the following policies as presented

JFABE – Educational Opportunities for Military Children

JFABEE – Admission of Children of Out of State Employees in SBRSD (Note: not really new, just renumbered because of a new MASC one that had the same number, JFABE)

JFABF – Educational Opportunities for Children in Foster Care

By: David Travis

Second: Jeffrey Blaugrund

Vote: Unanimous

b. Building, Grounds & Technology Subcommittee – A. Batacchi – nothing to report

c. Finance Subcommittee – D. Sears – nothing to report

d. Curriculum Subcommittee – D. Travis

This subcommittee met about a month ago, discussed MCAS, GoMath and professional development surrounding GoMath. Also discussed the Pathways.

e. Executive Evaluation Subcommittee – D. Travis – nothing to report

f. Community Outreach and Input Subcommittee – B. Silvers

Bonnie reported that the subcommittee had met and the following motions were made:

Motion that the full school committee have the community outreach subcommittee draft a letter to the wider community in support of the FY21 budget.

By: Bonnie Silvers

Second: Jeff Blaugrund

Vote: Unanimous

Motion that the full School Committee recommend a funded public relations position be included in the upcoming budget with the goal of increasing enrollment through strategic communications, to include regular media pitches, writing stories of and communication to alumni, all constituents and getting SBRSD's message out to the greater community.

By: Bonnie Silvers

Second: Jeffrey Blaugrund

Discussion ensued. Jeff and Bonnie both explained why this motion was made. We need to increase publicity for our school, the Superintendent does not have the time to spend on this and we need a person to be able to report out of all the activities at our district.

Beth – without seeing the budget she cannot make a decision at this time. Having to make a choice between a program, an educational person and PR, she does not see going with this.

Bonnie – This subcommittee is asking the full school committee to put forward this position in the budget. Dennis if we put some seed money into this there are people in our community to

participate and who have the skills and talents to do this. Beth again stated that she does not have the budget numbers and is reluctant to go forward.

Vote: Unanimous.

#### **11. Chairman's Report**

Jane Burke reminded the school committee of the February 24<sup>th</sup> Special School Committee meeting where they will be working on self-evaluations and the School Committee Handbook.

#### **12. Superintendent's Report**

Beth thanked the school committee for the vote of confidence and their hard work in putting together her contract.

- The Director of Curriculum and Professional Development position will become a part time position till the end of this school year. The Admin Team has recommended Dr. Lyn, the Assistant Elem Principal take on the role as part time Director of Curriculum and PD. She will still be a part time Assistant Elementary Principal.
- We were awarded the Massachusetts Project Lead the Way Grant for \$25,000 which will enable us to add a class at each level in the middle school over 3 years.
- Student Opportunity Act. According to the Joint Committee on Education, this Act makes an unprecedented, new \$1.5 billion investment in public education in an attempt to ensure that public schools have adequate resources to provide a quality education to students regardless of zip code or income level. We are required to prepare a 3-year evidence-based plan due to DESE by 11:59 p.m. on April 1, 2020. We will need to complete the short form. The community needs to be involved with the process. Might have to schedule something after budgets to deal with this. The school committee will need to vote to approve the plan.

#### **13. Curriculum & Professional Development Coordinator's Report - None**

#### **14. Director of Student Services Report – None**

#### **16. Future Agenda Items - None**

#### **17. Adjourn**

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:54 p.m.

By: Jeffrey Blaugrund

Second: David Travis

Vote: Unanimous

#### *Documents presented at this meeting:*

- *Agenda #1576*
- *Minutes of meeting #1575*
- *Student Enrollment*
- *FFA Overnight Field Trip*
- *Lateral Moves – February 1, 2020*
- *2020-2021 School Calendar*
- *Excess and Deficiency Certification*
- *SBRSD Bullying Prevention and Educational Plan*
- *Policies – First Read*
- *Policies – Second Read*
- *Warrants*
- *Budget Transfers*