

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

Absent:

Administration: Beth Regulbuto, Amy Lyn, Jesse Carpenter, Judy Houle, Charles Miller, Sandra Hubbard, Christopher Desjardins

Others: Lynette Gagnon, Bob Giumarro, Sofia Giumarro, Tara White, Nadine Hawver, Camila Tabor, Dan Weston, Meghan Licatta

1. **Call to Order**

Jane Burke, Chair, called meeting #1581 to order at 5:36 p.m.

2. **Standing Reports**

- a. Approval of School Committee Minutes of meeting #1579 and Special School Committee Meeting #1580 (open session)

Motion to approve the minutes of school committee meeting #1579 as presented.

By: Dennis Sears

Second: David Travis

Discussion: None

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

Motion to approve the open session minutes of special school committee meeting #1580 as presented

By: Dennis Sears

Second: David Travis

Discussion: None

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

- b. Miscellaneous Correspondence - None

3. **Student Representative Report** - None

4. **Student Spotlight** - None

5. **Public Comment**

Jane Burke read an email from Meghan Licata and Bella sharing their experience on how remote learning is going for them. Ms. Licata is thankful for everything that is being done by the District to make this difficult time a little easier for her family.

6. **New Business**

- a. **Massachusetts Association of School Superintendent Award – B. Regulbuto**
Superintendent Regulbuto announced that she had selected Sofia Giumarro to be Southern Berkshire Regional School District's 2019-2020 recipient of the Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents Certificate of Academic Excellence Award. Superintendent Regulbuto read aloud the letter that was sent to Sofia. Sofia was thrilled to receive this award. She will be attending Williams College. The school committee congratulated her on this achievement.

- b. **Vote to Participate in the Massachusetts School Choice Program for the 2020-21 School Year**

Motion that the Southern Berkshire Regional School District participate in the School Choice Program for the upcoming 2020-2021 school year.

By: Bonnie Silvers

Second: Jonathan Bruno

Discussion: There was a brief discussion on the school choice numbers for next year and questions were answered.

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

- c. **SBRSD Remote Learning Plan**

Various members of the Curriculum Subcommittee had posed questions to the administrative team regarding SBRSD's Remote Learning Plan. The administrative team responded to the questions and presented a PowerPoint.

- Superintendent Regulbuto went over the Timeline of Events and Family & Student Participation
- Sandi Hubbard explained the Social Emotional Support that is ongoing
- Amy Lyn talked on Learning Opportunities for Students and Professional Learning Opportunities for faculty
- Charles Miller and Jesse Carpenter addressed Leadership Challenges
- Chris Desjardins briefly talked on next year's budget.

The School Committee passed a budget back in March that was based on the Governor's State Budget Proposal, which was then sent to the member towns for approval at their respective town meetings. As a result of the global pandemic, there is a significant revenue shortfall anticipated and the entire state budget process has been scrapped as the House Ways & Means Committee starts from scratch. This news means that it is not likely that the towns will be able to have town meetings prior to the next fiscal year beginning on July 1st, and that the District may have to operate on a 1/12th Budget until the new numbers are released from the state and planning can continue.

- Graduation is still set for June 6th. There are on-going discussions on how this will take place.

Questions and discussion ensued. Jane Burke thanked the team for the amazing, comprehensive presentation. Jeff Blaugrund recommended that gaps be ranked so as to prioritize what needs to be done when this wave comes again.

Bonnie Silvers mentioned that May 1st was Food Service Recognition day and hopes that our amazing SBRSD food service team is recognized.

7. **Unfinished Business - None**

8. **Business with District Member Towns**

- a. Update on Regional School District Planning Board
The Regional School District Planning Board met on April 29th
Jane Burke reported that she and few other members attended this meeting. Votes were taken that had to do with an agreement to hire a facilitator/consultant. Three subcommittees will be formed to deal with Curriculum, Operations and Finance and to create a shared vision/setting norms. This group will meet again in six weeks with choices of the two positions, which will be voted on.

9. **Subcommittee Reports**

- a. Finance Subcommittee – D. Sears
The Finance subcommittee has not met since the last school committee meeting. This group will meet on Thursday, May 7, 2020 at 6 p.m. to discuss the FY21 budget.
- b. Policy Subcommittee – D. Sears
The Policy subcommittee has not met since the last school committee meeting.
- c. Building, Grounds & Technology – A. Batacchi
The BG&T subcommittee has not met since the last school committee meeting.
- d. Curriculum Subcommittee – D. Travis
The Curriculum subcommittee will be meeting on Tuesday, May 5, 2020.
- e. Executive Evaluation Subcommittee – D. Travis
The Executive Evaluation Subcommittee has not met since the last school committee meeting.
- f. Community Outreach and Input Subcommittee – B. Silvers reported on the success of the food outreach to the communities.
- g. Negotiation Subcommittee – B. Silvers
The Negotiation subcommittee has not met since the last school committee meeting.

Marcella Bush left the meeting at 6:45 p.m.

10. **Chairman's Report**

Jane Burke informed the committee that she had participated in a MASC zoom conference call. It was heartening to hear how other districts are working on bus contracts, negotiations.

11. **Superintendent's Report**

Beth Regulbuto mentioned the Food Service Recognition – May 1st.

12. **Curriculum & Professional Development Coordinator's Report**

Covered in the power point presentation. Curriculum subcommittee meeting on May 5th.

13. **Director of Student Services Report- Report Attached**

Sandra Hubbard thanked the faculty and staff for everything that they are doing.

14. **Business Manager's Report**

- a. Approval of Warrants: April 3, 2020 and April 17, 2020
Motion to approve the warrant report as presented
By: Jonathan Bruno
Second: Bonnie Silvers
Discussion: None
Vote: Art Batacchi - Yes, Jane Burke - Yes, Bonnie Silvers - Yes, Jon Bruno - Yes, Maryellen Brown - Yes, Jeffrey Blaugrund - Yes, Dennis Sears -Yes, David Travis - Yes, Danile Kelly - Yes
- c. Vote to Accept Grants and Gifts - None

d. Budget Transfers - None

15. **Future Agenda Items**

- a. College & Career Planning Initiatives for FY21 and Beyond
- b. Report of College Submissions

16. **Executive Session**

Motion to enter Executive Session at 7:04 p.m. pursuant to Purpose 1 of the Open Meeting Law (M.G.L. c.30A, §21(a)(1)), to consider Open Meeting Law complaints against public officers, namely the members of the School Committee, such complaints having been filed with the District by Jennifer Brown on October 18, 2019; October 24, 2019; and November 5, 2019; and pursuant to Purpose 3 (M.G.L. c.30A, §21(a)(3)) to discuss strategy with respect to litigation, namely an appeal of the Attorney General's Open Meeting Law determination, OML 2020-50, if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares; and pursuant to Purpose 7 (M.G.L. c.30A, §21(a)(7)) to comply with or act under the authority of a Massachusetts General Law by receiving legal advice from counsel protected from disclosure under Massachusetts General Law with the relevant citations of law being M.G.L. c.4, §7(26); M.G.L. c.30A, §21(a)(1); and M.G.L. c.214, §1B., as an open session will have a detrimental effect on the Committee's litigating position and the committee will reconvene in open session.

By: Jeffrey Blaugrund

Second: Bonnie Silvers

Discussion: None

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

The school committee reconvened in open session at 7:57 p.m. Members present were: Jane Burke, David Travis, Art Batacchi, Dennis Sears, Danile Kelly, Jonathan Bruno, Jeffrey Blaugrund, Bonnie Silvers

17. **Further discussion of OML determination if necessary**

Jane Burke reported that the school committee had passed a motion not to appeal the decision of the Attorney General's response to Open Meeting Law complaint OML2020-50.

18. **Adjourn**

Motion to adjourn at 7:58 p.m.

By: Dennis Sears

Second: Art Batacchi

Vote: Art Batacchi - Yes, Jane Burke - Yes, Bonnie Silvers - Yes, Jon Bruno - Yes, Jeffrey Blaugrund - Yes, Dennis Sears -Yes, David Travis - Yes, Danile Kelly - Yes

Documents presented at this meeting:

- Agenda #1581
- Minutes of meeting #1579 and open session minutes of meeting #1580
- Email from Meghan Licata to the school committee
- Letter to Sofia Giumarro – MASS Award
- School Choice projected enrollment
- SBRSD Remote Learning Plan/Power Point Presentation
- Director of Student Services Report
- Warrant Report – April 30, 2020
- Open Meeting Law Complaint Determination letter from Office of Attorney General OML 2020-50