Board of Education September 27, 2022 – Regular Meeting Via Zoom

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Alexander Oliphant, Vice Chair Mary Tomasi, Donna Antonacci, Secretary Margo Gignac, Christopher Rivers, Rosemary Gignac, Michelle Millington.

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT: Interim Superintendent Dr. Thomas McDowell, Assistant Superintendent Dr. Charles Hewes, Assistant Principal Amy Begué Business Director Rachel Linkkila

1. MEETING OPENING

1.1 Call to Order

Chair Alex Oliphant called this Regular Meeting to order at 6:01 pm.

- 1.2 A roll call was called to establish a quorum. All members present.
- 1.2 Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Oliphant led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. ADDITIONS/CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

2.1 New Agenda Items

No new items were requested.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

Jennifer Cox stated that she had to search for this meeting as it is not on the Town website as are other town meetings.

4. REPORT FROM SUPERINTENDENT

4.1 Superintendent Report

Superintendent McDowell announced that Glenn McGrath's last day will be this Friday. However, G. McGrath will continue to assist with hearings. Dr. McDowell said this has been a difficult time in coping with a student death. Grief counselors are available at BA and WJJMS.

The Special Education Supervisor position was posted on Friday. There will be no Human Resources personnel report as S. Ramsby is not available.

4.2. Bacon Academy Principal Appointment

Superintendent McDowell noted there were eight applications for the BA Principal position. Four candidates were invited for an initial interview. Two candidates were brought forward for an additional interview. All three current school principals recommended Assistant Principal Amy Begue' or the Bacon Academy Principal position.

Motion by: M. Tomasi

to approve the administration's recommendation of the appointment of Amy Begué to the position of Bacon Academy Principal.

Second by: M. Gignac.

Vote: Unanimous to approve.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

5.1 Approval of September 13, 2022, BOE Regular Meeting Minutes

Motion by: M. Millington

to approve the September 13, 2022, Regular Meeting Minutes, as read.

Second by: D. Antonacci.

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Vote: Unanimous to approve.

5.2 BA Fundraising Request – Friends of Football HUDL Streaming Donation The football games are taped and available for streaming. This donation is towards the cost of the streaming service.

Motion by: M. Tomasi

to approve accepting the \$750 donation from the Friends of Football.

Second by: D. Antonaccio.

Vote: Unanimous to approve.

- 5.3 BA Music Fundraising Request Lyman Orchard Pie & Cookie Dough See Item 5.6.
- 5.4 BA SOAR Fundraising Request Sweatshirt Sales See Item 5.6.
- 5.5 BA Fan Cloth and Student Council Fundraising Request BA Apparel See Item 5.6.
- 5.6 BA Drama Club Haunted House Fundraising Request

Motion by: M. Tomasi

to approve Item 5.3. BA Music Fundraising request, Item 5.4 BA SOAR Fundraising request, Item 5.5 BA Fan Cloth and Student Council Fundraising request and Item 5.6 BA Drama Club Haunted House Fundraising request.

Second by: R. Gignac.

Vote: Unanimous to approve.

6. FINANCIAL DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

6.1 Business Director Update

Rachel Linkkila reviewed the monthly budget reports for July and August noting that it is early in the budget year.

7. POLICY DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

7.1 Suspension of Bylaws: 9130 Committees and 9131 Standing Committees
Policy Chair D. Antonaccio stated this would be a suspension of these policies to allow
time to try the 'Committee as a Whole' concept.

Motion by: M. Gignac

to suspend Policy 9130 Committees and Policy 9131 Standing Committees

Second by: R. Gignac.

Vote: Unanimous to approve.

D. Antonaccio will make a note to revisit these Bylaws in six months.

7.2 6146.2 Enrollment in an Advanced Course or Program and Challenging Curriculum This is the second reading of a new policy required by legal session and received from Shipman Goodwin.

Motion by: M. Tomasi

to approve the new policy re: Enrollment in an Advanced Course or Program and Challenging Curriculum.

Second by: C. Rivers.

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Vote: Unanimous to approve.

Motion by: D. Antonaccio

to move Item 9 before Item 8 to allow for Public Comments prior to the Executive Session.

Second by: R. Gignac.

Vote: Unanimous approve.

9. PUBLIC COMMENT

Susie Milner stated her gratitude to the Board members for bringing the Principal Search to a quick close and S. Milner fully supports Ms. Begue.

8. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Discussion and Possible Action on Employee Leave Request (discussion proposed for Executive Session)

Motion by: D. Antonaccio

to go into Executive Session and invite Superintendent Dr. McDowell.

D. Antonaccio amended the motion to include inviting Dr. McDowell and Assistant Superintendent Dr. Hewes into the Executive Session.

Second by: M. Millington.

Vote: In favor: D. Antonaccio, C. Rivers, M. Millington, M. Tomasi, A. Oliphant,

Abstaining: M. Gignac, R. Gignac (both had left the meeting to go into Executive

Session)

Approved: 5-2. Time: 6:38 pm.

Chair Oliphant brought the Board out of Executive Session at 6:48 pm.

Motion by: D. Antonacci

to approve the employee's leave request up to and including the end of the 2022-23 school year.

Second by: Rosemary Gignac **Vote:** Unanimous to approve.

9. PUBLIC COMMENT

Moved before Item 8.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Oliphant adjourned this Regular Meeting at 6:48 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Jane Slade Recording Secretary