

Regular Session Meetings

May 8, 2019

A meeting of the Swampscott School Committee was held in Room B129 at Swampscott High School commencing at 7:00 p.m. with the following members present: Ms. Amy OConnor, Ms. Gargi Cooper, Ms. Suzanne Wright, Mr. Ted Delano, and Ms. Carin Marshall. Also present: Ms. Pamela Angelakis, Superintendent of Schools, Ms. Martha Sybert, Business Administrator, Ms. Martha Raymond, Director of Student Services, Mr. Joseph Varghese and Mr. Isaac Green, student representatives.

Public Comment:

NA

For the Love of Learning:

SMS Compost Team - Dr. L. Polizzotti (Dr. P), 7th-grade science teacher along with 6 representatives (Sofia Comfort, Eliza D'Agostino, Quinn Hitchcock, Maya Koelewyn, Stella Sands, and Amelia Wyse) of the SMS Composting club gave a presentation. Ms. OConnor stated how proud she was of their leadership skills. She is thrilled that they will be speaking at town meeting. Ms. Marshall inquired about bin monitoring. One of the club's goals is to eliminate the need for bin monitoring. Ms. Wright inquired about costs. Dr. P explained the costs. Ms. Cooper asked about classmate's reaction. The students said that everyone is familiar with sorting their trash now.

NAEA Conference Presentation Summary - Assessing Studio Habits - J. Douillette discussed the 8 Studio Habits of Mind (Develop Craft, Engage & Persist, Envision, Express, Observe, Reflect, Stretch & Explore, & Understand Arts Community) Art Assessment Presentation he gave at the NAEA Conference. Mr. Douillette's assessment focuses on giving the habits a grade rather than assigning a project grade. Mr. Douillette will have a chapter in the Book: Authentic Assessment for Reflective Proactive by Teachers & Students. Mr. Green inquired about graded quizzes in TV/Studio. Mr. Douillette stated that TV/Studio is more of a vocational course versus subjective like art. Ms. Wright liked the habit assessment for art courses. Ms. OConnor said it was exciting to see measurements that are not completely subjective. Ms. Marshall felt it would help student's grow as artists.

Community Announcements:

Mr. Green requested the men's room bathroom stall doors be fixed. He discussed the AP test requirement in relation to colleges limiting AP test credits. Ms. Cooper inquired on the timing of the test versus knowing if the school will accept them. Mr. Green indicated that most students know their school's policies prior to paying for the AP test. Ms. OConnor stated that the policy was an administrative decision supported by the SC. Ms. Angelakis thought the points were valid and they're to be taken under discussion. Mr. Green suggested that the HS Driver Ed be permitted to administer the license test.

Mr. Varghese thanked everyone for the opportunity to be involved in the SC meetings.

Ms. OConnor recognized Mr. Green and Mr. Varghese. She stated how grateful she is to be re-elected. She congratulated and thanked Ms. Zoll for running a good campaign. She gave a shout out to Zack Hankins, HS TV Studio student.

Ms. Cooper congratulated Ms. OConnor, Ms. Marshall, and Ms. Zoll. She stated the town needs more people like Ms. Zoll who step up in the community.

Mr. Delano echoed Ms. Cooper's congratulation sentiments. He mentioned Teacher Appreciation week.

Ms. Marshall stated she was happy to be working with everyone. She thanked her husband for supporting her.

Ms. Wright congratulated Ms. OConnor, Ms. Marshall, and Ms. Zoll.

Superintendent's Report: Ms. Angelakis' report will be posted on Superintendent's Page under the Swampscott Public School's web page.

Proposed Changes to 19-20 School Year Calendar: Ms. Angelakis pointed out the main changes to the 19-20SY calendar along with the rationale. Ms. Angelakis requested a revote of the calendar.

Ms. OConnor stated they received a lot of feedback from the community and Shirat Hayam regarding Rosh Hashana. She thanked the people that reached out. Ms. Marshall asked if there was a need to bring back the calendar committee. Ms. Angelakis noted that it is under discussion. Mr. Delano noticed that one of the SC dates fell on Yom Kippur.

Motion: It was moved by Ms. Cooper to accept the edits to the 19-20SY calendar & seconded by Ms. Marshall.

Vote on Motion: The motion passed 5 to 0.

Superintendent's Report: Ms. Angelakis announced Ms. Jean Bacon as the new Director of Teaching and Learning. She provided Ms. Bacon's background and qualifications. Ms. Angelakis noted that there were two finalists for the HS assistant principal but neither accepted the position. Ms. Hunt, Clarke Principal, will be taking a position in Andover. The Clarke Principal position was posted yesterday.

Ms. Cooper inquired about the HS Dean of Students continuing in the role. Ms. Angelakis stated that Ms. Cull-Finn is doing a fabulous job. She said there have been discussions on whether to keep Ms. Cull-Finn in the dean position or move her to the assistant principal.

METCO Academic Report: Ms. Latoya Ogunbona presented the Swampscott METCO Breakdown (53 students). She discussed the 2018-2019 goals which included: Reduce Incidents on all METCO buses, Increase Student and Parent Engagement, 50% Honor Roll Achievement, and Post Graduate Preparation/Senior Seminar. Ms. Ogunbona also provided an update on Accomplishments and Achievements, and Academics.

Ms. Ogunbona extended an invitation to the METCO Family and Friends Brunch at SHS on May 18th.

Ms. OConnor asked about the ability to follow-up on students after attending community college. Ms. Ogunbona mentioned that students feel good about coming back to fill her in.

Ms. Marshall inquired about summer enrichment. Ms. Ogunbona is still working on it. Ms. Angelakis commended Ms. Ogunbona on her upcoming master's program graduation and being chosen as the commencement speaker.

Ms. O'Connor inquired on what the SC could do to support the program. Ms. Ogunbona felt coming to a parent meeting in Boston and the brunch would show solidarity. Ms. Wright asked if they had enough families for the family/friend program. Ms. Ogunbona has had a lot of host families reach out.

Ms. Cooper requested the parent meeting dates be sent to the SC. Mr. Delano mentioned the METCO bus picking students up at the football field rather than them walking back to the school. Ms. Ogunbona has had some push back from the bus company but will revisit with them.

Enrollment of Non-Resident Teacher's Student(s); Ms. Angelakis discussed the current students from non-resident teacher families. They have all been approved for 19-20SY.

Chair:

Tri-Chair Report: Ms. OConnor provided an update on the Tri-Chair meeting with Tim Dorsey, the new head of the Finance committee. She is excited to work with him.

Updates: There was a discussion on the General Fund and Nahant Tuition. The email from Peter Spellios regarding the tuition revolving account was discussed. Ms. Angelakis stated that the back-up documentation the town requested is in process. Mr. Delano inquired what would happen if the town meeting was canceled. If that was the case, the board of selectmen would need to approve the transfer. Ms. Cooper discussed creating a more formalized action-oriented process for requesting information exchanges with finance.

Proposed SC Meeting dates 19-20SY: Ms. OConnor suggested they hold off on finalizing at this time.

Election of Chair & Vice Chair: Ms. OConnor said she would be honored and happy to serve as chair. However, she is completely open for change if there is anyone who wants to take it on. Ms. Cooper feels it is important to mix the committees up a bit. Ms. Marshall suggested a workshop to discuss committees. The decision was made to keep everything the same for now.

Appoint SC Subcommittees and Liaisons: This item was tabled.

Motion: NA

Vote on Motion: NA

Consent Agenda:

Ms. OConnor read the purpose of the consent agenda and the items on the agenda.

- A. Regular Session Minutes – April 10, 2019
- B. Regular Session Minutes – April 18, 2019
- C. Donation-SHS Robotics Competition-M. Gelfand
- D. Donation-SHS Robotics Competition-S. Wright
- E. Donation-SHS Robotics-DiCostanzo Family
- F. WARRANT # 19-42 & 19-44

There was a discussion on the accomplishments of the Robotics Team.

Motion: It was moved by Ms. Cooper to accept the agenda & seconded by Ms. Marshall

Vote on Motion: The motion passed 5 to 0.

Next meeting to be held on May 22, 2019

Adjournment

Motion: At 8:50 p.m. it was moved by Ms. Wright and seconded by Ms. Cooper to adjourn and go into an Executive Session.

The motion passed 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,




Pamela R.H. Angelakis, M.A., M.Ed.

Date: May 22, 2019

Superintendent of Schools

/dmm

Supporting Documentation:

 01 - Updated May 8, 2019 School Committee Meeting Agenda.pdf	5/8/2019 2:29 PM
 02 - Douillette_Handouts_School Committee_2019_.pdf	5/6/2019 3:02 PM
 03 Composting_ For the Love of Learning.pdf	5/8/2019 3:01 PM
 04 - Superintendent's Report to SC 5.8.19.pdf	5/9/2019 4:25 PM
 05 - METCO Report 2018-2019.pdf	5/2/2019 5:04 PM
 06 -Enrolling Students-Assignment Change Requests List 19-20.pdf	4/18/2019 8:39 AM
 07 - 19-20 School Calendar & Legend Rev 5 - 8-May-2019.pdf	5/8/2019 2:02 PM
 07a - Proposed Changes 19-20SY Calendar Memo.pdf	5/8/2019 2:25 PM
 08 - 19-20 School Committee Proposed Meeting Dates Rev1.pdf	5/1/2019 1:35 PM
 09 - 2019-2020 Committee & Subcommittees blank for reappoint...	5/1/2019 3:07 PM
 10 - April 10, 2019 Regular Session Meeting Minutes.pdf	4/18/2019 11:57 AM
 11 - April 18, 2019 Regular Session Meeting Minutes.pdf	4/18/2019 11:59 AM
 12- Donation-SHS Robotics Competition-MGelfand.pdf	4/18/2019 8:26 AM
 13 - Donation-SHS Robotics Competition-SWright.pdf	4/18/2019 9:25 AM
 14 - Donation-SHS Robotics-DiCostanzo Family.pdf	4/26/2019 3:01 PM