

Regular Session Meetings

September 11, 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. Gargi Cooper, School Committee, Ms. Amy OConnor, Ms. Suzanne Wright, and Mr. Ted Delano. Also Present: Martha Raymond, Asst. Superintendent of Student Services. Pamela Angelakis, Superintendent of Schools, Martha Sybert, Business Administrator, Jean Bacon, Director of Teaching & Learning, Greg Vinitsker, Student Rep, and Max McDonough, Student Reps. Ms. Carin Marshall, School Committee was absent.

Public Comment:

Ms. Nancy Hanlon, president of SEA and a Speech-Language Therapist at Stanley shared her personal frustration with the lack of progress toward a mutually acceptable contract. Ms. Hanlon spoke about the district administration turnover and teacher longevity; 69 teachers with more than 15 years SPS experience.

Mr. Bill Andrade, 8th-grade science teacher at the M.S. thanked Ms. Angelakis. He mentioned how great it was to be recognized for years of service and professional status at convocation. He expressed his feeling that salary is a tangible way to recognize the great demand of teachers. He requested the committee rethink viewing salaries as cost savings.

Ms. OConnor, who is a member of the bargaining committee stated she appreciated hearing from the teachers. She mentioned being disappointed that the teachers made public comments so early in the conversations. She stated that the town has to work within a certain dollar range. Ms. OConnor expressed her respect and appreciation for the jobs the teachers are doing every day. Ms. OConnor encouraged people to ask questions. She noted that although the contract is expired, the benefits of the contract were still in effect. She asked the public to have patience while they were negotiating.

For The Love of Learning: Ms. Mary Powers & Mr. Liam Hurley presented an update of the MS Summer Buddy Program. Almost 40 students assisted teachers and positively interacted with students receiving extended year services. Students, Eliza D'Agostino, Cole Hayes, and Jane Raymond spoke about their experience. Each participant is recognized as giving 20 hours of community service. Ms. Angelakis provided the students with their certificates.

Community Announcements (last item of the evening):

Max McDonough said that students' response to the new administration and rules was positive. Students love the outdoor lunch. He mentioned the high freshman participation in sports and clubs.

Greg Vinitsker mentioned the EBoard advisors (Ms. Thomas, Ms. Sturma). He spoke about the surveys they will be putting out, everyone is adjusting to the new rules and re-iterated the high freshman participation.

Ms. OConnor commented on how she loves hearing the marching band.

Ms. Cooper mentioned a science teacher reaching out on SM for supplies for their mindfulness in the classroom. She noticed parents participating and felt it was a good way to reach out for specifics. Ms. OConnor mentioned that the PTA had allocated funds for each teacher in the past. There was a discussion about using the website as a resource for donations. Ms. Cooper stated that the girls' soccer team beat Marblehead. Ms. OConnor noted the golf team did as well.

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

Ms. Angelakis discussed enrollment and class sizes. The official report does not go to the state until 10/1. She said that the numbers reflect all the students in the class. She noted not all of the students are in the classroom the entire time. She has made a commitment to watch class size and is continuing to monitor.

The School Committee appointed the Superintendent to the Board of the Northshore Education Consortium. The collaborative does not allow School Committee members to sit on their Board. NEC's Articles of Agreement only allow superintendents to be members of the Board.

Ms. OConnor asked about the breakdown of reports for the state. Ms. Angelakis will follow-up with the data specialist.

Superintendent's Goals: Ms. Angelakis presented her five goals which included the Professional Practice-Communication, and Student Improvement-Classroom Instruction goals. She also discussed the three District Improvement Goals (Curriculum & Instruction, Cultural Competency, and District Strategy).

She reviewed the changes that Ms. Wright had suggested regarding the combining of some goals. Ms. Angelakis discussed her rationale for keeping select goals separated. She spoke about the challenges related to her goals. Ms. Angelakis discussed the therapy dog action item.

Ms. Angelakis continued reviewing her goals. She mentioned leaning on her assistant more, keeping the SC as a 3C dependency, and keeping 3D (Physical Education Waiver) to learn how other districts handle it.

Ms. Angealkis noted that Goal 4 aligns with the Essex County Learning Community (ECLC) grant activities. She plans to lean on Ms. Caron more for Goal 5.

Ms. Cooper inquired about the goal evidence. Ms. Angelakis will send it out but would like the SC to let her know what they would like to see as well. Ms. Cooper asked about a tool for walkthroughs (Goal 2). Ms. Wright recommended two tool forms, creating a baseline for the next walk-through, and a collaborative summary with the superintendent and principal both evaluating.

Mr. Delano asked if we would mark agendas for goal updates. Ms. Angealakis stated that they would start marking the SC calendar with the goals to determine where to fit them in. Ms. Cooper will look at the calendar to see what aligns with SC goals month to month.

Motion: It was moved by Ms. OConnor to accept the goals & seconded by Ms. Wright.

Vote on Motion: The motion passed 4 to 0.

School Business Administrator: Ms. Sybert presented a draft of the FY21 Budget Timeline. The budget process really begins in October when we have the enrollment numbers.

Some of the key dates are highlighted below:

- Principals present goals and budgetary needs (10/23/19)
- First draft of Superintendents Recommended Budget (12/9/19)
- Superintendent's Recommended Budget distributed to committee and available online (12/20/19)
- School Committee Meeting - Public Hearing. (1/22/20)
- School Committee presents FY21 Budget to the Finance Committee (March 2020)
- Town Meeting Vote May 2020

Ms. Wright inquired about Capital planning. Ms. Sybert & Ms. Angelakis will be meeting with Mr. Baker 9-12. Ms. Sybert expects they will have the information within the next couple of meetings.

Director of Teaching & Learning:

Summer Curriculum Work: Ms. Bacon provided an update on the Summer Curriculum Work. There were 11 summer project proposals submitted, 9 projects were approved, and 8 have been completed to date. The stipend payments totaled \$14,720. Ms. Bacon mentioned the Social Studies Curriculum alignment. Ms. Angelakis discussed the Health Training put together by Ms. Ciley and the nurses.

Ms. Wright asked how curriculum such as Dramatic Play would be shared out to the rest of the Grade K teachers. Ms. Bacon said the teachers had produced sets of resources, created material lists and letters to solicit community support for donations. Ms. Angelakis stated that the Grade K teachers had come to her with the proposal. The feeling is that some of the behaviors in primary grades are due demands and not having enough “play”. Ms. Angelakis and Ms. Raymond’s philosophy is to slow down kindergarten to make it developmentally appropriate. We want to see if behaviors change with dramatic play, and allowing kids to be kids.

Ms. OConnor inquired about projects that were not approved. Ms. Angelakis had engaged in dialogue but some applicants did not respond. Ms. Wright asked if this reflects the way we pay our teachers for Professional Development (PD). Ms. Bacon stated that this is much different than PD. Ms. Bacon discussed utilizing our rich talented staff to develop curriculum and instructional practices.

19-20 Professional Development Plan: Ms. Bacon provided the outline of the full-day PD on 11-5-19. She discussed a survey created by Ms. Porter-Roberts. Three areas of PD needs were identified: Social Emotional Learning (SEL), collaboration time w/ colleagues, and content-specific development. Ms. Bacon discussed balancing the needs & DESE PD requirements. Leadership recognizes the commitment to SEL learning & ECLC objectives.

Ms. Cooper inquired if there was a centralized place to record. Ms. Bacon discussed creating online modules that go along with the strands. Ms. Wright likes that SEL is spread across the year.

Chair:

SC Goals: Ms. Cooper reviewed the Communication goals and action items. Mr. Delano will take the lead on the Communication calendar. Ms. Cooper brought up having a FB page. Ms. Wright suggested they look at the feasibility then make recommendations.

Motion: It was moved by Ms. OConnor to adopt the school committee goals & seconded by Mr. Delano.

Vote on Motion: The motion passed 4 to 0.

Consent Agenda

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

- A. Regular Session Minutes – August 28, 2019
- B. Donations-Composting Club - OConnor Family
- C. WARRANT # 20-09

Motion: It was moved by Ms. OConnor to accept the agenda & seconded by Ms. Wright.

Vote on Motion: The motion passed 4 to 0.

Next meeting to be held on September 25, 2019

Adjournment

Motion: At 8:25p.m. it was moved by Ms. OConnor to accept the motion to adjourn & seconded by Ms. Wright

Vote on Motion: The motion passed 4-0.

Respectfully submitted,




























Pamela R.H. Angelakis, M.A., M.Ed.
Superintendent of Schools

Date: September 27, 2019

/dmm

Supporting Documents:

	00 - Agenda September 11, 2019, School Committee Meeting.pdf 
	04. - Summer Buddy Program.pdf 
	04.1. - Summer Buddy Program.pdf 
	05.A. -Superintendent's Report to SC 9.11.19.pdf 
	05.A.1 - 9-11-19 with other enrollment.pdf 
	05.B. - DRAFT Superintendent Goals 19-20 
	05.B. - Revised DRAFT Superintendent Goals 19-20 
	06 - 09.11.19 FY21 Proposed Budget Calendar.pdf 
	07.A. - 9-11-19 Summer Curriculum Work Update PDF.pdf 
	07.B. - Prof_ Learning_Collab Plan FY20 PDF.pdf 
	08.A. - School Committee Goals 2019/2020 DRAFT 
	09.A. - Aug 28 2019 Regular Session Meeting Minutes.pdf 
	09.B. - Donation-Composting Club-OConnor Family.pdf 