

Regular Session Meetings

September 25, 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. Suzanne Wright, Ms. Amy OConnor, and Ms. Carin Marshall. 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 Vinitzsker, Student Rep, and Max McDonough, Student Reps. Mr. Ted Delano, School Committee was absent.

Public Comment: NA

Community Announcements

Max McDonough mentioned the activities around Spanish Heritage month. He stated that Swampscott would be hosting the North Shore Science League on October 8th for the first time in two years.

Greg Vinitzsker talked about the E-Board and freshman elections. They are talking with students and planning to do a survey. They are hearing negative feedback regarding the new food policy regarding no snacks in school.

Ms. OConnor attended the MS curriculum night. She gave kudos to Mr. Calichman and his team. She stated that it was nice to see teachers working as a broad grade team. She commented on a MMA meeting she was invited to with Sean Fitzgerald, town administrators and managers and the takeaways regarding contract negotiation.

Ms. Marshall heard great feedback about the first Friday night under the lights. She said everyone had a great time and was in the school spirit.

Ms. Cooper gave a shout out to the curriculum nights. She provided an update on the September 17th teacher contract negotiation meeting. She stated that three additional sessions are scheduled. She mentioned that their preference is to conduct meaningful negotiations in private versus in public. They are hopeful and will continue to work toward reaching a mutually acceptable agreement. Ms. Cooper expressed her great respect for the teachers and their work.

Superintendent's Report: In lieu of a report, Ms. Angelakis celebrated the Educator of the Year and teachers who met Professional Teacher Status (PTS).

Educator of the Year: Ms. Jen Bowler, a music teacher at the MS is the Educator of the Year. Ms. Angelakis read Ms. Bowler's biography. Ms. Bowler has been with Swampscott for twenty-one years. Ms. Angelakis commented on Ms. Bowler's passion, ability to energize kids, and the amount of her own time she dedicates to the students. She noted that the enthusiasm Ms. Bowler shares with her students is admirable.

Ms. Angelakis presented Ms. Bowler with her award. Ms. Bowler spoke about the honor of being nominated and thanked everyone.

Recognition of Teacher's Awards: Ms. Angelakis acknowledged fourteen teachers that met PTS. She read the biographies of the teachers in attendance. She presented Kendra Cznericki, Joe Douillette, Susan Henderson, and Sandra Moltz with their award.

Academic Excellence awards: This award is given to high school students who have distinguished themselves in the pursuit of excellence during their high school careers. Ms. Angelakis announced Leonie Flacke as the award recipient. Leonie is at the top of her class with a grade point average of 104.18. She is a three-season track athlete (four years), captain of the cross country team, a pianist and violinist. Leonie gives back to the community through tutoring and international service trips.

Summer Programs/ESY: Ms. Raymond presented on the Extended School Year Programs. The program is identified if the student may demonstrate significant regression in learning skills if the program is not provided. The programs are five to six weeks long and must be identified in the student's IEP.

Ms. Raymond reviewed the In-District Programs in each of the schools. She provided school breakdowns, student populations, as well as updates on reading, math, and services. Ms. Raymond noted the out of district populations, in-district staffing, district costs, field trips, and the summer Buddies Program.

Ms. Wright inquired if we would bring out of district students into the program. Ms. Marshall asked about programs and hiring out. Ms. Raymond replied that they sometimes bring in extra staff but it should be seamless in transition to the students so they prefer the same teachers.

New Business: Ms. Hartmann, MS Nurse and Board of Health Chair spoke about the dangers related to the vaping addiction epidemic. She mentioned Gov. Baker's announcement banning vaping product sales. There was a discussion on the consequences when a student is caught vaping, MIAA rules and the Chemical Health Policy.

Ms. Hartmann discussed statistics, counterfeit products, withdrawal since shelves will be empty, and outreach programs. There was mention of Reach.org as a resource.

Ms. OConnor asked if vaping is treated the same as smoking. Ms. Wright responded that the policy states it is prohibited and subject to disciplinary action. The policy leaves the disciplinary action to the school. It is not a school committee policy. The HS could do a Cessation program if they choose. Ms. Wright mentioned the wellness committee looking into the issue. She stated that the HS could choose to amend the policy in the handbook and request an approval revote.

Ms. Cooper inquired about students reaching out. She asked if the Board of Health has reached out to local pediatricians. Ms. Cooper brought up clinics within the Lynn schools that are not part of the school. Ms. OConnor liked the idea of confidentiality and seeking help without being penalized.

There was a discussion on seeking help and then being faced with repercussions, withdrawal, the need for more data, and related suspensions. Max and Greg both felt it was less than a problem this year but still an issue. Ms. Angelakis would like to see the data on the current state.

Chair:

A. Updates: Ms. Cooper and Ms. Wright met with Ms. Angelakis. They did a preliminary calendar with presentation dates to enable goals to be tracked month by month. The Budget Committee as a whole will meet on November 20th @ 5p.m.

Ms. Cooper discussed the Dorothy Presser school council workshop. Ms. Wright created a school council 101 document. Ms. Angelakis distributed the information at her leadership team meeting.

B. Tri-Chair Report: Ms. Cooper and Tri-Chair team met last Friday. The special town meeting will be on November 18th. There was a discussion on the creation of the Facilities Director position being a

shared model similar to the HR director. There was discussion on the position, department, versus person hired, and modifying the job description.

Ms. Wright asked about getting the facility management committee back together. Ms. Cooper mentioned former members have reached out to her and Sean Fitzgerald.

C. Superintendent's Contract: Vote requested

Ms. Cooper mentioned that they met in the Executive session to review the contract. Ms. Cooper read the updated statement. Ms. Angelakis' new salary is \$185,727, and the current contract will extend through June 30, 2024.

Ms. OConnor stated she was glad to see Ms. Angelakis' salary in parity with peers.

Motion: It was moved by Ms. OConnor to approve the contract & seconded by Ms. Wright.

Vote on Motion: The motion passed 4 to 0.

D. SC Protocols: Ms. Cooper reviewed the protocols which document how the committee operates and functions as a team and requested signatures.

Sub Committee:

Ms. Wright provided an update on the onsite visit at Hadley. There was a great turnout including architects, professionals, OPM, and the town administrator. The town and school presented a unified team. The MSBA requires the first look at renovating or rebuilding the current (Hadley) school. They will take in feasibility proposals, and create a shortlist of three for references and interviews. The goal is to hire and have a contract executed by December 20th. The design committee and OPM plan to hold an Idea exchange in January.

Ms. OConnor asked if the Hadley feasibility study was a separate decision. Ms. Wright noted that the feasibility study flushes out options and meets the MSBA requirement to look at renovating. They need to look at whether it is possible to build on the same size footprint according to standards. Ms. Wright noted it is not necessarily cheaper to renovate. There are four options on the table but they might look at something they haven't considered.

Ms. Wright mentioned the "Contact us" button on their website for anyone that wants updates.

Consent Agenda:

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

- A. Executive Session Minutes – August 28, 2019
- B. Executive Session Minutes – September 11, 2019
- C. Regular Session Minutes – September 11, 2019
- D. Donation MS Science- DeRoche & Perault family
- E. Donation HS Robotics-MSKL, Inc.
- F. Donation HS Robotics-Citizens Bank
- G. Donation HS Robotics-Harvard Pilgrim Healthcare
- H. Donation MS- MS PTO
- I. WARRANT # 20-11

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 October 23, 2019

Adjournment:

Motion: At 8:35p.m. It was moved by Ms. OConnor to accept the motion to adjourn & seconded by Ms. Marshall

Vote on Motion: The motion passed 4-0.

Respectfully submitted,



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

Date: October 24, 2019

/dmm

Supporting Documentation:

 00 - Agenda September 25, 2019, School Committee Meeting Updated.pdf 

 IX.A. - Aug 28, 2019 Exec Session Meeting Minutes.pdf 

 IX.B. - Sept 4, 2019 Exec Session Meeting Minutes.pdf 

 IX.C. - September 11, 2019 Regular Session Meeting Minutes.pdf 

 IX.D. - Donation-MS Science-DeRoche & Perault Family.pdf 

 IX.E. - Donation-HS Robotics-MSKL, Inc.pdf 

 IX.F. - Donation-HS Robotics-Citizens Bank.pdf 

 IX.G. - Donation-HS Robotics-Harvard Pilgrim Healthcare.pdf 

 IX.H. - Donation-MS-MS PTO.pdf 

 V.C. - Educ of Yr & PTS 2019-2020.pdf 

 V.D. - Academic Excellence Award-Flacke, Leonie Bio (1).pdf 

 V.E. - FY 20 Extended School Year Presentation 

 VII.C. - 2019-2020 AngelakisP addendum & salary notive.pdf 

 VII.D. - School Committee Protocols 19-20.pdf 