

Regular Session Meetings

September 26, 2018

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 O'Connor, Chair, Ms. Gargi Cooper, Ms. Suzanne Wright, and Mr. Ted Delano. Also Present: Ms. Pamela Angelakis, Superintendent of Schools, Ms. Anne Marie Condike, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Professional Development, Ms. Martha Raymond, Director of Student Services, Ms. Joanne van der Burg, School Finance & Budget Specialist and student representatives Isaac Green and Joseph Varghese. Ms. Caron Marshall was absent. Ms. Gargi Cooper left at approximately 7:30 p.m.

Public Comment

There was none.

Community Announcements

Mr. Delano commented on the up-coming SATs and expressed his condolences for the loss of Ms. Abigail Rogers.

Ms. Wright mentioned that the MA General Hospital Institute was inquiring about advertising a children's research study. Ms. Angelakis stated the flyer had already been posted to the flyer section on the SPS website. Ms. Wright expressed it is great to see real science in action and kids get paid for participating in the research.

Ms. Cooper reminded everyone they are invited to the SURE diversity festival 9/29/18 and is planning to attend.

Isaac Green noted that the football team was doing well. He is looking forward to a Big Blue Powder Puff win.

Ms. O'Connor requested a moment of silence for Ms. Abigail Rogers. She appreciated the closing of the Middle School and remarked on the terrible loss for the school and community.

Superintendent's Report

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

Ms. Angelakis introduced Julie DeLillo, Human Resources and Colleen Cull, Dean of Students. Both Ms. Cull and Ms. DeLillo shared their backgrounds.

The 3rd-grade classes at Stanley continue to be discussed with Ms. Longin. The hiring of an academic tutor is in progress. Ms. O'Connor inquired whether the tutor would be part of Ms. Raymond's team. Ms. Angelakis advised the tutor would be general education. Ms. Wright inquired about the class sizes at the other elementary schools. Ms. Angelakis stated that they are all in good shape. There is some shifting of support occurring at Clarke to provide additional support in the kindergarten classes. Mr. Delano inquired about the 3rd grade at Clarke. Ms. Angelakis noted that the class size was manageable due to students utilizing other services.

An update on the school business administrator was provided. They are currently in negotiation with a candidate to bring forward to the school committee. Ms. O'Connor inquired about the position rules for school committee approval. Ms. Wright mentioned that Ms. Marshall was on the interview committee.

MSBA status was provided. Ms. Wright and Ms. Angelakis will be attending the Story of a Building workshop on 10/29.

The MCAS results will arrive in the district 9/28 and be sent out 10/2 across the district.

Educator of the year & Professional Teacher Status

Ms. Angelakis celebrated the teachers who received recognition at convocation. She recognized Mr. Liam Hurley, School Psychologist as the Educator of the Year. She read the letter of nomination written by his peers. Ms. O'Connor expressed how taken she was by Mr. Hurley's comments at convocation.

Ms. Angelakis recognized the 9 teachers who achieved professional status. The two teachers (Geoffrey Becket and Christopher Croker) in attendance were presented with gifts of appreciation.

Also, recognized was student Harrison Katz for his achievements and academic excellence.

School Business Administrator

Ms. Joanne van der Burg updated the committee on the close-out of FY18. Highlights included the Schools General Fund closed out on budget for the first time in four years and updates on the special revenue funds.

Ms. Joanne van der Burg provided an update on the FY19 next steps including the plan for town meeting to establish a school department revolving fund for special education expenses. Ms. Angelakis learned there is no plan to have a special fall town meeting. However, there is a Special Tri-Chair coming up and Ms. Angelakis has asked to have the issue on the agenda so they may discuss how to proceed.

Director of Curriculum

Ms. Condikey shared an update on the Elementary Math Pilot. The committee reviewed numerous program and unanimously voted to trial Math in Focus. The program has a new approach to the number 10 and manipulatives unique to this program. Teachers received training over the summer and will continue with training. Ms. Wright inquired about the assessment timeline and whether it would impact the budget. Ms. Condikey stated that final assessment would be in May and is on the radar for budgeting.

A New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) update was provided. NEASC requires members schools to provide alignment to 5 standards for accreditation. The 4-day visit will be in the Spring of 2021. Dennis Kohut will be the lead administrator. There is an initial meeting 11/5 with NEASC liaison Alyson Geary. The H.S. staff will be working on A Portrait of a Graduate on the 10/4 PD Day in preparation of NEASC.

Ms. O'Connor inquired whether NEASC accreditation was a requirement for schools. Ms. Condikey stated that it is important we have accreditation. Ms. Wright questioned when A Portrait of a Student would be completed. Ms. Condikey mentioned it was not a 1-day process and the NEASC liaison will guide them.

Chair

- A. Updates: The Athletic Fee discussion continued. Ms. Marshall is working to have Ms. Farley attend the next meeting. Ms. Wright noted it would not be fair to the Athletic Director and the council to be expected to answer questions on the spot. Ms. O'Connor agreed it is important to have people hear a discussion about what is happening but not in a public forum yet. Ms. Wright inquired whether the committee should be compiling questions for athletics. Ms. O'Connor requested Ms. Wright start a Google doc. Mr. Delano requested Ms. Farley send her presentation to the committee. Ms. Angelakis will make the request.
- B. Tri-Chair Report: Ms. O'Connor provided an update on the recent Tri-Chair meeting. The meeting was mainly hearing from the town chair about budgeting and financial modeling as well as the 5-year outlook. Ms. O'Connor expressed her concern regarding the cost of contracts which may exceed the budget number (no number has been discussed yet). An invitation has been extended to attend Mr. Spellios' financial seminar in early December. There was a discussion of town finance members participating in the School Committee budget process. Ms. O'Connor mentioned that this is a great way to share their commitment to be transparent about the school budget and for the town to see the needs of the district.

C. School Committee Protocols: Members present were requested to sign.

Subcommittee Reports

Ms. O'Connor read the update and explained the verbiage changes. Ms. Angelakis suggested tabling until Ms. Marshall returns. Ms. Wright brought up prioritizing policies that need to be revised. She will work with Ms. Marshall to create a schedule.

A. Policy EEAA- Walkers and Riders-Vote Requested

Motion: It was moved by Ms. O'Connor to postpone minute approval and seconded by Ms. Wright.

Vote on Motion: NA

Consent Agenda

Ms. O'Connor read the purpose of the consent agenda and the items on the agenda. Ms. Wright was not present at the last meeting, therefore, there was not a quorum for a vote.

- A. Regular Session Minutes-September 12, 2018
- B. Executive Session Minutes-September 12, 2018
- C. Warrant # 19-11 & 19-12

Motion: It was moved by Ms. Wright to postpone minute approval and seconded by Mr. Delano.

Vote on Motion: NA

Next meeting to be held on October 10, 2018

Adjournment

Motion: At 8:10 p.m. it was moved by Ms. O'Connor and seconded by Ms. Wright to adjourn.
The motion passed 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,










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

10.11.18

Date:

Supporting Documentation:

 01 - Agenda 26-Sept-2018 School Committee Meeting Updated...	9/24/2018 12:50 PM
 03 - Educ of Yr, PTS & Academic Excellence 2018-2019.pdf	9/24/2018 11:42 AM
 04 - FY18 Close FY19 Start Up - Sept. 26 .pdf	9/24/2018 10:01 AM
 05 - School Committee Protocols 18-19.pdf	9/24/2018 11:19 AM
 06 - Policy EEAA Walkers and Riders.pdf	9/6/2018 2:54 PM
 07 - 12-Sept-2018 SC Minutes.pdf	9/24/2018 1:02 PM
 08 - 12-Sept-2018 Exec Session Meeting Minutes.pdf	9/24/2018 12:33 PM