

Regular Session Meetings

May 22, 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. Suzanne Wright, and Ms. Carin Marshall. Also Present: Martha Raymond, Director of Student Services. Pamela Angelakis, Superintendent of Schools. Ms. Gargi Cooper, Mr. Ted Delano, and Ms. Martha Sybert, Business Administrator were absent.

Public Comment:

Ms. Sandy Moltz, librarian at SMS spoke in support of the HS library position. She noted the importance of a Blue Ribbon school being staffed with professional librarians. She discussed civic requirements and research.

For the Love of Learning:

Stanley 1st Grade Time Travel & Cave Art - Ms. Erin DiLisio, Art teacher and six of her Stanley school students (Logan Ries, Sophia LeBlanc, Tess Fallon, Banner Schaiberger, Lucy Siefken & Jackson Pfeifferberger) presented their cave art, and time travel projects.

SHS Robotics - Doug Dwyer (co-captain) of the Robotics team shared a video highlighting the team's robot in action. They placed 2nd in the New England District Championship and qualified for Nationals in Detroit.

Ms. Angelakis said she had goosebumps watching the video. She expressed how proud she is of the team, and her excitement at watching the competition live feeds. Mr. Dwyer thanked Ms. Angelakis, the school committee, faculty and teammates.

Ms. OConnor inquired about the students' field of study in college. The students provided their intended majors.

Community Announcements:

Ms. Marshall gave a shout out to her daughter Sidney who was filming for the Studio club. She thanked Mr. Douillette and his students for all their work.

Ms. Wright commented on the upcoming Senior Project presentations.

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

SEF Grant Acknowledgements: Mr. Dave Ritchie, SEF president and Chris Winters, spoke about SEF mission and mandates. SEF funded over \$21,000 in projects this year. Mr. Winters updated the group on the projects that were funded. Mr. Ritchie noted the enormous energy the teachers place into their ideas. He mentioned the trend of kids applying for grants.

Ms. Angelakis stated that two SEF grant recipients (Mr. Douillette, Dr. Polizzotti's Composting club) presented at SC. Ms. OConnor noted that the Composting club presented at town meeting. Ms. OConnor thanked SEF for their generosity. She thanked Mr. Ritchie for his time, spirit and personal generosity.

Recognition of teacher retirees 18-19SY: Ms. Angelakis recognized Ms. Irene Dalton, English teacher, Ms. Holly Sheehan, Health Educator teacher, Mr. Kenneth (Buck) Harris, Health teacher.

Superintendent's Report: Ms. Angelakis has named the current Dean of Students, Colleen Cull-Finn the new Assistant Principal at Swampscott High School beginning July 1, 2019.

The Clarke School principal position closes next Tuesday. There have been 25 candidates to date.

Ms. Angelakis provided an update on the FY20 HS Budget positions. Ms. Marshall mentioned an increase associated with one English teaching position. Ms. Wright asked about the impact on programs and library space. Ms. Angelakis emphasized the decisions did not impact programs. Ms. Angelakis stated that the library space is being reinvented. The library position not the person is being eliminated during the process.

Ms. OConnor mentioned that students' had expressed concerns. She entertained a motion for open discussion.

Motion: It was moved by Ms. Wright to go in to open discussion & seconded by Ms. Marshall.

Vote on Motion: The motion passed 3 to 0.

Max and Alexander McDonough spoke regarding the HS layoffs. Max noted that many students were concerned. Alexander stated that students weren't sure what was happening and how it impacted them.

Ms. OConnor asked if they had found the HS leadership receptive to listening. Alexander said the administration was very transparent. Ms. Angelakis is happy they are voicing their opinions.

Alexander inquired about the informal library committee. Ms. Wright noted that the committee should have student reps. Ms. Angelakis discussed the library not being used at full potential. Ms. OConnor noted that there may be potential for the SC to visit the HS during the budget process.

Alexander inquired about English and Science class sizes. Ms. Angelakis stated that they would increase to the low 20's. The administration does not feel it will impact the classroom. Ms. Angelakis noted that they will watch and reassess if the students and administration feel it is not working.

Alexander asked if the comprehensive plan for the library would be on track for September. Ms. Angelakis did not have an answer but will follow-up. Ms. OConnor thanked them for their involvement and leadership.

This year's MASC/MASS joint conference is being held in Hyannis November 6-9th. Ms. Mackey and Ms. Angelakis have submitted two proposals for breakout sessions. They will be looking for at least two School Committee members to join them at the conference if any of the proposals are accepted.

Ms. Angelakis displayed the MS library/media center summer site. Ms. Moltz will be posting student photos to an Instagram account to encourage reading. Ms. Angelakis thought it was a great out of the box idea.

The Governor's Public Awareness Campaign launches the week of May 26th. Ms. Angelakis played a video from the website (MA.Gov/respectfully).

College Acceptance List: Ms. Angelakis stated that 579 students have been accepted into colleges. She read the list of colleges and number of acceptances at each college.

Ms. Wright was struck by the diversity of the schools. Ms. Marshall felt the list reflects how students found what is right for them. Ms. OConnor thanked Ms. Barnum and all of the guidance team.

Community Service Update: Ms. Angelakis provided an update on the Community Service projects at each of the schools. Each school celebrates differences and finds ways to help those in need.

Ms. Raymond provided an update on the Summer Buddy program. Ms. OConnor asked if there was a good representation of boys. Ms. Raymond stated that it was an equal split of boy and girl volunteers.

Chair:

Tri-Chair Report: The meeting was postponed to Friday.

Update -Town Meeting: Ms. OConnor thanked the town, town meeting members, board selectmen, and Sean Fitzgerald and team for passing the School budget. The budget passed included all requests, the capital improvement plan, and the \$225,000 transfer.

Ms. Marshall thanked Mr. Burke for an excellent job presenting for the SBC committee. Ms. Wright thanked the communications committee.

Sub-Committee:

SBC Meeting Updates: Ms. Wright noted the SBC presentation is up on their website. They are in the process of hiring an OPM. They held a site information visit last week. MSBA will vote on the OPM selection at the beginning of August.

Consent Agenda:

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

- A. Regular Session Minutes – May 8, 2019
- B. Executive Session Minutes – May 8, 2019
- C. Donation-SHS Robotics: Advanced Vision Center, Griorgio DiCostanzo, Bridgida Iacono, Jill Jacobsen & Mr. & Mr. Joseph Pulaski
- D. WARRANT # 19-46

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

Vote on Motion: The motion passed 3 to 0.

Next meeting to be held on June 26, 2019

Adjournment

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

Vote on Motion: The motion passed 3-0.



Respectfully submitted,



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

Date: June 26, 2019

Supporting Documents:

 01 - Updated May 22, 2019, School Committee Meeting Agenda.pdf 

 01a - Public Comment-May 22, 2019.pdf 

 01b- Stanley 1st Grade.pdf 

 02 - Superintendent's Report to SC 5.22.19.pdf 

 02a - METCO Living The Legacy.pdf 



 03 - 18-19 Retirement List 1.pdf 

 03a - RETIREE BIO'S.pdf 

 04 - SEF GRANTS_2018-2019.pdf 

 05 - College Acceptance Report.2019.5.17.pdf 

 06 - Community Service Project Update.pdf 

 07 - May 8, 2019 Regular Session Meeting Minutes .pdf 

 08 - 8-May-2018 Exec Session Meeting Minutes.pdf 

 09 - Donations-SHS Robotics.pdf 