

Regular Session Meetings

January 8, 2020

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, Mr. Ted Delano, and Ms. Carin Marshall. Also Present: Pamela Angelakis, Superintendent of Schools, Martha Sybert, Business Administrator, Martha Raymond, Assnt. Superintendent of Student Services, Greg Vinitser, and Max McDonough, Student Reps. Mr. Ted Delano, School Committee and Jean Bacon, Director of Teaching & Learning, were absent.

Public Comment:

Ms. Cooper reviewed the process for public comments.

Nancy Hanlon, president of SEA and SPS speech therapist gave her three minutes to Judy Flynn.

Judy Flynn, a former Swampscott teacher that grew up in town talked about the wonderful community. She discussed the experienced quality teachers in Swampscott that know what children need, work with parents, solve problems, work long hours, and spend their own money in their classrooms. Ms. Flynn discussed her own experience as a student at Machon school. She read a quote regarding knowledge, strength, and motivation off a gift from one of her students.

Erin DiLisio, an art teacher at Stanley school stated that no other town department had been asked to do what was being asked of the teachers. She noted if there was financial dire that the burden should be shared and not solely placed on educators. Ms. DiLisio noted her love of the job, parental support, Swampscott's experienced educators, the knowledge and support of staff, and community involvement. She requested the committee give a full and fair value contract.

Russell King, a HS math teacher and math coach spoke about his 19 years teaching with SPS. Mr. King stated that the faculty is the glue that holds the school together. Mr. King stated that he loves working here. He noted that teaching is the hardest job he has ever done while being asked for more every year for the same money. Mr. King stated that the new contract will still place them below COLA. He discussed the concern on family income, demoralization and the feeling of being devalued.

Rob Levy, a parent of a HS sophomore discussed the closing of the library. He noted that hat the school library is the first to be sacrificed when there are budgetary issues. Mr. Levy discussed the necessity of a library. He urged the committee to think creatively and reopen the library. He expressed his willingness to work with the school to make it happen.

Ms. Cooper thanked everyone for coming out. She stated that they are committed to a fair contract.

For the Love of Learning:

Spain STEM Exchange: Ms. Brandy Wilbur, HS STEM coordinator provided an update on the MIT/Spain exchange. Swampscott resident Mercedes Balcells-Camps, Ph.D., MIT research scientist and parent of MS/HS students helped to facilitate the exchange. The exchange provided an authentic learning experience and facilitated student scientific research. Ms. Wilbur discussed the value our students and teachers received. The exchange students visited foreign language classes and were integrated into Green Scholars classes. The students shared state science fair projects, brainstormed, and collaborated on issues. They hope to participate in the 2020 STEM Exchange and the new Global Co-Creation Lab program at MIT.

Community Announcements

Max McDonough discussed the Robotics team, Drama club rehearsals, Amnesty International club, and bake sales to help Australia.

Greg Vinitser discussed DECA and noted twenty-three students qualified for states.

Ms. Wright mentioned the SBC community forums on Thursday, January 9 from 6 to 8, and Saturday, January 11 from 9 to 11. She reviewed the configuration options on the table.

School Business Administrator: Ms. Sybert presented an update on the FY20 Budget. We are midway through the fiscal year and as of December 31st have spent \$12,135,383, or 41%, of our general fund appropriation. The forecast amount of \$17,481,739, or 59%,

of our appropriation includes remaining salaries and projected spending assumptions.

The Administration Cost Center is projected to finish under budget by \$35,643. The General Ed Cost Center is projected to finish under budget by \$31,176. The Special Ed Cost Center is projected to be over budget by (\$141,722). Ms. Sybert explained the reasons and discussed the potential of dipping into circuit breaker funds to offset the Special Ed budget.

The School Facilities Cost Center is projected to finish under budget by \$94,116. The Districtwide Cost Center is projected to finish over budget by (\$15,933). Ms. Sybert requested the committee approve transfers between cost centers.

Ms. Sybert will work with Ron Mendez regarding the Special Ed transfer from the town. Ms. Marshall asked if this was the last year to request the transfer at town meeting. Ms. Sybert replied yes.

Ms. Marshall inquired about the open positions under School Facilities. Ms. Sybert noted that they are not filling the .5 FTE but the other open position is posted. Ms. Wright inquired about the potential of \$31K in General Ed being reclassified to Special Ed.

Motion: Ms. OConnor moved to accept the budget transfers & seconded by Ms. Wright.

Vote on Motion: The motion passed 4-0.

Ms. Cooper asked if the committee felt they needed a meeting as a whole. Ms. Marshall questioned the capacity of people. Ms. OConnor wanted to be mindful of everyone's time. Ms. OConnor stated that the budget was tight. Ms. Cooper stated that the finance committee had chosen Maryellen Fletcher as the liaison.

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

Superintendent Report

Ms. Angelakis discussed the Comprehensive Middle School Facilities Assessment with Habeeb & Associates Architects. The preliminary draft report of needs was provided. Ms. OConnor inquired to who owned the report. Ms. Sybert and Mr. Mendez have been the leads. They plan to submit the roof for the MSBA Accelerated Repair Program.

Ms. Angelakis provided an update on the FY21 budget development and timeline. The budget will be presented at the January 29th School Committee (SC) meeting, February 5th will be a public hearing on the budget, and February 12th will be the SC budget vote.

Ms. Angelakis shared the Northshore Education Consortium Annual Report. Ms. Angelakis was struck by the integration of technology in every class during her school visits. She took part in Ferragamo's Forecast produced by HS TV studio students.

Ms. Angelakis also spoke about the building project meeting and Educational Visioning session with the Leadership team. Ms. Wright noted that was nice to see the MS/HS principals weigh in, and the leadership team to work collaboratively.

Mid-Year Review: Ms. Angelakis stated that the mid-year review was scheduled for the January 22nd meeting, which is canceled. She discussed her Classroom Instruction goal. There has been a lot of work completed toward the Curriculum & Instruction goal such as the ideas of co-taught classes and combining of classes. They are meeting with the Program of Studies committee to review recommendations. Under the Cultural Competency goal, the Bridge committee finished their survey. Ms. Angelakis has been spending a lot of time on information pertaining to therapy dogs. The leadership team finished reading "A Growth Mindset" and has ordered "Learning from Lincoln". Ms. Raymond discussed ECLC and the full-day workshop for principals in February.

Ms. Angelakis will provide a more organized update at the January 29th meeting.

Chair:

Updates: Ms. Cooper noted they had already discussed the finance timeline and Summit meeting.

Ms. Wright inquired on whether the finance committee had been invited to budget meetings. Ms. Cooper extended an invite for the January 29th meeting.

Sub Committee:

SBC Updates: Ms. Wright stated they haven't met since she last updated the committee. She noted the Vision workshop today was awesome. Ms. Wright reiterated the community forums on January 9th from 6 to 8, and January 11th from 9 to 11.

The next meeting with the Design Team and OPM will be Tuesday January 21 at 6:30. The meeting is open to the public.

Ms. OConnor provided an update on the Negotiation committee. They were at a stalemate after their December meeting. The meeting with the mediator is set for Monday January 13th. They are hoping that it is as productive as it has been in the past.

Consent Agenda

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

- A. Executive Session Minutes – December 11, 2019
- B. Regular Session Minutes – December 11, 2019
- C. Executive Session Minutes – October 30, 2019 & November 20, 2019
- D. Donation SHS Drama-Weatherspoon Charitable Foundation
- E. Donation Green Scholars-Weatherspoon Charitable Foundation
- F. Donation SHS ELL -Cummings Properties 1
- G. Donation SHS ELL -Cummings Properties 2
- H. Donation SHS Personal Finance-Next Gen Personal Finance
- I. Donation SHS Robotics-Groom Construction
- J. WARRANT # 20-25 & W20-27

Ms. Cooper asked about the registration costs for the Robotics team. Max McDonough discussed the \$5,000 entry fee. This year they are estimating a cost of \$15,000 which covers up to NE championship. They expect to make it to the World Championship. Ms. Cooper questioned travel costs. Max stated that the fundraiser to cover travel costs. The competition is in March.

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

Vote on Motion: The motion passed 4 to 0.

Next meeting to be held on January 29, 2020

Adjournment

Motion: At 8:50p.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
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Date: January 30, 2020

Supporting Documentation:

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|---|---|
|  | 01.08.2020 FY20 Budget Update.pdf  |
|  | 2018-19 NEC Annual Report.pdf  |
|  | Agenda January 8, 2020, School Committee Meeting.pdf  |
|  | Approved December 11, 2019 Regular Session Meeting Minutes .pdf  |
|  | Approved December 11, 2019 SC Exec Session Meeting Minutes.pdf  |
|  | December 11, 2019 SC Exec Session Meeting Minutes.pdf  |
|  | December 11, 2019 SC Regular Session Meeting Minutes .pdf  |
|  | Donation-Green Scholars-Weatherspoon Charitable Foundation.pdf  |
|  | Donation-SHS Drama-Weatherspoon Charitable Foundation.pdf  |
|  | Donation-SHS ELL-Cummings Properties1.pdf  |
|  | Donation-SHS ELL-Cummings Properties2.pdf  |
|  | Donation-SHS Personal Finance-Next Gen Personal Finance.pdf  |
|  | Donation-SHS Robotics-Groom Construction.pdf  |
|  | January 8, 2020 Public Comment Sheet.pdf  |
|  | MIT/Spain STEM Exchange presentation  |