

Swampscott School Committee

Regular Session Meetings

September 22nd, 2021

A meeting of the Swampscott School Committee was held virtually in Swampscott, MA commencing at 7:09 p.m. with the following members present: Ms. Amy OConnor, School Committee Chair, Ms. Carin Marshall, Mr. John Giantis, Mr. Glenn Paster, and Ms. Suzanne Wright, School Committee members. Also, Present: Pamela Angelakis, Superintendent of Schools, Jean Bacon, Director of Teaching & Learning, Martha Sybert, Director of Finance, and Martha Raymond, Asst. Superintendent of Student Services. Madison Diehl and Meggie Jensen, Student Representatives were present.

The School Committee and Superintendent were in-person. The public will be able to attend virtually in accordance with the executive order issued by Governor Baker on March 12, 2020, order suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law G.L. c.304, Section 20. The meeting was being recorded and broadcast live on the local cable station.

Community Announcements:

Mr. Paster thanked the town meeting for the overwhelming vote to send the school building project to the voters. He spoke about the alleged incident at the Georgetown/Roxbury Prep football game and a verbal attack on Dr. McKenzie Beverly SC member.

Ms. Wright thanked Ms. Eisenberg and staff for organizing Pinwheels for Peace.

Ms. Marshall welcomed the new student reps and echoed the sentiments on Pinwheels for Peace.

Mr. Giantis spoke about how upsetting the incidents that Mr. Paster mentioned.

Madison Diehl said she is excited to be on SC and how happy everyone is to be back in-person at school.

Meggie Jensen said that she is excited to be on the SC. She said everyone is enjoying in-person learning and the mental/social benefits.

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

District Student Handbook - review/adopt: Ms. Angelakis spoke about the handbook review process with the leadership team. She is asking the committee to adopt the policy as a formality. There were no major changes.

Motion: It was moved by Ms. Wright to adopt the SY 21-22 District Student Handbook & seconded by Mr. Paster.

Vote on Motion: The motion passed 5 to 0.

Athletic Handbook - review/adopt: Ms. Angelakis reviewed the two changes (page 5: regarding user fee waivers & page 6: returning to play protocols).

Ms. Wright asked about protocol for returning after an injury. Ms. Marshall pointed out the paragraph that discussed injuries. Mr. Giantis asked about the protocols. Ms. Angelakis said the protocols are already established. Ms. Wright said protocols are operational.

Motion: It was moved by Ms. Marshall to adopt the SY21-22 Athletic Handbook & seconded by Ms. Wright.

Vote on Motion: The motion passed 5 to 0.

Testing Update: Ms. Angelakis spoke about the DESE required letters for close contact, students sent home sick, and a positive case at school. Ms. OConnor asked if it could be weekly versus daily. Ms. Angelakis will circle back with Ms. Mulcahy. Ms. Wright mentioned putting the school and something in the subject line indicating it is the DESE required letter.

Ms. Angelakis discussed the partnership with CIC Health and the test coordinator. The test and stay has been rolled out. Ms. Angelakis spoke about the pool testing and consent to test. If students are not signed up for testing, they must be sent home.

Ms. Wright asked about athletes being required to do the pool testing. Ms. Angelakis said they went with random groups. Mr. Paster asked if we mandated testing for extracurricular. Ms. Marshall said that the student groups were already in progress when first discussed. Ms. OConnor said she thinks this has been rolled out in the majority of districts. Ms. Angelakis said she has heard that many schools are scrambling to get this up and running with CIC Health. Ms. Marshall said we are ahead of her son's school with

testing. Ms. OConnor asked about negative feedback from parents. Ms. Angelakis has not heard any negative but the form must be completed versus verbal consent.

Mr. Giantis mentioned that he heard questions about the pool testing at the football game. He will send his questions to Ms. Mulcahy. Mr. Paster asked about MIAA rules regarding testing.

Opening of Schools report:

Ms. Angelakis spoke about convocation which began with a moment of silence for Brady Ellis (6-year-old son of Stanley teacher Ms. Hogan). She spoke about the district strategy for the next 3-4 years. Ms. Angelakis spoke about Belonging & Partnerships, Curriculum Instruction, and Tiered Support.

Ms. Angelakis spoke about a video of a boy always tapping that with the help of his teacher (Mr. Jensen) becomes a successful drummer. Her message was that we have an opportunity to reconnect with our kids and encouraged everyone to greet the kids in the hallways.

Ms. OConnor asked about the multi-tiered support approach. Ms. Angelakis explained the different approaches (i.e. remediation, application). Ms. OConnor asked how many students were in the After Dark Program and how they were chosen. Ms. Angelakis will double check the numbers. She said that students apply for the program.

Ms. Angelakis said MCAS results are out but have not been delivered yet. She expects the results to go home next week. Mr. Paster said he is proud of the students and staff given what they have gone through. Ms. OConnor mentioned the MS testing happening later than usual and wondered about the impact. Ms. Angelakis said there are so many layers. Ms. OConnor mentioned the information from other assessments.

Ms. Angelakis spoke about the Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging (DEIB) Vision Work at the Leadership Team meeting today (Mr. Norkun led this work). She spoke about the presentation Mr. Harris; The Director of Social Emotional Learning gave at the Leadership team meeting. He will speak about SPS Mental Health Vision at an upcoming SC meeting. Ms. Angelakis spoke about the library and Center for Innovation and showed pictures of the new furniture.

There was a motion to recess for five minutes. It was moved by Ms. Marshall and seconded by Mr. Paster.

Director of Teaching & Learning:

Student Outcomes FY21: Dr. Bacon presented the growth progress and explained the Tiers. The K-4 Reading (iReady) showed 44% of students were in Tier 1 in the fall versus 77% in the spring. The K-4 Math (Aimswest) showed 65% of students were in Tier 1 in the fall versus 88% in the spring. She said they saw the same Math improvement in all grade levels.

Dr. Bacon spoke about the efforts with Tier 2 support, team collaboration across grade level, and the focus on reading, writing, and math and less in other subject areas. She said this is the first full year using these assessments. She spoke about typical growth, stretch growth, and the preliminary fall data and summer learning loss.

She reviewed the 2019 and 2020 data on students with D/F grades in MS (doubled) and HS (not much change). Dr. Bacon spoke about the plan to use ESSER funds for support staff across the school levels, EL Family outreach and Sheltered English Immersion (SEI) Professional Development. She encouraged anyone with input on the use of funds to reach out to her.

Ms. Marshall asked about the tutors. Dr. Bacon said they are all filled positions. Ms. Wright asked about the Math tutors when ELA shows more kids struggling in Tier 2. Dr. Bacon spoke about the reading specialists & tutors at the elementary level funded through other sources. Mr. Paster asked to see the D/Fs by different populations (i.e., Regular Edu, ESL, SPED, etc). Mr. Giantis asked if the SEI PD was for K-12 teachers. Dr. Bacon said it is offered to all teachers across the district.

Chair:

Updates: Ms. OConnor has no updates other than what has been shared already. There is a Tri-Chair meeting on Friday.

SubCommittee:

SBC Meeting Updates: Ms. Wright said the big news is that the town meeting supported the school proposal. She mentioned early voting and October 19th town voting at the HS for the entire town. Mr. Paster mentioned having a voter registration for HS students.

Policy JJIF - Concussion Policy & Protocol Update (vote requested): Ms. Wright said the policy is a routine thing and has no changes. Ms. Wright said there were a couple of changes to the Protocol but that is operational.

Mr. Giantis asked about talking to the Athletic Director (AD) about giving a pamphlet to students with concussions. Ms. Wright mentioned the online class. Ms. OConnor asked why it was limited to the AD. Ms. Wright said that some of this comes down from the MIAA. Ms. Angelakis will follow up with Ms. Wolff.

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Paster to approve the Policy JJIF Concussion policy & seconded by Ms. Marshall.

Vote on Motion: The motion passed 5 to 0.

EBCFC-Covid-19 Testing - first read: Ms. Wright said that they need to talk to Ms. Mulcahy and have a sub-committee meeting. It needs to be put into the SPS language for a first read.

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

- A. Regular Session Minutes-August 25, 2021
- B. Donation - Donation-Bertram House-SPS District
- C. Warrant # 22-10 & 22-12

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

Vote on Motion: The motion passed 5 to 0.

Public Comment: NA

Next meeting to be held on October 13th, 2021

Adjournment

Motion: At 8:58 p.m. It was moved by Ms. Marshall to accept the motion to adjourn & seconded by Mr. Paster.

Vote on Motion: The motion passed 5 to 0.

Respectfully submitted,





Pamela R.H. Angelakis, M.A., M.Ed.

Superintendent of Schools

/dmm


Date: 10/14/21



Supporting Documents:


 [_COVID-19 Testing Requirement.pdf](#) 



 [52 - Superintendent's Report to SC 9.22.21 \(2\).pdf](#) 



 [Agenda September 22, 2021, School Committee Meeting](#) 



 [Approved August 25th 2021 Regular Session Meeting Minutes Final](#) 



 [August 25th 2021 Regular Session Meeting Minutes Final](#) 

 [Copy of 2020-21 Progress Report](#) 



 [Copy of 2021 Swampscott Concussion Protocol w-KW edits.pdf](#) 



 [Copy of 2021-2022 District Student Handbook](#) 


 [Copy of Policy JJIF - Concussion Policy - Current SC Policy](#) 

 [Donation-Bertram House-SPS District.pdf](#) 

 [Final Athletic Handbook 2021-2022](#) 

 [Memo_ Routine Covid Screening.pdf](#) 

 [Policy EBCFC - COVID-19 Testing.pdf](#) 

 [SPS COVID-19 Testing Informational Email SY21-22.pdf](#) 