

Swampscott School Committee

Regular Session Meetings

May 26th, 2021

A meeting of the Swampscott School Committee was held virtually in Swampscott, MA commencing at 7:00 p.m. with the following members present: Ms. Amy OConnor, School Committee Chair, Suzanne Wright, Ms. Carin Marshall, Mr. John Giantis, Mr. Glenn Paster 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.

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:

Ms. Wright gave a big thank you to Ms. Mulcahy, Ms. Hartmann, and Ms. Cilley for the vaccination clinic.

Ms. Marshall said she is excited for the end of the year and graduation.

Mr. Giantis echoed that he is looking forward to the end of the year and more normalcy as they move forward.

Mr. Paster congratulated the Big Blue Powder Puff team for their win.

Ms. OConnor thanked the people that are cleaning our buildings. She mentioned the amount of work that goes into it.

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

Ms. Angelakis announced that the vaccination clinic was May 21st (264 students vaccinated). The next clinic is June 11th. She thanked everyone involved.

She provided an update on the hiring of a Human Resources Director. The first round of interviews is June 2nd.

She provided an update on the DESE Summer Acceleration Academy Grant. This grant targets an Academy Week, in late August to target learning loss. Ms. Angelakis discussed the more robust program our district is offering. SPS is offering a 6-week, 4-hour/day Summer Program to address Learning Loss from July 6th until August 13, 2021. There are about 200 seats.

Ms. OConnor asked about students that chose not to attend. Ms. Angelakis said they will not fall off our radar and we will find other ways to fill in the gaps. Ms. OConnor asked if ESSER grants were paying for the program. It is funded by ESSER.

Mr. Giantis asked if the students will be graded. Dr. Bacon said the HS students will get a pass/fail.

Mr. Giantis asked about a target date for the HR director. Ms. Angelakis said July 1 would be the goal.

Mr. Paster asked if we thought we would fill 200 seats. Dr. Bacon said she believes we will open it up to all families in a week or so.

Mr. Paster asked about the response to the HR Director position. There was a large pool.

Ms. OConnor asked if students could opt in for a shorter amount of time. Dr. Bacon said they are accommodating vacations. Ms. Raymond spoke about the increase in services for those students on IEPs this summer.

Ms. Angelakis gave a shout out to Ms. Ardon, Dr. Bacon, and Ms. Norkun for their presentation on a DESE webinar. Dr. Bacon said it was part of a larger presentation on program assessment and evaluation.

Director of Finance:

Grants Presentation: Ms. Sybert provided an update on how ESSER funds have been spent and future plans. She displayed the Relief Funding (2.8B) over the next 3.5 years. Our allotment of funding is \$2.8M over the next 3.5 years.

Ms. Sybert reviewed the State Coronavirus Prevention Fund (83k) which was used to fund the Occupational Health Nurse (OHN) and Technology Specialist. Total salary expense was \$116k and will be spent full by 6/30/21. The Remote Learning grant received matched funds from Town's CARES which was used to Purchase 300 iPads for \$115k. The grant is fully spent.

She reviewed the CvRF Reopening grant (\$473K) which is expected to be fully spent. Ms. Sybert reviewed the spending of the ESSER I funds (\$149K) and the ESSER II (\$645K). The ESSER III (\$1.4M) workbook was just released by DESE.

Mr. Giantis asked if there was anything else in the pipeline. Ms. Sybert has not heard of anything else but sometimes when this much money comes from the Federal government it may change allotments from the state.

Ms. OConnor asked about the OHN in relation to the Operational budget. Ms. Angelakis said they would like to continue with the position and roll it into the operating budget.

Ms. OConnor asked about the Summer program funding. Ms. Sybert said that it will likely be charged to ESSER I. She said we may be able to use a state fund for the summer program. Ms. OConnor asked about the costs. Dr. Bacon said that they allocated the cost in the ESSER II grant. Ms. Wright asked about funding for summer 22 & 23. Dr. Bacon said we would need to see how the program works and may be funded from ESSER III.

Ms. Raymond mentioned that Circuit Breaker had transportation funding pulled back so we may see less state funds due to increased federal funding as Ms. Sybert mentioned.

Ms. OConnor asked about ESSER III plan timing. Ms. Sybert said that the first pass will be the Superintendent and leadership. Ms. Wright asked about the grant oversight and limitations and the underfunding of transportation. Ms. Sybert said we are fortunate to have a large amount of carry forward dollars on Circuit Breaker. She said the use of Federal funds is very broad.

Ms. Sybert said the before/ after school care bid document has gone out. She will have recommendations for the June 23rd meeting.

Ms. Wright asked if we are communicating to families that there will definitely be a before and after school program. Ms. Sybert mentioned the survey that went out and believes they understand that we are working toward providing care. The elementary schools have also mentioned it in their newsletters.

Chair: Ms. OConnor said they had their Tri-Chair meeting last Friday. Max Kasper spoke about facilities. Ms. Angelakis said she plans to have him come to one of the June meetings.

Election-Chair and Vice Chair: Ms. Marshall asked if Ms. OConnor was ok to remain as chair. Ms. Wright said she was happy to continue as vice-chair or pass on if anyone would like it. Ms. OConnor asked everyone to think about it on their own. She said it is valuable for everyone on the committee to take a turn as the chair.

Proposed SC Meeting Dates SY21-22: Ms. OConnor said that they propose to continue with their Wednesday meetings. She mentioned checking the dates against the Selectboard meetings. The Selectboard was having an Unpacking Racism program tonight. She has asked the same consultant to come in for the SC and the Superintendent's leadership team. Ms. OConnor discussed taking the July 14th and August 11th meeting off the calendar.

SubCommittee:

SBC Meeting Updates: Ms. Wright said that the schematic design is in front of the MSBA now. There are informational posters in front of the elementary schools. The posters will move around town.

Policy EBC-FA - Ms. Wright spoke about the policy updates that reflect the changes to the mask policy that students do not need to wear masks outdoors. The other change is that staff in direct contact with students only have to wear protective gear if in contact with someone symptomatic. They will vote at the next meeting.

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

- A. Regular Session Minutes-May 12, 2021
- B. Executive Session Minutes-May 12, 2021
- C. Emergency Session Minutes-May 18, 2021
- D. Warrant 21-46 & 21-47

Ms. Wright said that the EBC-FA policy was under the Emergency Session.

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Paster to accept the consent agenda & seconded by Mr. Giantis.

Vote on Motion: The motion passed 5 to 0 via roll call vote.

Public Comment: Ms. OConnor opened public comment. Keiko Zoll thanked Ms. Sybert for her presentation. She said that the ESSER III has a stakeholder engagement requirement. Ms. Sybert said she is aware of the requirements and is attending the DESE seminar and will adhere to the guidelines.

Mr. Giantis recognized the MS memorial commemoration event. He said there will be a flag in front of the school with the fallen heroes' names.

Next meeting to be held on June 9th, 2021

Adjournment

Motion: At 8:07 p.m. It was moved by Ms. Wright to accept the motion to adjourn & seconded by Mr. Paster.

Vote on Motion: The motion passed 5 to 0 via roll call vote.

Respectfully submitted,



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

Date: June 10, 2021




Superintendent of Schools


/dmm

Supporting Documentation:



 Updated Agenda May 26, 2021, School Committee Meeting 



 SC Meeting In-person Chart for Contract Tracing May 26th Reg Sessio... 



 Policy EBC-FA - Face Covering and Other Personal Protective Equ...  


 May 26, 2021, School Committee Executive Session.pdf 

 May 12,2021 School Committee Executive Minutes DRAFT.docx 

 May 12, 2021 Regular Session Meeting Minutes 

 COVID Federal and State Grants.pdf 

 Copy of May 18, 2021 - Emergency SC Meeting minutes 

 46 - Superintendent's Report to SC 5.26.21.pdf 

 21-22 School Committee Proposed Meeting Dates Rev 1 