



Blue Hills Regional District School Committee
Fifty-Sixth District Committee

District School Committee Meeting
March 16, 2021
Remote (ZOOM) Meeting
7:00 PM Open Session

A. Call to Order: Time: 7:00 PM
Roll Call

Members in attendance: Francis Fistori – Avon, Eric Erskine (Vice-Chair) – Braintree, Aidan Maguire, Jr. (Secretary) – Canton, Thomas Polito (Chair) – Dedham, Taryn Mohan – Holbrook, Clinton Graham – Milton, Kevin Connolly – Norwood, Rachele Jeanty – Randolph, and Sheila Vazquez – Westwood, and Chuck Gisondi - Treasurer

Administration in Attendance: Jill Rossetti - Superintendent-Director, Michelle Resendes - Business Manager, Paul Bavuso – Academic Director, Michelle Sylvia – Vocational Director, Tom Cavanaugh – Dean of Students, and David Galego – Facilities Director, and Ed Catabia – Athletic Director

B. Open Session: ZOOM

C. Public Comment: None

D. DSC Student Representative Report: Chris Alcimbart:
N/A Not in attendance

E. Treasurer’s Report: Chuck Gisondi
Report: N/A

F. Warrant: Chuck Gisondi (Vote Required)
Warrant # 16 for \$725,944.45
Motion to approve Warrant number 16 was made by Aidan Maguire, Secretary - Canton
Second: Kevin Connolly, Norwood
Vote, Roll Call: Motion carried unanimously

G. Superintendent’s Report: Jill Rossetti
- COVID Update

Ms. Rossetti informed the Committee that every town in the district is now in its 4th week in the yellow (dashboard information). Further, Blue Hills has successfully implemented

Phase II and III. in terms of re-opening the school. We will begin opening the school to academic in-person learning and plan to be at 100 % somewhere Between April 28 and May 3rd. Lunch periods continue to be problematic for full return due to social distancing guidelines. Blue Hills plans to use ESSER II funds to pay for two 20 X 30 tents which will allow 48 students to sit outside during the four lunches. (24 per tent)

- **Admissions Update**

As of this date, next year's freshman class is 96% full. Two hundred and thirty students have confirmed their seats for next year, This leaves 11 empty seats to be filled by the end of this school year. Interviews continue and no problems are expected to fill the remaining openings and develop a waiting list.

- **Traffic Meeting in Canton:**

Blue Hills is in a safety zone; not a school zone. This is because we are a high school with a low number of walkers and no sidewalks. The area is zoned for 20 miles an hour but there is no posted signage. This means the 20 mph speed limit cannot be enforced. The group discussed posting signs and then tabled this item until the next meeting.

- **Superintendent Evaluation Goals Update**

The Superintendent spent several minutes presenting an update on her evaluation goals. This included student learning, Hybrid model learning, the strategy plan, specifically the 3 goals to be completed by end of year, and hiring. The consensus is that the board is pleased with the Superintendent's progress and leadership of the school.

- **Advantages/Disadvantages of In-person and Virtual Meetings**

The Superintendent reviewed the pros and cons of bringing the meetings back on site at Blue Hills. The stated Pros include members meeting each other in person and seeing the school. Cons included being unable to fit the committee and an audience in the conference room, losing the high attendance that the ZOOM format has allowed, and the added cost to preparing, cleaning and re-setting room for the next day.

Aidan Maguire, Canton, stated that he was sick of Zoom meetings and wanted to meet the new members. There remains a myriad of ideas and concerns. It was agreed to table this topic for one month and re-visit.

H. **Minutes Approval:** (Vote is Required)

March 2, 2021

Motion to approve minutes (3.2.2021) made by Kevin Connolly, Norwood

Second: Eric Erskine, Braintree

Vote, Roll Call: Motion to approve the March 3rd minutes was carried unanimously

I. **DSC Chair Report: Thomas Polito: N/A**

**J. DSC Sub-Committee Reports: As Needed
Personnel and Negotiations Sub-Committee**

- Clerical Union: (Vote Required)
Vote to ratify contract was cancelled because a written version is not yet available to committee.

K. Administration Reports:

1. Principal's Report: Geoff Zini

- **High School Update:** Update given earlier.

- **Sports Update:**
Fall II will run through April 30th and Spring sports will run from May 5th through June 25th.

Our Fitness Trainer also acts as our COVID contact. Both she and our school nurse, have done an excellent job making sure everyone is safe, adhering to guidelines and staying on top of changing variables. Coaches, student athletes and our maintenance department have done a superior job following rules and guidelines and maintaining the fields.

2. Business Manager Report: Michelle Resendes

N/A

L. Unfinished Business:

- **A moment of silence for Bernard H. Baher (Bernie)**
Bernie Baher served on the District School Committee from 1965 through the end of the 1986 school year, (22 years). After leaving the school committee, he volunteered in many capacities over the next 20 years. This included volunteering in the Engineering department, working on several projects including the founding of the Blue Hills Foundation that he also served on for 16 years.

Bernie was a lifelong supporter of Blue Hills Regional Technical School. He was a generous and caring man. He will be missed.

M. New Business Topics: N/A

N. Executive Session: N/A

- O. Future Business:** The next District School Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 6, 2021 at 7:00 PM. Committee members on the negotiations committee agreed to email their availability to Tom Polito, Chair, to set up the next meeting.

P. Adjournment: (Vote Required)

7:54 PM

Motion to adjourn made by Kevin Connolly, Norwood

Second: Rachelle Jeanty, Randolph

Vote, Roll Call: Vote to adjourn carried unanimously

Minutes Prepared by:

Pamela Donnellan, Administrative Secretary to the Superintendent- Director

Draft March 16, 2021 minutes approved by DSC on: April 6, 2021