

**Minutes of the  
Monson School Committee  
Regular Business Meeting  
Quarry Hill Community School – School Committee Meeting Room  
March 28, 2018**

**Present:** Chair Joshua Farber; Secretary Jeff Lord; and Committee Members Patricia Oney

**Also Present:** Superintendent Cheryl Clarke; Director of Business & Facilities Don Smith; GVMS Dean of Students Scott Johnson and Recording Secretary Karen Methe

**Absent:** Vice Chair Joel Keller and Committee Member Michelle Heroux

**Note:** This meeting was video-recorded.

Mr. Farber called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

Mr. Farber read the Mission and Vision Statements.

**Announcements:**

Mrs. Clarke gave a reminder that March 30, 2018 is a full day of school. Monson High School senior Erik Wegge was congratulated for being chosen as the Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents award winner this year. A dinner was held at Pathfinder Regional School District to honor all recipients and their families. Mrs. Clarke added the Erik has a 103.44 GPA and has taken 12 honors level courses and 5 AP courses and received a grade of A or higher on each. He is also an accomplished athlete, Boy Scout and is on the National Honor Society. Mr. Farber announced that the middle level Destination Imagination team placed second at the state tournament held in Worcester. They will now travel to and participate in the global tournament in Knoxville, Tennessee in May. Committee members extended their congratulations.

**Recognition:**

Mr. Topham, Music teacher for grades 4-8 provided a detailed overview of the electronic music studio class that started up this year. He spoke of music form and structure, which includes technology elements that get more students interested in music. He played samples of student work composed primarily in Garageband, a vast program used often by professionals. The first sample was created by a group of students who also study music independently outside of school, created in ABA song form. The next project sample Mr. Topham played was done by a student that does not study music, but is interested more in technology. He noted that automation, stereo sound panning, volume fade-ins and fade-outs along with taking a sample form off the internet and trimming it down to incorporate it into his own work, were utilized in the creation of this student's project. Mr. Topham noted that students are able to pursue this class at the high school level. Committee members thanked Mr. Topham for his presentation with each member present adding their positive comments.

**Minutes:**

- **Motion by Ms. Oney to approve the March 14, 2018 minutes of the Regular Business Meeting as submitted. (Second by Mr. Lord)**
- **Brief discussion on the Open Meeting Law training attended by Ms. Oney and Mrs. Methe a few weeks ago, in regard to a Committee member voting to approve meeting minutes if not present at that meeting. Ms. Oney stated that the Attorney General's Office does not have a position one way or the other. It is not stated in the Open Meeting Law either. Mr. Farber stated that there is no policy to that effect, it is merely precedence.**
- **Motion by Mr. Lord to allow people that did not attend the meeting to vote on accepting the minutes of said meeting.**
- **Mr. Farber noted that a formal motion is not required but he would second the above motion for purpose of further discussion, agreeing to allow the Policy discussion to follow.**
- **Ms. Oney added that she would like to see the topic referred to the Policy Subcommittee but had no problem voting on the minutes referenced in the original motion.**
- **Mr. Lord withdrew his motion.**
- **Original motion carries 3-0**

#### **Student Representative Reports:**

##### **GVMS-Olivia Chrzan and Molly Szado**

Grade 8 departed for their Washington, D.C field trip on March 27, 2018. The first stop was Philadelphia where they received a lesson in front of the Liberty Bell, then on to D.C. where they attended a dinner cruise on the Potomac River.

On April 4, 2018 the PANDA Project will be return to GVMS to survey grade 8 students.

MCAS testing for Grade 8 will begin on April 5, 2018. Testing will continue through April and May. An extended schedule will be available on the district website and *In the Loop*.

The monthly Citizen of the Month assembly will be held on April 9, 2018 from 8:00-9:00 a.m.

Term 3 will end on April 6, 2018 and Term 4 will begin on April 9, 2018.

##### **MHS- Haley Fennyery and Marley Nissenbaum**

No report

#### **Subcommittee & Liaison Reports:**

##### **Curriculum Subcommittee:**

No Report

##### **Facilities and Long-Term Planning Subcommittee:**

No report

##### **Finance Subcommittee:**

No report. Mr. Farber said that the Subcommittee has been invited to present to the Town Finance Committee on Monday, April 2, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. As no other Committee members, except for the two on the Subcommittee, will be attending this meeting does not need to be posted.

##### **Human Resources and Negotiations Subcommittee:**

School Committee Minutes: Page 2 of 5

Regular Business Meeting: March 28, 2018

Mr. Lord stated that the Subcommittee met and had a very productive meeting and future meeting dates were scheduled.

**Policy/Diversity Subcommittee:**

No report

**Superintendent's Report:**

An A.L.I.C.E. Parent Information Night was held on March 15, 2018. Mrs. Clarke presented and reviewed the safety protocols and procedures in place for the district. There were 5 parents in attendance.

March 15 and 16, 2018 were half days for students. Professional Development was held on March 15<sup>th</sup> beginning with Mrs. Clarke's annual state of the district presentation for all staff followed by a legal workshop for teachers, and paraprofessionals participated in inclusive practices professional development. Mrs. Clarke, Mrs. Loglisci and Mr. Smith offered A.L.I.C.E. training for substitutes, after-school MADE instructors and any new staff that was hired after previous training was provided. An MCAS Parent Night was held on March 27, 2018 for students in grades 3 and 4. The event was very well attended.

The district future vision work continues. The Parent Focus Group met for the 5<sup>th</sup> time last week. The group is developing a presentation for parents and the community to be held on April 12, 2018, 6:30 p.m. in the Granite Valley Middle School auditorium. Following the presentation there will be a breakout session in the cafeteria where individual members will be available to answer questions on their specific specialty within the group. The group also created a survey that is available as part of the In the Loop weekly publication, a link was posted on social media and an email was sent to parents. To date, approximately 350 responses to the survey have been received.

**Business and Facilities Report:**

Mr. Smith reported that he and Mrs. Clarke attended the town's capital planning meeting. Some of the areas that are being looked into are the air-conditioning in the auditorium and library at Granite Valley Middle School, in addition to the piping and plumbing for the sprinkler system. Any other major capital items are currently on hold depending on what is done with facilities.

A bid opening was scheduled for Food Services bids, however; none were received. Mr. Smith spoke to a prospective vendor, declining enrollment and margins being so slim were two major concerns for them as they are a volume based business.

**Old Business:**

No report

**New Business:**

Mrs. Clarke e-mailed Committee members an informational packet of the mid-year updates on her goals, including supporting documentation for each. Mr. Lord requested a cursory overview. Mrs. Clarke provided the requested information, reviewing the key actions/timeline for the following goals:

**District Goal # 1:** Create a plan to manage and accommodate resource use and capacity over the next five years.

**District Goal #2:** Create and implement a formalized and consistent district-wide structure of Student Support Teams (SST's).

**Student Learning Goal:** QHCS Turnaround Plan-work with the District and School Assistance Center (DSAC), Quarry Hill administration and staff, district administration and the Quarry Hill

Instructional Leadership Team to ensure implementation fidelity and adequate progress of the Turnaround Plan.

**Professional Practice Goal:** Expand administrative competence and leadership skills in advocating and implementing educational improvement using informed action research, effective application of change theory, collaborative decision-making and strategic planning by completing my Doctoral program at the Fischler School of Education at Nova Southeastern University.

There were no questions for Mrs. Clarke from the Committee.

Ms. Oney provided the website address [www.mass.gov/ago/openmeeting](http://www.mass.gov/ago/openmeeting) for Committee members to access the information distributed at the Open Meeting Law Presentation and additional information.

**Public session:**

Mr. Farber opened Public Session at 7:40 p.m.

No one came forward to address the Committee.

Mr. Farber closed Public Session at 7:40 p.m.

**Review of Action Items:**

Remind public of Budget Hearing on April 11, 2018 at 6:30 p.m.

A Curriculum Subcommittee meeting will be scheduled in the near future.

It was noted that several Subcommittees will be meeting in the next few weeks.

Upcoming Regular Business Meetings are scheduled for April 11 & 25, 2018.

- **Motion by Ms. Oney to move to Executive Session under M.G.L. Chapter 30A, §21a, Purpose #2, to conduct strategy session in preparation for negotiations with non-union personnel and Purpose #3, to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining and litigation, not to return to Open Session. (Second by Mr. Lord)**
- **No discussion**
- **Roll Call Vote**

<b>Mr. Farber</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Ms. Oney</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Mr. Lord</b>	<b>Yes</b>
- **Motion carries 3-0**

Open session closed at 7:43 p.m.

Executive Session began at 7:50 p.m.

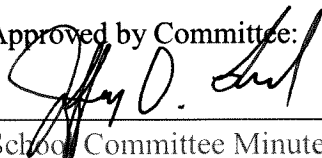
***Documentation for this meeting:***

*Agenda-Regular Business Meeting*

*Regular Business Meeting Minutes for March 11, 2018 (DRAFT)*

*Mrs. Clarke's Mid-Year Goals Update/Supporting Documentation*

Approved by Committee:



School Committee Minutes: Page 4 of 5

Regular Business Meeting: March 28, 2018

Mr. Lord, Secretary

