

**Minutes of the  
Monson School Committee  
Regular Business Meeting  
Quarry Hill Community School – School Committee Meeting Room  
November 29, 2017**

**Present:** Chair Joshua Farber; Vice Chair Joel Keller; Secretary Jeff Lord; Committee Member Patricia Oney

**Also Present:** Superintendent Cheryl Clarke; Director of Business & Facilities Don Smith; Director of Curriculum Katherine Watts; Director of Counseling Robert Bardwell; Director of Student Services Suzanne Morneau; Interim Principal Paige Bernat (QHCS); Principal Mary Cieplik (GVMS); Principal William Metzger (MHS); and Interim Dean of Students Katie Czarniecki

Absent: Committee Member Michelle Heroux and Recording Secretary Karen Methe

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

Mr. Farber called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

Granite Valley Middle School Student Representatives, Olivia Chrzan and Molly Szado, read the Mission and Vision Statements.

**Announcements:**

December 7, 2017 - GVMS and MHS-Winter Concert and Art Show at GVMS

December 11, 2017 – Junior Varsity and Varsity Fall Athletics Awards Banquet at GVMS

**Recognition:**

Ms. Bernat and Ms. Czarniecki gave an overview of student work from grades PK, 2, 3 and Specials that was displayed in the School Committee Room.

Ms. Oney spoke of her experiences at the annual Massachusetts Association of School Committees (MASC) Annual Conference held recently in Hyannis. She provided Committee members information on the individual workshops she attended.

**Minutes:**

- **Motion by Mr. Keller to approve the October 11, 2017 minutes of the Working Meeting as submitted. (Second by Ms. Oney)**
- **No discussion**
- **Motion carries 4-0**
  
- **Motion by Mr. Keller to approve the October 11, 2017 minutes of the Regular Business Meeting as submitted. (Second by Ms. Oney)**

- **No discussion**
- **Motion carries 4-0**
  
- **Motion by Mr. Keller to approve the October 25, 2017 minutes of the Working Meeting as submitted. (Second by Ms. Oney)**
- **No discussion**
- **Motion carries 4-0**
  
- **Motion by Mr. Keller to approve the October 25, 2017 minutes of the Regular Business Meeting as submitted. (Second by Ms. Oney)**
- **No discussion**
- **Motion carries 3-1 (Mr. Farber abstained from vote)**

**Student Representative Reports:**

GVMS-Olivia Chrzan and Molly Szado

School-wide field trip to Eastfield Cinemas to view the movie *Wonder* based on the New York Times best seller book about a boy with facial differences that mainstreams into a public school setting.

The Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT) program will begin on Monday, November 29, 2017. This program is run through the Counseling Department to help students make healthy choices and good decisions in their lives.

**Old Business:**

Mr. Smith reviewed the status of the bus and van transportation bids, noting there were no bids for the bus transportation and depending on what is received, bids for Special Education van transportation will be opened on Monday.

**Superintendent's Report:**

Mrs. Clarke summarized the district-wide events that occurred since the Committee last met in October highlighting the Veteran's Day Assembly held each year at GVMS, College Application Celebration Assembly with Mascot Madness at MHS, a vocabulary parade and pumpkin carving contest held at QHCS.

The Special Education Parent Advisory Council met and is increasing in the number of parents attending.

The MADE After-School Program will begin the second session on January 11, 2018 with a variety of activities to choose from.

October 30, 2017 was the first "snow" day due to wide spread power outages.

Mrs. Clarke reviewed the new hires in the district.

The Administrative Leadership Team (ALT) has begun preliminary work on the budget. In addition, they are participating in in-house professional development, working on the inclusive practice modules through the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE).

Mrs. Clarke is also facilitating some refresher training on calibration of teacher goal evidence.

**New Business:**

Mrs. Clarke reviewed a detailed PowerPoint presentation explaining what the Next Generation MCAS test looks like versus the Legacy test. Mrs. Watts and Mr. Wyman, DSAC Data

Specialist, were also present to answer any questions regarding the presentation. Mrs. Clarke outlined the computer-based testing schedule by grade level, reviewed changes to the Achievement Levels, interpreting the results, and the percentage of students meeting or exceeding expectations in all areas and grades. She spoke of the district's strengths and weaknesses and what is being done to address those areas of weakness. A question and answer period followed the presentation.

Mrs. Watts talked about the Professional Development for Frameworks and Standards Competitive Grant #144 in the amount of \$20,000 and how the work of this grant connects with Monson Public Schools. Addressed next was the Early Literacy Grant Grades K-3 Competitive State Grant #734 in the amount of \$52,000.

**Business and Facilities Report:**

Mr. Smith spoke about the variance which is currently -31,000 and also provided a capital request update noting that he will have the information updated for the next Finance Subcommittee meeting.

**Subcommittee & Liaison Reports:**

**Finance Subcommittee:**

Met earlier this evening. Mr. Keller mentioned the current variance report is -\$32,000 adding that everything is in now including all variables mentioned by Mrs. Clarke. Referencing the School Choice numbers and budget put together by the Administrative Leadership Team (ALT), Mr. Keller noted that \$180,000 of the funds have been moved into this budget leaving approximately \$39,000 remaining. Stating that the budget is tight, Mr. Keller noted that there cannot be any other surprises. There was discussion regarding the costs of repairs at Quarry Hill outlined in the report from the engineering firm. Initial FY19 budget timeline was discussed. Transportation bids were discussed. The food service bid will go out in January 2018 as previously planned.

**Facilities and Long-Term Planning:**

No report

**Human Resources and Negotiations:**

No report

**Curriculum:**

No report

Ms. Oney, liaison to the high school's Counseling Advisory Council, thanked Mr. Bardwell for inviting her to the meeting and spoke about the two representatives from Springfield Technical Community College (STCC) that provided information about the high school students that attend programs at STCC. They provided statistics on student progress and how they are interacting in the college setting. Ms. Oney noted that she was grateful to gain knowledge about the program.

**Public session:**

Mr. Farber opened Public Session at 8:24 p.m.

Amelia Leonard, no address provided, mother of 3 home schooled students, and caregiver to her niece, who participates in a virtual school program, addressed the Committee regarding a portion of the current Home School Policy IHBG. After detailed information was provided to Committee members, Mr. Farber advised that the Policy Subcommittee would review the Policy information and follow up with Ms. Leonard after that meeting. Mr. Farber closed Public Session at 8:31 p.m.

**Review of Action Items:**

- Subcommittee meetings need to be scheduled.
- There was discussion regarding the procedure of scheduling Subcommittee meetings.
- The next Regular Business meetings will be scheduled for December 20, 2017 and January 10, 24, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.
- Finance Subcommittee meeting will be scheduled for December 20, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.

There is no need for Executive Session.

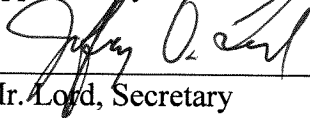
- **Motion by Mr. Keller to adjourn Open Session. (Second by Ms. Oney)**
- **No discussion**
- **Roll Call Vote**  
**Mr. Lord     Yes**  
**Mr. Keller    Yes**  
**Ms. Oney     Yes**  
**Mr. Farber    Yes**
- **Motion carries 4-0**

Open session closed at 8:38 p.m.

***Documentation for this meeting:***  
*Agenda-Regular Business Meeting*  
*MCAS 2017 PowerPoint Presentation*

***Distributed at Meeting:***  
*N/A*

Approved by Committee:

  
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Mr. Lord, Secretary