

**Minutes of the  
Monson School Committee  
Regular Business Meeting  
Quarry Hill Community School – School Committee Meeting Room  
February 8, 2017**

**Present:** Chair Peter Sauriol; Vice Chair Joshua Farber; Secretary Patricia Oney; Committee Member Joel Keller

**Also Present:** Director of Business and Facilities Don Smith; Director of Curriculum Katherine Watts; Director of Guidance Robert Bardwell; Principals Jennifer Beaudry (QHCS), Mary Cieplik (GVMS), William Metzger (MHS); Dean of Students Jack Champagne (GVMS) and Recording Secretary Karen Methe

**Absent:** Superintendent Cheryl Clarke and Committee Member Ed Maia

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

Mr. Sauriol called the meeting to order at 7:34 p.m.

Ms. Oney read the **Mission & Vision Statements**.

**Announcements:**

None

**Recognition:**

Mrs. Boucher and Ms. Cawley, Grade 8 Science and English Language Arts teachers, respectively, at Granite Valley Middle School provided an overview of the activities being done in both Science and Reading classes. Mrs. Boucher stated that she attended a conference over the summer with Discovery Education and one of the topics discussed was how to introduce more literacy across the curriculum and bring novels into science, math and history classrooms. Science classes have recently completed the Earth and Space Science unit focusing on the sun, earth and moon systems. The novel "*Life as We Knew It*", about an apocalyptic event as seen through the eyes of a sixteen year old girl, has been introduced to students. Student science projects were displayed and distributed.

Ms. Cawley noted that her role was to support reading class students by focusing on the character's journey through the story after the event and how the setting affects the impact of the characters decision making, all of which aligns with the Common Core. Ms. Cawley also distributed sample assignments, explaining, in detail to the Committee and audience, all aspects of assignment expectations.

**Minutes:**

- **Motion by Mr. Keller to approve the January 25, 2017 minutes of the Regular Business Meeting as submitted. (Second by Mr. Farber)**
- **Mr. Farber asked that public comments (Lines 97-113) be redacted and replaced with only noting whether the person speaking was against or in support of the proposal of a single color graduation gown.**
- **There was a brief discussion which, upon conclusion, consensus was that the minutes would be accepted as amended.**
- **No further discussion**
- **Motion carries 4-0**
  
- **Motion by Mr. Keller to approve the January 25, 2017 minutes of the Working Meeting as submitted by Ms. Oney. (Second by Mr. Farber)**
- **No discussion**
- **Motion carries 4-0**

### **Student Representative Reports:**

#### **Emily Roberts (GVMS)**

The combined Character Education and Student of the Month (SOM) assembly was held on February 3, 2017. The character trait presented was Flexibility and SOM recipients were:

Grade 5: Ciara Monaghan and Aiden Simpkins

Grade 6: Maggie Ronaldson and Khushal Badshah

Grade 7: Delia Papesh and Kyle McCray

Grade 8: Leanna Craven and Ben Coderre

Specials: Deanna Aldrich and Cody Blackwell

Weather permitting the rescheduled date for Pasta and Possibilities will be February 13, 2017.

Dinner is served from 5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m., tickets are \$8 for adults and \$5 for students.

Following the fundraiser an informative presentation about the high school will be held in the auditorium. Proceeds from the fundraiser help offset the cost of the Grade 8 field trip to New York City.

Spirit Week will be held February 13-17, 2017 with many fun themed days and activities, culminating with a students versus faculty dodgeball tournament.

#### **Marley Nissenbaum (MHS)**

The annual Winter Carnival was held February 3, 2017 consisting of many games and activities. She noted that the junior class won the hallway decorating and poster contests. There was a volleyball game between the senior class and staff members, with the staff being victorious this year. Topping off Winter Carnival fun was a dance, sponsored by Student Council, on Saturday, February 4, 2017.

Grade 8 student tours of the high school had to be postponed due to weather-related school cancellation, will be rescheduled.

Biology MCAS testing took place this week.

The boys swim team won the division and will be competing in Western Mass finals this weekend.

### **Superintendent's Report:**

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None

**Agenda Item #10 New Business a. was moved to this point of the meeting.**

Mr. Metzger thanked the members of his School Council and proceeded to present a thorough PowerPoint of the Monson High School Improvement Plan (SIP).

He highlighted the three Goals and provided a detailed explanation of each one, which included objectives, action steps, timeline, persons responsible, outcome and, if applicable, any budget implication(s).

Goal #1: To increase the technology curriculum and offerings in anticipation of a possible transition to a one to one school.

Goal # 2: Establish policies and procedures to ensure the use of data driven instruction and decision making.

Goal # 3: To enhance and align the math curriculum to maximize success for all students and to close the achievement gap in underrepresented groups.

A short question and answer period followed.

Mrs. Cieplik presented the School Improvement Plan for Granite Valley Middle School. She thanked her School Council members for their participation. Mrs. Cieplik stated that all the goals of her SIP were tied to the 2016-2019 Strategic Plan and thanked Mrs. Clarke for her leadership of the district.

Mrs. Cieplik then presented her SIP and provided a detailed explanation of each goal, which included objectives, action steps, timeline, persons responsible, outcome and, if applicable, any budget implication(s).

Goal #1: Improve student academic achievement in math by 15%.

Goal #2: Increase the number of students reading at grade level by 15%.

Goal #3: Address the social and emotional needs of students and staff through programming.

A short question and answer period followed.

Mrs. Beaudry presented the SIP for Quarry Hill Community School next. She began by thanking the members of her Student Council for their time and collaborative approach.

During the presentation of her SIP Mrs. Beaudry also provided a detailed explanation of each goal, which included objectives, action steps, timeline, persons responsible, outcome and, if applicable, any budget implication(s).

Goal #1: Through networking, inquiry, reflection and collaboration, Quarry Hill will provide student specific supports, interventions and enrichment informed by data to identify and address student specific needs.

Goal #2: Quarry Hill will establish a school culture with a common vision and purpose to support the school's focus on improving academic and social outcomes for all students.

Goal #3: Quarry Hill will develop curriculum and integrate technology to support and develop digital literacy.

Mrs. Beaudry distributed an informational packet of Key Turnaround Practices Indicators and Continuum.

A short question and answer period followed.

The Committee would like time to review the information presented and formulate any further questions they may have.

**Business and Facilities Report:**

Mr. Smith stated that work continues on the FY18 budget process. The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) Net School Spending number is being discussed and information will be ready for presentation in accordance with the budget calendar.

**Subcommittee & Liaison Reports:**

**Goals and Mandates Update:**

**Finance:**

The subcommittee met earlier this evening.

Topics of discussion included the FY18 budget with Mr. Keller noting that Mrs. Clarke, Mr. Smith and the Administrative Leadership Team (ALT) continue their work on the budget and he hopes first drafts of the budget will be ready for review next week or early the following week. Chapter 70 revenue figures were discussed in addition to Net School Spending figure and expenses for next year.

Capital budget requests were discussed. Mr. Keller suggested that Mr. Smith email that information to the Committee, noting there are approximately \$60,000 in capital budget requests next year and in following years (2019-2020-2021) those requests could increase up to \$90,000-\$140,000 contingent upon work needed at Quarry Hill.

Mr. Keller will type the action items and distribute to Committee members.

**Curriculum:** No report. Upon approval of the School Improvement Plans, a meeting will be scheduled.

**Policy/Diversity:** The legal opinion from school counsel has been received and a meeting will be scheduled.

**Facilities and Long-Term Planning:** No report.

**Human Resources/Negotiations:** No report. A meeting will be scheduled soon.

**Unfinished Business:**

A joint Working Meeting was held earlier this evening with the Parks and Recreation Commission. Mr. Sauriol stated he felt it was a productive meeting with proactive communication in regard to shared areas and common interests (i.e. pool, fields, etc.). Fundraising ideas were also discussed.

**Public session:**

Mr. Sauriol opened Public Session at 8:52 p.m.

No one from the public came forward to address the Committee, however, Mr. Bardwell distributed pencils in honor of National Counseling Week and the announcement of the recent name change to Counseling Department.

Mr. Sauriol closed Public Session at 8:53 p.m.

**New Business:**

Though this Agenda item was moved to an earlier time in this meeting, Mr. Keller stated that he'd like to make a formal and ongoing request to discuss DESE reports as well as understand

where the district is with District and School Assistance Centers (DSAC) and how the components tie to the budget. He requested a Working Meeting be scheduled.

**Action Items:**

Review and approve School Improvement Plans

DESE reports

Schedule Policy Subcommittee meeting for February 13, 2017 at 5:00 p.m.

Mr. Smith will email capital budget request information to Committee members.

Review of initial test sample results of data from Granite Valley Middle School, as referenced in the School Improvement Plan, will be charged to the Curriculum Subcommittee.

- **Motion by Mr. Keller to adjourn Open Session. (Second by Mr. Farber)**
- **Motion carries 4-0**

Open session closed at 8:59 p.m.

***Documentation for this meeting: (sent as email packet)***

*Agenda-Regular Business Meeting*

*Agenda-Joint Meeting with Parks & Recreation Commission*

*January 25, 2017-Regular Business Meeting-Draft Minutes*

*Town of Monson Pool Use Agreement-2014-2016*

*Town of Monson Pool Use Agreement-2013-2014*

*Subcommittee Goals and Mandates*

*Subcommittee Liaisons*

***Distributed at meeting:***

*Map Project (Quiz Grade)-Grading Rubric*

*Character Analysis Rigor "Skeleton"*

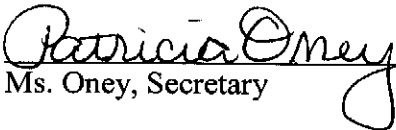
*Monson High School Improvement Plan*

*Granite Valley Middle School Improvement Plan*

*Quarry Hill Community School Improvement Plan*

*MHS Counseling Department Engraved Pencils*

Approved by Committee:

  
Ms. Oney, Secretary