

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

Present: Chair Peter Sauriol; Vice Chair Joshua Farber; Secretary Patricia Oney; Committee Members Joel Keller and Ed Maia

Also Present: Superintendent Cheryl Clarke; Director of Business and Facilities Don Smith; Director of Curriculum Katherine Watts; Principals Jennifer Beaudry (QHCS), Mary Cieplik (GVMS), William Metzger (MHS); Monson Teachers Association (MTA) Vice President Lynn Hope and Recording Secretary Karen Methé

Absent:
N/A

Note: This meeting was video-recorded.

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

Mr. Farber read the Mission Statement and Vision Statement.

Agenda item #10 a. – New Business was moved to this point in the meeting.

Mrs. Beaudry presented a PowerPoint regarding Quarry Hill's Accountability Status as a Level 3 school. Present from the District and School Assistance Center (DSAC) were Donna Harlan, Eileen Jachym and Joe Wyman. Topics discussed included Student Growth Percentile (SGP), Composite Performance Index (CPI) for English Language Arts and Math, and Progress and Performance Index (PPI). Mr. Wyman explained at length what CPI and PPI meant. Outlined was the focus of the work currently being performed at QHCS. Ms. Jachym spoke of the number of people and the amount of time that DSAC representatives are in the building and the strategies used to guide and improve classroom teaching. Ms. Harlan provided information on the upcoming Level 3 Turnaround Site Visit scheduled for May 3, 2017 with American Institute for Research. She discussed the purpose, school responsibilities and research deliverables in conjunction with this visit. A very detailed, lengthy and specific question and answer period followed. Mrs. Clarke noted that specific assessment data was included with the school's Accountability Status information.

Announcements:

The Parent Teacher Student Association (PTSA) is sponsoring the Brain Show, an interactive game show, on March 30, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. in the Granite Valley Middle School auditorium. Students will be participating throughout the day with Grades K-4 attending as well. Mrs. Clarke thanked the PTSA for their sponsorship of this fun family event.

The Athletic Boosters will be hosting their annual adult Comedy Show Fundraiser on April 4, 2017, 7:00 p.m. at Granite Valley Middle School. Tickets will be on sale at the door.

April 4, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. will be this year's National Honor Society Induction.

PTSA's monthly meeting is scheduled for April 5, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. at QHCS.

The SeedMA college savings event continues for kindergarten families on April 6, 2017, featuring Clifford the Big Red Dog. Mrs. Clarke thanked Mrs. Beaudry and Mr. Bardwell for their work on this initiative.

The Athletic Boosters Breakfast with the Easter Bunny will be held on April 8, 2017, 8:00 a.m. at Memorial Hall.

Coffee and Conversation with Mrs. Clarke will be held on April 10, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. in her office. Parents are encouraged to attend to share ideas or questions they may have regarding the district.

Return to Agenda item #10 a. – New Business

Mrs. Cieplik continued with a PowerPoint presentation regarding Granite Valley's Accountability Status as a Level 2 school. Several of the same topics were covered such as CPI, SGP and PPI, in addition to Transitional Performance Measures and Action Steps to Improve that outlined data, feedback, technology, professional development and social/emotional. Following the presentation was a brief question and answer period. Upon completion, Mrs. Cieplik thanked Mrs. Clarke for her leadership and the staff of GVMS for all their hard work.

Mr. Metzger followed with his PowerPoint presentation regarding the high school's Accountability Status as a Level 2 school, citing they are above state averages in several areas. The class of 2018 decreased MCAS failure rates, annual comparisons on students scoring advanced on MCAS, the addition of Boot Camp interventions for English Language Arts and Biology, noting the improved scores from Math Boot Camp, and areas of growth. Following the presentation was a brief question and answer period.

Mr. Sauriol offered his thanks and gratitude to Mrs. Clarke and the staff district-wide for their dedicated work.

Mr. Sauriol requested a short recess at 8:21 p.m.

The meeting resumed at 8:27 p.m.

Minutes:

- **Motion by Mr. Farber to approve the March 1, 2017 minutes of the Regular Business Meeting as submitted. (Second by Ms. Oney)**
- **Mr. Farber requested that lines fifty-five through sixty be omitted from the final minutes as there were no Student Representative reports for this meeting.**
- **No further discussion**
- **Motion carries 4-1 (Mr. Keller abstained)**

- **Motion by Mr. Keller to approve the March 15, 2017 minutes of the Regular Business Meeting as submitted. (Second by Mr. Farber)**

- **No discussion**
- **Motion carries 5-0**

Superintendent's Report:

Mrs. Clarke noted that the FY18 budget is moving forward.

MCAS testing will take place at QHCS and GVMS next Tuesday. Mrs. Clarke thanked Mr. Schubach, Mrs. St. Marie and the building tech assistants for getting the infrastructure ready for testing. She also thanked the administration and teachers for preparing students.

Business and Facilities Report:

Work on the FY18 budget continues, Mr. Smith noted that the Forecast will follow.

The final stage of the structural engineering inspection at QHCS will take place on April 6, 2017. A Facilities and Long Term Planning Subcommittee meeting will be scheduled to review all aspects of the results.

Mr. Keller asked for an update on the variance. Mr. Smith replied that it was just starting for the new month and estimates he will have it done by early next week.

Subcommittee & Liaison Reports:

Goals and Mandates Update:

Facilities and Long-Term Planning:

A meeting will be scheduled after the final structural engineering inspection on April 6, 2017.

Curriculum:

A meeting has been scheduled for April 3, 2017 at 3:00 p.m.

Human Resources/Negotiations:

A meeting was held on March 22, 2017. The main topic of discussion was the role of the School Committee with regard to contracts. Mr. Sauriol noted that more information will be available as the Subcommittee goes forward with their discussion.

Policy/Diversity:

Mr. Farber advised Committee members that a revised copy of Policy JLD was emailed to them that included the change in wording as recommended.

- **Motion by Mr. Farber to move the Counseling Policy to a third and final read. (Second by Mr. Maia)**
- **No discussion**
- **Motion carries 5-0**

Mrs. Clarke noted that she continues to work on the Substance Abuse Prevention Policy draft.

Finance:

Mr. Keller stated that the Subcommittee has met twice and the FY18 budget discussion is ongoing. Several Committee members met with the Board of Selectmen (BOS) on March 28,

2017 where they were presented with a \$10.6 million budget number which he said was lower than the amount they were originally given to work with. He requested a Finance Subcommittee Meeting, followed by a Regular Business Meeting, be scheduled for April 5, 2017. Mr. Keller feels that the Subcommittee will be ready to make a formal recommendation to the Committee.

Unfinished Business:

Mr. Sauriol thanked the Committee members that were in attendance at the BOS meeting last evening. A discussion followed with individual Committee members sharing their comments and concerns. Mr. Keller stated that within the current operating budget being proposed, the School Department should not have to be responsible for the \$240,000 assessment earmarked for the newly formed charter school in Sturbridge. Mr. Farber added that there is no anticipation that the creation of the charter school or selection of any students or children from Monson to attend that school will reduce the costs of this district. Mr. Maia and Ms. Oney noted that they were encouraged with the collaborative effort between the Superintendent, Town Administration and the Board of Selectmen working together to form the budget. Mr. Maia encouraged parents to research the data before deciding to pull their students from the district. Mr. Sauriol addressed two points: this year's budget and strategically thinking and brainstorming three to five years out, noting the importance of keeping them separate. There was discussion that though the enrollment is decreasing, it is not necessarily due to the district's education; enrollment has decreased statewide. Further discussion ensued.

New Business:

Mrs. Clarke presented the proposed FY18 school calendar, outlining any revisions that had been proposed, noting that all changes had been reviewed by the MTA.

- **Motion by Mr. Maia to accept the 2017-2018 school calendar as proposed. (Second by Ms. Oney)**
- **Discussion followed**
- **Motion carries 5-0**

Public session:

Mr. Sauriol opened Public Session at 9:02 p.m.

Trish Kustra, 138 Wales Road, addressed the Committee with a budget concern.

Lynn Hope, 151 Bumstead Road, stated she was the MTA Vice-President and asked to confirm the start date on the 2017-2018 school calendar.

Mr. Sauriol closed Public Session at 9:06 p.m.

Action Items:

Schedule Finance Subcommittee and Regular Business Meetings for April 5, 2017 at 6:00 and 7:00 p.m. respectively.

Change the April 12, 2017 Working Meeting Agenda to policy discussion followed by the Regular Business Meeting.

Change the April 26, 2017 Working and Regular Business Meetings to Tuesday, April 25, 2017. The Working Meeting Agenda for the new date will be revised to MASC Follow-Up Continued.

- **Motion by Ms. Oney to adjourn Open Session. (Second by Mr. Farber)**

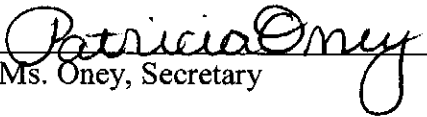
- **Motion carries 5-0**

Open session closed at 9:15 p.m.

Documentation for this meeting:
Agenda-Regular Business Meeting

Distributed at meeting:
2017-2018 Draft School Calendar

Approved by Committee:


Ms. Oney, Secretary