

**Minutes of the
Monson School Committee
Regular Business Meeting
Quarry Hill Community School – School Committee Meeting Room
April 11, 2018**

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

Also Present: Superintendent Cheryl Clarke; Director of Business & Facilities Don Smith; Director of Curriculum Katherine Watts; QHCS Interim Principal Paige Berna and Recording Secretary Karen Methé

Absent: Vice Chair Joel Keller and Committee Member Michelle Heroux

Note: This meeting was video-recorded.

Mr. Farber called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

Ms. Oney read the Mission and Vision Statements.

Announcements:

Mrs. Clarke gave a reminder that tomorrow night, April 12, 2018, at 6:30 p.m. in the Granite Valley Middle School auditorium she and the Parent Focus Group will be presenting information regarding the future of the district. She encouraged everyone to attend to gain knowledge of the work that was done to gather all the information, ask questions, voice concerns and options offered for moving forward. Child care will be provided, free of charge, by members of the high school's National Honor Society.

Spring break is April 16-20, 2018, returning to school on Monday, April 23, 2018.

Recognition:

Ms. Bernat spoke about the Never Give Up, Encourage Others and Do Your Best (NED) PK-4 return assembly. Entitled Kindness Adventure, students were told about schools in other countries that had dirt floors, no paper, chalk or writing utensils. Ms. Bernat stated that students thoroughly enjoyed their presenter Cosmo and were engaged throughout the assembly. It was estimated that through proceeds from retail purchases, Quarry Hill will be able to continue the Pay It Forward initiative to two other schools.

In mid-October QHCS was awarded a \$52,000 Early Literacy Grant grades K-3. Ms. Bernat noted that a part of this grant includes a consultant available to work with teachers. Teachers have the opportunity to schedule specific times to meet, or receive model lessons in their classrooms. A PowerPoint of student work being done through the grant was presented by Kindergarten teacher Ms. Moroney, focusing on the objectives from each grade.

Minutes:

- **Motion by Ms. Oney to approve the March 28, 2018 minutes of the Regular Business Meeting as submitted. (Second by Mr. Lord)**

- **Brief discussion on the usefulness of “no report” language used in the absence of subcommittee meetings held and/or student representatives at the table. Mr. Lord stated that from a historical perspective it is beneficial to accurately reflect that information. Ms. Oney agreed. Mr. Farber noted that it was a way to show there was a chance to speak.**
- **No further discussion**
- **Motion carries 3-0**

Student Representative Reports:

GVMS-Olivia Chrzan and Molly Szado

No report

Representatives not in attendance.

MHS- Haley Fennyery and Marley Nissenbaum

No report

Representatives not in attendance.

Agenda item #10-New Business-b. Summerfest-Steve Slozak was moved to this time in the meeting.

An informational Summerfest packet was distributed to the Committee members. Mr. Slozak was present to review the information and request approval for fireworks to be held on the grounds of Quarry Hill Community School, as done in previous years. The next request was to allow the beer garden on school grounds as part of the fireworks. Once approved by this Committee, Mr. Slozak will then go to the Selectmen for approval of a one-day beer license. There was a short question and answer period that followed regarding the beer garden and training of the servers. Mr. Slozak specified that all servers were tip certified as required by the Summerfest Committee.

- **Motion by Ms. Oney to approve the request to utilize school grounds on June 23, 2018, with a rain date of June 24, 2018, for Summerfest fireworks as presented. (Second by Mr. Lord)**
- **Mr. Lord requested a friendly amendment stating that permission will not exist without appropriate insurance. Mr. Slozak made reference to the language as such in the information packet.**
- **Short discussion**
- **Ms. Oney accepted the friendly amendment.**
- **No further discussion**
- **Motion carries 3-0**

- **Motion by Mr. Lord to authorize the set-up of a beer garden as detailed in a letter to the School Committee dated April 11, 2018. (Second by Ms. Oney)**
- **No discussion**
- **Motion carries 3-0**

Mr. Slozak thanked the Committee for their continued support of Summerfest.

Subcommittee & Liaison Reports:

Policy/Diversity Subcommittee:

The Subcommittee met earlier this evening. Proposed language for two medication administration policies was discussed.

Home Schooling parameters were reviewed. Many home school families were in attendance, posing questions and concerns regarding the deletion of current policy language regarding student participation in extra-curricular activities and specials classes. After lengthy discussion, the Subcommittee is still reviewing this language and no formal recommendation has been brought to the full Committee at this time. Another date will be set at the end of tonight's meeting.

Finance Subcommittee:

Mr. Farber stated that the Subcommittee met with the Town Finance Committee on April 9, 2018 for further discussion of priorities and challenges of the FY19 budget. He noted that the meeting went very well. Mr. Lord commented on the cordial interaction of both Committees.

Curriculum Subcommittee:

No report at this time. Ms. Oney noted that Mr. Lord is also on the Human Resources and Negotiations Subcommittee and at a critical time where he needs to prioritize those meetings. She will be in touch with Mrs. Watts and get a meeting scheduled at a future date.

Facilities and Long-Term Planning Subcommittee:

No report

Human Resources and Negotiations Subcommittee:

No report

Superintendent's Report:

Future work continues with the Parent Focus Group. Mrs. Clarke met separately with Student Focus Groups, grades 1&2, 3&4, 5&6 and 7&8. Their concerns, ideas and suggestions will be considered in the information presented at the April 12, 2018 informational evening.

Mrs. Clarke, the Fire and Police Chiefs, Building Inspector, School Resource Officer (SRO), Mrs. Loglisci and Mr. Smith all met for a meeting of safety procedures as part of the A.L.I.C.E. protocol in place in the district. There will be continued discussion and work on this initiative.

Mrs. Clarke also met with Sergeant Bailey (SRO), QHCS Interim Principal Ms. Bernat and the counseling staff, to strategize on the best methods of rolling out the A.L.I.C.E. protocol at the elementary level.

Business and Facilities Report:

Mr. Smith reported that the capital work requests have been submitted to and approved by the town. Bids are currently being gathered for the necessary work.

The forecast will be posted in the near future.

Mr. Smith noted that the gap between net school spending and the foundation budget continues to widen due to the effects of enrollment in the calculations. A long-term implication is a decrease in Chapter 70 funding that should be anticipated in future budgets.

Old Business:

The schools' budgets have been level funded since 2009, 11 cycles. A 7.4% increase is statistically level at .67% per year when averaged over 11 budgets. During the budget presentation to the Town's Finance Committee, their justification for level funding was due to decreased enrollment, but a level services budget hasn't been considered since 2008 and the schools have always had to back into a level funded budget by eliminating level services year over year, forcing school administration to finance contractual expense increases mainly through the elimination of positions.

New Business:

Mrs. Clarke distributed a revised draft of the 2018-2019 school calendar, explaining the one change that was requested.

- **Motion by Mr. Lord to approve the Monson Public Schools 2018-2019 draft school calendar as proposed. (Second by Ms. Oney)**
- **No discussion**
- **Roll Call Vote**
- **Mr. Farber Yes**
- **Ms. Oney Yes**
- **Mr. Lord Yes**

Public session:

Mr. Farber opened Public Session at 8:04 p.m.

Noah Leonard, son of Amelia Leonard, 225 Moulton Hill Road, spoke on behalf of the MADE Program.

Mr. Farber closed Public Session at 8:06 p.m.

Review of Action Items:

Mrs. Methé will email Policy Subcommittee members for available dates to schedule a meeting. Send the revised draft copies of the Naloxone and Student Administration of Medications policies to Committee members.

Reminder of April 23, 2018 Human Resources and Negotiations Subcommittee meeting.

- **Motion by Mr. Lord to move to Executive Session under M.G.L. Chapter 30A, §21a, Purpose #3, to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining and litigation, not to return to Open Session. (Second by Ms. Oney)**
- **No discussion**
- **Roll Call Vote**
- **Mr. Farber Yes**
- **Ms. Oney Yes**
- **Mr. Lord Yes**
- **Motion carries 3-0**

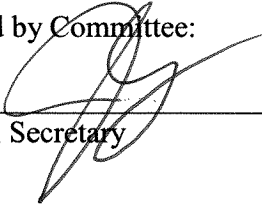
Open session closed at 8:10 p.m.

Executive Session began at 8:15 p.m.

Documentation for this meeting:
Agenda-Regular Business Meeting

*Distributed at Meeting:
2018-2019 Draft School Calendar*

Approved by Committee:



Mr. Lord, Secretary