

## REGULAR SESSION MINUTES

August 27, 2015

A meeting of the Swampscott School Committee was held in room B208 at Swampscott High School commencing at 7:00 p.m. with the following members present: Ms. Carin Marshall, Chairman, Ms. Suzanne Wright and Ms. Gargi Cooper. Also Present: Ms. Pamela Angelakis, Superintendent of Schools and Ms. Lois Longin, Director of Curriculum and Instruction and Mr. Evan Katz, School Business Administrator. Ms. Amy OConnor, Vice Chairman and Mr. Ted Delano were absent.

### PUBLIC COMMENT

There was none.

### COMMITTEE COMMENT

Ms. Cooper commented on a recent NY Times article regarding parents opting out of state testing. She thought it was an interesting article and wondered if any parents in our District had requested to opt out. Ms. Angelakis explained there was a big push through the MTA to do away with high stakes testing and she expected there to be future discussions.

Ms. Wright attended the recent fall sports meeting and said it was great to see the new Athletic Director in attendance and sending out her expectations in a clear manner. She also mentioned she had been looking at the website recently and thought it would be good if Ms. Angelakis could update the Superintendent's Page. Ms. Angelakis stated she had been working on mandatory training and procurement on the site but would get to that as well.

Ms. Marshall was happy to be starting a new school year and reminded all of the opening day convocation next week.

Ms. Longin reminded all that August 31<sup>st</sup> was the teachers' first day back as well as the A.L.I.C.E. training. She advised all that the building would be closed to the public during the training.

Ms. Marshall further mentioned the ongoing construction at Clarke and stated the information from the school has been excellent. Ms. Angelakis added she had been in discussion with the Traffic Committee about crossing guards and they are working on coverage there as well

### CONSENT AGENDA

#### MOTION:

It was moved by Ms. Wright and seconded by Ms. Cooper to accept Consent Agenda containing the meeting minutes of July 30, 2015 and Warrant #'s 16-06, 16-07 and 16-08.

Ms. Cooper questioned the warrants for supplies and brought up the discussion of working with other Districts for better pricing. Mr. Katz said supplies work under a state bid. Ms. Cooper brought it up where Mr. Katz was new and the issue had been discussed in the past.

#### VOTE ON MOTION:

The motion passed 3-0.

### SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

#### Big Blue Bargains

Ms. Angelakis welcomed Jen Nisbet, Gretchen Wollerscheid, Maryanne McDermott and Julie Coleman and invited them to come forward to give an update on Big Blue Bargains. Ms. Wollerscheid said the project was the brainchild of Kristin Dishman and has been very successful and has allowed them to raise \$60,000 over the past five years to be put back into the District. She added they can always use volunteers. Ms. Nisbet added that any Swampscott resident with someone associated with the school can volunteer. Ms. Nisbet gave an overview of how

the shop runs and the items which they will accept. Ms. Angelakis thanked them for all they do and for coming in to give an update.

### **School Committee Protocols**

Ms. Angelakis stated she was working on the calendar and hoped it could be an annual thing. There was discussion on waiting until after any elections in May. Ms. Wright agreed that might make more sense and it was agreed to look at the issue at the end of April or early May.

### **Donation – Granite Bench – HS by Michaels Family**

Ms. Angelakis explained that the Michaels Family wished to donate a granite bench in his honor to the High School. She explained that it would look the same as the others which have been placed there.

### **MOTION:**

It was moved by Ms. Cooper and seconded by Ms. Wright to accept a donation of a granite bench from the Michaels Family. The motion passed 3-0.

### **Donation – Granite Bench – MS by PTO Class of 2015**

Ms. Angelakis explained the second bench was being placed at the Middle School in honor of retiring Administrative Assistant Pat Moore. Ms. Wright stated she would be less concerned with it matching those placed at the high school and should match more to the outside of the Middle School. There was discussion on this and Ms. Angelakis stated she would come back with some more information. Ms. Marshall stated approval would be held aside for more information.

### **Strategic Plan**

Ms. Angelakis presented a brief power point to share the progress on the strategic plan to date. She gave an overview of the priorities of the plan. Ms. Wright stated it was great and exciting to see all the ideas funneled into the plan and added she was excited to see what the action items will be. Ms. Angelakis stated she has been working on the action items and hoped to have them for the next Committee meeting. Ms. Longin spoke about her recent attendance at a mental health conference which was sponsored through the SEEM Collaborative which tied back to one of Ms. Angelakis' priorities in her plan. Ms. Angelakis stated she would keep the Committee updated.

Ms. Angelakis concluded her report.

### **BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR**

#### **Driver's Education Update**

Mr. Katz commented on the Driver's Ed program run through the high school. He stated he met with Joe Bennett and felt it was time to recommend a moderate increase. He added they had checked into programs in the area and even with increasing the price to \$500 it was still a good value for the program. Ms. Marshall questioned whether the increase would be for this year. Mr. Katz stated it would go into effect after this evening. Ms. Marshall stated the increase was operational and Ms. Angelakis stated it was informational only and didn't require a vote.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Chemical Health Policy Update**

Ms. Angelakis explained the history with the Chemical Health Policy and group which was founded to look at rewriting it. She explained that any recommended change would be brought before the Policy Subcommittee. There was discussion surrounding the MIAA policy in connection with the District policy. Ms. Angelakis distributed a handout which was compiled by the Task Force as well as a page from the District handbook. There was discussion on whether that one-page document would be sufficient. Ms. Angelakis explained that the pieces which were most concerning to the Task Force were the 365 days a year and the bystander rule. Ms. Angelakis stated she felt the general consensus was more to the point the better and that her recommendation would be that the Policy Subcommittee take it up as soon as possible. Ms. Wright questioned the issue of captaincy and Ms. Angelakis felt that was an area that needed to be discussed. Ms. Angelakis felt that discussions would need to continue but that the document which came out of the Task Force was her recommendation. Ms. Marshall suggested that all read the document and forward their feedback so the Policy Subcommittee could review

comments. She also stated legal counsel would review and give their feedback. Ms. Cooper questioned whether the current policy would remain in effect for the time being, Ms. Angelakis stated it would.

Ms. Marshall requested a motion and roll call vote to adjourn into Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION:

At 8:13 p.m. it was moved by Ms. Cooper, seconded by Ms. Wright and voted by roll call vote to enter into executive session for the purpose of Collective Bargaining Strategy to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares; and to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with nonunion personnel. Ms. Marshall – yes; Ms. Wright – yes; Ms. Cooper – yes.

Respectfully submitted,



Pamela R.H. Angelakis, M.A., M:Ed.  
Superintendent of Schools  
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Date: