Berkley School Committee
Regular Meeting
March 14, 2022

AGENDA ITEM #1: CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The regular meeting of the Berkley School Committee was held at the Berkley Middle School Library on Monday, March 14, 2022. Mrs. Vincent, Secretary, called the meeting to order at 6:32 PM, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present
Daniel Fagan
Jennifer Vincent
Jilleen Solomon

Excused
Kaitlyn Robichaud
Tara Weber

Other
Melissa Ryan, Superintendent
Patricia Silvia, Executive Assistant to Supt. & SC
Jennifer Francisco, Principal, BCS
Kimberly Hebert, Principal, BMS
Andrea Porter, Business Administrator
D. Andreasen, L. Dietz

Let the record show that this meeting is being electronically recorded. If anyone in the audience wishes to electronically record this meeting, you should notify the Committee at this time. Any such recording may be subject to reasonable restrictions imposed by the Chair to the extent permitted under the Open Meeting Law. Berkley Cable recorded the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM #2: APPROVE BILLS AND PAYROLLS

Bills and payrolls were signed.

AGENDA ITEM #3: APPROVE AND SIGN MINUTES

It was moved by Mr. Fagan, seconded by Mrs. Solomon and VOTED to approve minutes of the February 14, 2022 regular meeting.

Vote: UNANIMOUS

AGENDA ITEM #4: CORRESPONDENCE AND ENCLOSURES

- Berkley School Committee meeting minutes (2/14/22)
- Principals' Reports
- Budget Expense Report (3/12/22)
- Budget Transfers (3/14/22)
- School Year Calendar Drafts, 2022/23
- Policies for 2nd reading: Establishment of Positions #3180, Sources of Applicants #3410, Appointment of Personnel #3431, Assignment & Transfer of Teachers & Other Salaried Personnel #3470, Supt. Acceptance of Resignation of Instructional personnel #3475, Student Teachers and Interns #3490, Physical and Mental Health Examinations #3510, Professional Growth for Teachers #3800, Dismissal of Professional Staff #3940, Retirement of Professional Employees #3990, Application for Position #3420, Limit on Agency Fee #3435
- Preschool Rate Proposal, 2022/23
- READS Capital Improvement Plan & Capital Reserve Fund information
- Custodial Bid Summary
- Enrollment (3/1/22)

- Somerset Berkley Regional Planning Board Study Results, February 2022 (e/copy)
- Executive session info.

ONE COPY FOLDER

- Principals' Newsletters (March 2022)
- Berkley School Committee Newsletter (February 2022)
- READS Collaborative Capital Reserve Fund & Capital Plan Approval Presentation info.
- READS Academy flyer
- Somerset Berkley Regional Planning Board Study Results, February 2022
- Letter to families about school safety procedures, 3/4/22
- Resignation letter, G. Mattos

NIGHT OF MEEETING FOLDER

- Exec. Session info.

Mrs. Ryan referenced the Somerset Berkley Regional Planning Board Study Results and other items to be addressed during the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM #5: PUBLIC INPUT

AGENDA ITEM #6: EDUCATIONAL REPORTS

AGENDA ITEM #6a: PRINCIPALS' REPORTS

BCS: Mrs. Francisco reported on the Reading Clinic February vacation challenge, MCAS preparations, online civics session, return to traditional schedules, Trimester II report cards and Kindergarten Registration.

BMS: Mrs. Hebert reported on the Camfel Production, MCAS preparations, unified sports events, Frozen Jr. production, spring sports, and grade 8 year-end events.

AGENDA ITEM #6b: CURRICULUM ACCELERATION TEAM (CAT)

The committee will meet on Thursday to finalize plans for next week's professional development day. Winter SAEBRS screenings are complete. School counselors met with Dr. McKearney to review the data and identify intervention groups.

AGENDA ITEM #7: ADMINISTRATIVE & SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPORTS

AGENDA ITEM #7a: SOMERSET BERKLEY REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE

At the upcoming meeting on Thursday, the preliminary budget and the regional planning study results will be further reviewed. The high school is moving through an accreditation process. The Little Mermaid production will be held in April.

AGENDA ITEM #8: UNFINISHED BUSINESS8

AGENDA ITEM #8a: COVID/DESE PROTOCOLS

DESE and DPH "strongly recommend students and staff continue to follow the DESE-DPH Protocols." After discussion, the School Committee agreed to continue to support the district's current status to "strongly recommend" and not require wearing of masks for individuals who test positive. Berkley's numbers remain very good at this time, with only one positive case since returning from vacation. The Committee agreed they are comfortable with the current protocol and did not feel the need to vote a change.

AGENDA ITEM #8b: POLICY READINGS

It was moved by Mrs. Solomon, seconded by Mr. Fagan and VOTED to approve 2nd readings to amend the following policies: Establishment of Positions #3180, Sources of Applicants #3410, Appointment of Personnel #3431, Assignment & Transfer of Teachers & Other Salaried Personnel #3470, Supt. Acceptance of Resignation of Instructional Personnel #3475, Student Teachers and Interns #3490, Physical and Mental Health Examinations #3510, Professional Growth for Teachers #3800, Dismissal of Professional Staff #3940, Retirement of Professional Employees #3990, and to delete Application for Position #3420, Limit on Agency Fee #3435.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS

AGENDA ITEM #8c: STUDENT TRANSPORTATION, 2022/23

Mrs. Ryan reported that for next school year, middle school bus stops will be changed to group stops. A group will be formed to review bus lists to determine new group stops. The timeline is to complete this by April vacation so bus routes can be shared with families. An appeal process will be available for families to request a bus stop change; this will be allowed only for safety issues. Once these routes are established and the appeal deadline passes, no bus stop change requests will be accepted. New start/end times for school next year and group bus stops will give afternoon buses more time to get to BCS for afternoon pick up.

AGENDA ITEM #8d: SCHOOL DEPARTMENT BUDGET 2021/22

It was moved by Mrs. Solomon, seconded by Mr. Fagan and VOTED to approve the budget transfers as presented.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS

AGENDA ITEM #8e: PROPOSED SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR, 2022/23

Mrs. Ryan reviewed Draft #1 (#2 no longer is an option). We recently learned that the state primary is Tuesday, Sept. 6, the same day as the first day of school for students in grades 1-8. Also, November 8 is an election day; however, voting numbers are expected to be light both days. Staff PD is scheduled for Thursday and Friday, September 1 and 2. Mrs. Ryan reviewed the new start/end times.

It was moved by Mr. Fagan, seconded by Mrs. Solomon and VOTED to approve the school year calendar (Draft #1) for 2022/23 as presented.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS

AGENDA ITEM #8f: READS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN & CAPITAL RESERVE FUND

A video was shown that provided additional information on the Capital Improvement Plan & Reserve Fund request from READS Collaborative.

It was moved by Mr. Fagan, seconded by Mrs. Solomon and VOTED to approve the reasons for the READS Collaborative Capital Reserve Fund as presented and the limit of $4,000,000 on the amount that may be held in reserve.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS

AGENDA ITEM #9: NEW BUSINESS

AGENDA ITEM #9a: SCHEDULE PUBLIC HEARINGS: FY '23 SCHOOL BUDGET & FY'23 SCHOOL CHOICE

It was agreed that the Annual School Budget Hearing and School Choice Hearing will be held at the April 11, 2022 School Committee meeting.

AGENDA ITEM #9b: SOUTH COAST EDUCATIONAL COLLABORATIVE LEASE

Renewal of the lease is recommended.

It was moved by Mr. Fagan, seconded by Mrs. Solomon and VOTED to extend the lease agreement with South Coast Educational Collaborative for two classrooms at BCS and two classrooms at BMS.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS

AGENDA ITEM #9c: CUSTODIAL SUPPLIES BID, 2022/23

The bid summary of custodial supplies was circulated.

It was moved by Mrs. Solomon, seconded by Mr. Fagan VOTED to approve the custodial supplies bid for 2022/23 as recommended: Land-Tek: #5, 8, 9, 13, 19, 20, 21. Pyramid: #2, 11, 15, 22. Top Notch Supply: #6, 10, 12, 14, 16, 17. WB Mason: #1, 3, 4, 18.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS

AGENDA ITEM #9d: PRESCHOOL PROGRAM RATES, 2022/23

Berkley's Preschool rates have not increased in over ten years and are the lowest in the area. Mrs. Ryan reviewed the proposal to increase the rates for the three Preschool programs we offer. The number of payments would increase from five/year to seven/year which makes the impact on the monthly cost minimal. It is recommended that the 2-day program increase to $1100/year, the 3-day program increase to $1500/year and the 5-day program increase to $2200/year. She also reported that we are looking into establishing a sliding fee scale for families that need assistance and a voucher system through PACE. She recognized Mrs. Porter and Mrs. Cogar for all their work on this proposal.

It was moved by Mrs. Solomon, seconded by Mr. Fagan and VOTED to approve the Preschool Program Rates as presented.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS

AGENDA ITEM #9e: APPOINT SUPERINTENDENT TO COLLABORATIVE BOARDS & PCC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

It was moved by Mrs. Solomon, seconded by Mr. Fagan and VOTED to:

appoint Superintendent Ryan to serve as the Berkley representative on the Board of Directors of READS Collaborative for the 2022/23 school year, in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 40, Section 4E as amended by Chapter 43 of the Acts of 2012;

appoint Superintendent Ryan to serve as a member of the Board of Directors of South Coast Educational Collaborative for the 2022/23 school year, in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 40, Section 4E as amended by Chapter 43 of the Acts of 2012; and

appoint Superintendent Ryan to serve as the Berkley representative on the PCC Board of Director's for the 2022/23 school year.

Vote: UNANIMOUS

AGENDA ITEM #10: SUPERINTENDENT'S PERSONNEL REPORT

AGENDA ITEM #10a: RESIGNATION

Geraldine Mattos, Paraprofessional, BCS

AGENDA ITEM #10b: APPOINTMENTS

Corinne McNeill, Paraprofessional, BMS
Christopher Oliver, Long-Term Substitute Teacher, BMS

AGENDA ITEM #11: EXECUTIVE SESSION

It was moved by Mrs. Solomon, seconded by Mr. Fagan and VOTED to enter Executive Session at 7:27 PM in accordance with MGL Chapter 30A, Sec. 21 to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining and/or litigation with union and non-union personnel and will return to Open Session.

VOTE: Mrs. Vincent – AYE
Mrs. Solomon – AYE
Mr. Fagan – AYE

It was moved by Mrs. Solomon, seconded by Mr. Fagan and VOTED to exit Executive Session at 7:40 PM and to return to Open Session.

VOTE: Mrs. Vincent – AYE
Mrs. Solomon – AYE
Mr. Fagan – AYE

AGENDA ITEM #12: BERKLEY TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION MEMORANDM OF AGREEMENT (MOA) & BERKLEY SCHOOLS PARAPROFESSIONALS' MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT (MOA)

It was moved by Mrs. Solomon, seconded by Mr. Fagan and VOTED to approve Berkley Teachers' Association MOA dated 3/14/22 & Berkley Schools Paraprofessionals' MOA dated 3/14/22 as presented and approved in Executive Session.

Vote: UNANIMOUS

AGENDA ITEM #13: ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Mr. Fagan, seconded by Mrs. Solomon and VOTED to adjourn open session at 7:43 PM.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Vincent, Secretary