

**Berkley School Committee
Regular Meeting
November 16, 2020**

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

The regular meeting of the Berkley School Committee was held in the Berkley Middle School Library on Monday, November 16, 2020. Mrs. Weber, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 5 PM, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present

Jilleen Solomon
Jennifer Vincent
Daniel Fagan
Christopher Ghilarducci
Tara Weber

Other

Thomas Lynch, Superintendent
Patricia Silvia, Executive Assistant to Supt. & SC
Jennifer Francisco, Principal, BCS
Kimberly Hebert, Principal, BMS
Andrea Porter, Business Administrator
Diane Maxwell

AGENDA ITEM #2: APPROVE BILLS AND PAYROLLS

It was moved by Mr. Ghilarducci, seconded by Mrs. Vincent and VOTED to approve bills and payrolls.

Vote: UNANIMOUS

AGENDA ITEM #3: APPROVE AND SIGN MINUTES

It was moved by Mrs. Solomon, seconded by Mrs. Vincent and VOTED to approve the regular meeting minutes of October 26, 2020 as written.

Vote: UNANIMOUS

It was moved by Mrs. Solomon, seconded by Mrs. Vincent and VOTED to approve the executive session minutes of October 26, 2020 as written.

Vote: UNANIMOUS

AGENDA ITEM #4: CORRESPONDENCE AND ENCLOSURES

- School Committee Meeting Minutes (10/26/20)
- Principals' Monthly Reports
- Expenditure Report (11/14/20)
- Policy Subcommittee minutes (11/9/20)
- Policy for 1st reading: Curriculum Development & Adoption #5101
- Policies for 2nd reading: Inoculations of Students #6305, Harassment/Sexual Harassment #1145, Remote Learning #6215, Policy on Covid-Related Issues #6220, Face Coverings #6225
- Enrollment (11/2/20)

ONE COPY FOLDER

- Principal's Newsletters, Nov. 2020
- School Committee Newsletter, Oct. 2020
- Thanksgiving Week Office Hours

NIGHT OF MEETING FOLDER

- Superintendent's End-of-Cycle Evaluation, Superintendent's Narrative on Goal Progress

Mr. Lynch reviewed school hours and central office hours for Thanksgiving week.

AGENDA ITEM #5: PUBLIC INPUT

AGENDA ITEM #6: EDUCATIONAL REPORTS

AGENDA ITEM #6a: PRINCIPAL'S REPORTS

BMS: Mrs. Hebert reported on the results of the parent survey. 168 responses were received; responses were evenly spread between the four grades and the two cohorts. 84% agree with health and safety protocols that are in place at BMS. 52% feel students are working well with remote learning. Some families want the learning to be more rigorous and others feel it is too rigorous. Teachers continue to work together for continuity and relevance across the board. Grade 5 virtual students are using FLVS and Grade 6-8 students are using Edgenuity. 80% feel their students are able to navigate Google classroom and most believe the school has good communication with parents. She reported there was some concern expressed about early drop offs in the morning relative to social distancing. To address this, now students may be dropped at school starting at 7:50 AM and will report to the cafeteria to wait for the start of school. Breakfast is still free for all students.

BCS: Mrs. Francisco reported on survey results from Community School parents. 245 responses were received; the majority are in support of efforts being utilized for in-person, remote and virtual learning. Overall there is a high degree of satisfaction in just about every area including learning models, transportation, health and safety, and learning platforms. Communication is a strength for BCS with 94.3% giving a favorable response. All survey comments/trends are being reviewed to see where improvements can be made. A suggestion regarding remote learning specialist requirements resulted in changes to the classes required. Now families are to complete four specialist classes over a two week span. A reoccurring suggestion was to return to full in-person learning, which can happen only when regulations are eased to allow the school to meet the social distancing requirement with an increased numbers of students.

AGENDA ITEM #7: ADMINISTRATIVE & SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPORTS

AGENDA ITEM #7a: SUPERINTENDENT SEARCH

Mrs. Weber stated a survey was sent on Friday to parents and staff seeking their input on the search process. The Search Committee will be appointed at the December 14 School Committee meeting.

AGENDA ITEM #7b: SOMERSET BERKLEY REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Abby Gajewski, a Berkley resident and junior at SBRHS, shared her perspective on how things are going at the high school. She spoke about how different things are this year from previous years. Mrs. Vincent stated the Regional Planning Board meets next week.

AGENDA ITEM #7c: SUPERINTENDENT END-OF-CYCLE EVALUATION

Mrs. Weber circulated to the Committee the completed evaluation.

AGENDA ITEM #7d: POLICY SUBCOMMITTEE

Policy updates from the MASC Newsletter were reviewed at the November 9 meeting. One new policy is recommended for adoption, four BPS policies were reviewed with no changes, three MASC policies were reviewed and are not needed in BPS manual, two policies were forwarded for administration's review.

AGENDA ITEM #8: UNFINISHED BUSINESS

AGENDA ITEM #8a: POLICY READINGS

Mrs. Vincent stated four policies are recommended for 2nd reading, three are related to COVID and asked that these be shared with families. MASC recommends a change to the Inoculation of Students Policy #6305 based on new regulations that require all school-age students receive the influenza vaccine by year end. A concern was expressed about changing policies temporarily due to Covid. It was asked "what happens to students who are not inoculated against the flu by the deadline?" It was suggested that policies related to Covid be combined into one rather than changing individual policies temporarily. The Policy Subcommittee will further review this at its next meeting. 2nd readings were postponed to the next meeting. A new policy that addresses development and adoption of curriculum was recommended for first reading.

It was moved by Mr. Ghilarducci, seconded by Mrs. Solomon and VOTED to approve 1st reading to adopt Curriculum Development & Adoption Policy #5101.

Vote: UNANIMOUS

AGENDA ITEM #8b: SCHOOL DEPARTMENT BUDGET 2020/21

No transfers needed in the current budget.

AGENDA ITEM #9: NEW BUSINESS

AGENDA ITEM #9a: GIFT TO BERKLEY MIDDLE SCHOOL

It was moved by Mrs. Solomon, seconded by Mrs. Vincent and VOTED to accept two used Chromebooks donated to BMS from the family of a former SBRHS student, in accordance with the BPS Gifts and Contributions Policy #7190.

Vote: UNANIMOUS

AGENDA ITEM #9b: SURPLUS EQUIPMENT

It was moved by Mrs. Vincent, seconded by Mrs. Solomon and VOTED to declare a non-working PIN pad from the cafeteria as surplus equipment.

Vote: UNANIMOUS

AGENDA ITEM #10: SUPERINTENDENT'S PERSONNEL REPORT

AGENDA ITEM #10a: RESIGNATION

April Gagne, Long Term Substitute Paraprofessional

AGENDA ITEM #10b: APPOINTMENT

David Andrade, Maintenance/Grounds Custodian

AGENDA ITEM #11: EXECUTIVE SESSION

It was moved by Mr. Ghilarducci, seconded by Mr. Fagan and VOTED to enter Executive Session at 5:40 PM in accordance with MGL Chapter 30A, Sec. 21 to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining and/or litigation with non-union personnel and to return to Open Session only to adjourn.

**Vote: Mrs. Weber – AYE
Mr. Fagan – AYE
Mr. Ghilarducci – AYE
Mrs. Solomon – AYE
Mrs. Vincent – AYE**

It was moved by Mrs. Vincent, seconded by Mr. Fagan and VOTED to exit Executive Session at 5:55 PM and to adjourn the meeting.

**Vote: Mrs. Weber – AYE
Mrs. Solomon – AYE
Mrs. Vincent – AYE
Mr. Fagan – AYE
Mr. Ghilarducci – AYE**

AGENDA ITEM #12: ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Mrs. Vincent, seconded by Mr. Fagan and VOTED to adjourn the meeting at 5:55 PM.

Vote: UNANIMOUS


Jennifer Vincent
Secretary