

Berkley School Committee
Regular Meeting
October 18, 2021

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

The regular meeting of the Berkley School Committee was held at the Berkley Community School Cafeteria on Monday, October 18, 2021. Mrs. Weber, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present

Jillean Solomon
Tara Weber
Daniel Fagan
Kaitlyn Robichaud

Excused

Jennifer Vincent

Other

Melissa Ryan, Superintendent
Patricia Silvia, Executive Asst. to Supt. & S.C.
Jennifer Francisco, Principal, BCS
Kimberly Hebert, Principal, BMS
Andrea Porter, Business Administrator
Ryan Andrade, Asst. Principal, BMS
Timothy McCarthy, Head of Bldg./Grounds
Laura Dietz, Adm. Intern
M. Bringle, D. Andreasen (BTA)
Public

AGENDA ITEM #2: GUESTS

Bethany Mello and Shawn Simmons, two Berkley students at SBRHS, were crowned King & Queen of Somerset Music Town Festival last week. They were in attendance to speak about their experience with the week-long celebration that included concerts, a parade and ended with the evening ball where they were crowned. They described the selection criteria and read an excerpt from their essay.

AGENDA ITEM #3: APPROVE BILLS AND PAYROLLS

It was moved by Mr. Fagan, seconded by Mrs. Solomon and VOTED to approve bills and payrolls.

Vote: UNANIMOUS

AGENDA ITEM #4: APPROVE AND SIGN MINUTES

It was moved by Mrs. Robichaud, seconded by Mrs. Solomon and VOTED to approve the regular meeting minutes of September 20, 2021 as written.

Vote: Mr. Fagan – Abstain
Mrs. Solomon – AYE
Mrs. Robichaud – AYE
Mrs. Weber – AYE

AGENDA ITEM #5: CORRESPONDENCE AND ENCLOSURES

- School Committee Minutes (9/20/21)
- Principals' Reports
- FY '22 Budget Statement (10/9/21)
- FY' 23 Budget Timeline & SC Memo
- Policy Subcommittee minutes (9/27/21)
- Policies for 1st reading to delete #2010 Functions of Administration, #2040 Benefits for Administrators, #2070 Professional Association & Service Club Expenses, #2100 Qualifications for Administrators, #2200 Superintendent of Schools and to revise #2600 School Council
- BPS Enrollment 10/1/21
- South Coast Ed. Collaborative membership map
- MA Nurses' Association Letter (9/22/21)

One Copy Folder:

- BMS & BCS Newsletters
- MSBA / BCS Renovation flier
- Resignation letters: J. Duddy, B. Serrecchia, J. Bentley, S. Lacroix
- Letter to DESE Commissioner from Berkley parent group (10/15/21)
- mySAEBRS Group Screening Report: Benchmark ('21/22)

Ms. Ryan referenced the letter from a parent group that was sent to the Commissioner of Education expressing concern about the vaccination metric that DESE set for mask mandates in elementary schools.

AGENDA ITEM #6: PUBLIC INPUT

Jen Andrews, a parent of a middle school student, addressed the Committee with concerns about the district's Homework Policy #5105. She asked that these issues be considered and that the policy be reviewed. It was noted that the Policy Subcommittee will review the policy at its next meeting on October 25 at 4 PM.

AGENDA ITEM #7: EDUCATIONAL REPORTS

AGENDA ITEM #7a: PRINCIPALS' REPORTS ON SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

BCS: Mrs. Dietz, an administrative intern working with Mrs. Francisco, presented the report for BCS. Preschool and Kindergarten screenings are complete, Back to School Curriculum Night was very successful, annual school bus driver training was held, staff professional development on the October 7 half day focused on curriculum and SAEBRS, PTO is wrapping up cookie and book fair fundraisers, data meetings are complete, interns from BP start this week, Fall extracurricular programs have returned, School Council reviewed the School Improvement Plan and Berkley Fire Dept. partnered with the schools again this year to instruct students on fire safety.

BMS: Mrs. Hebert reported that students are at midpoint of their first trimester, The Learning Center students will be working with the Council on Aging, an Advisor-Advisee Program has recently started as well as a Positive Action Leadership Program (PALS), and Grades 6-8 students are learning about career and academic planning with MyCAP standards.

Donations were received from the Crosby Couto Basketball Foundation for use by the schools on sports-related activities. Mrs. Hebert reported that BMS will purchase a portable sports clock for use with basketball games; Mrs. Francisco reported that BCS will purchase new outdoor balls for use during recess with their donations.

It was moved by Mr. Fagan, seconded by Mrs. Solomon and VOTED to accept the donations as described.

Vote: UNANIMOUS

AGENDA ITEM #7b. CURRICULUM ACCELERATION TEAM (CAT):

Ms. Ryan reported that teachers were able to complete universal social emotional screenings this month and students are doing self-assessments this week. She thanked the staff and administrators for all their hard work to get this done. The next step is to look at the data with the counselors and talk about interventions and next steps for students. The CAT is planning for the November 2 Professional Development day, reviewing curriculum development and a new software program.

AGENDA ITEM #8: ADMINISTRATIVE & SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPORTS

AGENDA ITEM #8a: SOMERSET BERKLEY REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE

AGENDA ITEM #8b: MSBA BUILDING COMMITTEE /BCS RENOVATION PROJECT

A public forum will be held at 7 PM this evening. The Board of Selectmen were asked to place a warrant on the special town meeting to increase the appropriated funds for the feasibility study.

AGENDA ITEM #8c: OCTOBER 1 ENROLLMENT

October 1st P-8 enrollment was 872 which includes 112 Choice students, up slightly from last October 1 when enrollment was 867 with 110 Choice students.

AGENDA ITEM #8d: FY '23 BUDGET TIMELINE

The proposed timeline for budget preparations for fiscal year 2023 was circulated. It was noted that pending negotiations with teachers and paraprofessionals are important numbers in next year's budget.

AGENDA ITEM #8e: POLICY SUBCOMMITTEE

Minutes from the Policy Subcommittee meeting of September 27, 2021 were reviewed. It was recommended that several policies be retired/deleted as they are governed elsewhere or are included in contracts or job descriptions. Revisions are recommended to the School Council Policy to align it with the MASC policy.

AGENDA ITEM #9: UNFINISHED BUSINESS

AGENDA ITEM #9a: POLICY READINGS

It was moved by Mrs. Robichaud, seconded by Mr. Fagan and VOTED to approve 1st readings to delete/retire #2010 Functions of Administration, #2040 Benefits for Administrators, #2070 Professional Association & Service Club Expenses, #2100 Qualifications for Administrators, #2200 Superintendent of Schools and to revise #2600 School Council.

Vote: UNANIMOUS

AGENDA ITEM #9b: SCHOOL DEPARTMENT BUDGET 2021/22

Nothing of significance to note on this month's expense report.

AGENDA ITEM #10: NEW BUSINESS

AGENDA ITEM #10a: TUITION RATES

According to town meeting, acceptance of the provisions of Chapter 71, Section 71F, allows the School Committee to accept and expend tuition payments. The Berkley School Committee annually sets the rates for the year. Although not often needed, they are in place in case a chargeback to another town is in order, i.e. Lindencroft student. It is recommended rates be increased as follows:

	Regular Education	502.1	502.2	502.3	502.4
Tuition	8,794	8,794	10,878	12,963	15,047
Transportation	750	750	750	750	750
Total	9,544	9,544	11,628	13,713	15,797
Per Diem	53.02	53.02	64.60	76.18	87.76

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

Vote: UNANIMOUS

AGENDA ITEM #10b: SOUTH COAST EDUCATIONAL COLLABORATIVE MEMBERSHIP

Fall River Public Schools has requested to join the Collaborative. Because of the financial impact, a tuition phase in will occur over several years.

It is recommended that the School Committee vote to approve that the Fall River Public Schools join the South Coast Educational Collaborative as a member district with full benefits, privileges and responsibilities (see map) and subject to the terms and conditions of the Collaborative Agreement, approval by the Department of Education and subject to applicable Commonwealth rules and regulations, and the chairman of School Committee is authorized on behalf the Committee to execute all appropriate documentation to consummate the Committee’s decision, and the Superintendent of Schools will serve as the district’s representatives on the Collaborative’s Board of Directors.

It was moved by Mr. Fagan, seconded by Mrs. Solomon and VOTED to approve that the Fall River Public Schools join the South Coast Educational Collaborative as a member district with full benefits, privileges and responsibilities and subject to the terms and conditions as stated above.

Vote: UNANIMOUS

AGENDA ITEM #10c: SURPLUS

It was moved by Mrs. Solomon, seconded by Mr. Fagan and VOTED to declare 32 student chairs with wheels at BMS as surplus items.

Vote: UNANIMOUS

AGENDA ITEM #10d: HOMEWORK POLICY #5105

As was stated during Public Input, this policy will be further reviewed and clarified. Of particular concern was the due date/time of assignments. It was suggested that assignments be due the next

day or the next class. This will be further discussed at Policy Subcommittee on October 25 and brought back to the November School Committee meeting.

AGENDA ITEM #11: SUPERINTENDENT'S PERSONNEL REPORT

AGENDA ITEM #11a: APPOINTMENTS

James Pope, Building Maintenance & Grounds Custodian, BCS
Joshua Carreiro, Building Custodian, BCS

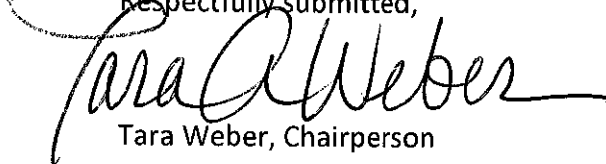
AGENDA ITEM #11b: RESIGNATIONS

Jay Duddy, Instructional Technology Integration Specialist, BMS
Jennifer Bentley, Paraprofessional, BCS
Brian Serrecchia, Computer Technician

AGENDA ITEM #12: ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Mr. Fagan, seconded by Mrs. Solomon and VOTED to adjourn the meeting at 6:13 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tara Weber". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Tara Weber, Chairperson