



MINUTES OF THE HOLBROOK SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

Holbrook Middle High School Auditorium

December 7, 2017

-AMENDED-

In Attendance: School Committee:
Elizabeth Tolson, Chairperson
Nancy Alterio, Vice Chairperson
John Flanagan, Member
Danielle Harer, Secretary
William Buckley, Member
Julie Hamilton, Superintendent
Patricia Lugo, School Business Administrator

Attachments

- *FY19 Recommended Budget Presentation*
 - *November 16, 2017 School Committee Minutes*
-

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Ms. Tolson.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Citizen's Concerns

None.

Superintendent Report

Superintendent Hamilton updated the committee on the recent events that she attended which included the Powder Puff game, holiday concert, cultural event and reminded everyone of the upcoming Richard Monteith Tip-Off Classic on Friday, December 15th. Superintendent Hamilton also invited everyone to watch the first filming of *Behind the Bulldog*.

Athletic Update

Superintendent Hamilton congratulated the varsity football team for winning the Mayflower League's Sportsmanship Award and Coach Mark Killinger for being named Mayflower League Coach of the year in his first year of coaching at the Holbrook Public Schools.

Grounds and Maintenance Update

Superintendent Hamilton addressed the issue with the stores of dirt that were deemed unusable. It was decided that the unusable dirt would be relocated to the rear of the old John F. Kennedy Elementary School to level the field and crushed stone would replace the unusable dirt at the PreK-12 complex.

Student Advisory Report

The Student Advisory Committee gave an update of recent events which included the Cultural Fair, Dove Training and the upcoming Richard Monteith Tip-Off Classic event. They also reminded everyone of the upcoming Robotics competition and the student government 12 days of kindness.

FY19 Budget Presentation

Superintendent Hamilton presented the FY19 budget stating that the budget discussions began in early October with the team focusing on the district's needs for the new Pre-K-12 facility. Factors that guided the process included the District Strategic Plan, School Improvement Plan, state and local student achievement results, students' social and emotional health, best practices, and integrating the new technology into all curriculum areas. The leadership team has worked responsibly to ensure that the newly requested budget allows for current services to continue (level funded) while adding a conservative list of necessary positions and services for the 2018-2019 school year.

Superintendent Hamilton pointed out that this is the first year in the new building so we need to see what additional expenses are incurred throughout the year. Other factors to consider include the current and anticipated increase in enrollment. The district will begin marketing the school and holding events and tours to keep students in district.

Office of Curriculum

The Office of Curriculum is looking for level funding through reallocation of funding for this department and utilizing grants and additional funding.

Ms. DeRosa stated that as we transition into the new building they are supporting new classes and providing numerous professional development opportunities to staff.

John F. Kennedy Elementary School

Principal Stevens stated that a top priority for the John F. Kennedy Elementary School is to hire a Behavior Therapist/Specialist to ensure a safe and successful academic year as well as a kindergarten paraprofessional.

Ms. Alterio stated that the Behavior Therapist/Specialist would meet the needs of the student first and foremost but could also be a potential cost savings since additional services or placements may not be needed if the issues are addressed early on with the Behavior Therapist/Specialist. Early intervention is key and could potentially cost less in the long run.

Holbrook Middle-High School

Principal Stevenson is looking for an additional special education teacher that would allow them to establish a sub-separate classroom as well as a special education paraprofessional to help them meet the needs of all the special education students without having to place them out of district. In addition, Principal Stevenson is also anticipating, due to an increase in English Language Learners in the district, a need for additional ELL support for the upcoming school year.

Director of Facilities

Mr. Bolger is not asking for an increase in the budget. He is anticipating a heating decrease but an increase in electrical expenses. His concern is the increasing enrollment which will require additional furniture.

Mr. Buckley asked if Mr. Bolger is satisfied with the number of staff he currently has and how he is going to address maintenance of the outside of the facility. Mr. Bolger responded that he is satisfied with the number of staff and he has already arranged the work assignments to include the outside maintenance although he may subcontract the trimming of the shrubbery.

Athletics

Mr. Bolger stated that athletics is not asking for any additional increases. They would like to retain the old John F. Kennedy Elementary School to be able to utilize the practice fields so there would be more availability for different sports to practice.

Ms. Alterio asked if cutting the user fee would leave enough money to cover all expenses. Mr. Bolger responded that it would since this would come out of the facilities line item.

Mr. Buckley reminded everyone about the Flint Field as a practice field and voiced his concerns about which coaches are getting paid and not. Mr. Bolger stated that this should be referred to Mr. Case who is not in attendance.

Mr. Buckley also asked if the athletic trainer had submitted any equipment requests. Mr. Bolger responded that he has not.

Technology

Mr. Gonzales reviewed his budget requests and his concern about the damage that has already occurred with the new devices. He is looking to go to capital improvements to purchase more Chromebooks and stated that they need to work on the policies and procedures for covering the damages to the equipment (water, cracked screens, etc.)

Special Education

Ms. Turner stated that her budget requests are based on spending right now. Currently there are thirty-seven Holbrook residents that are contracted out of district students.

Mr. Flanagan asked if the district is looking into joining another collaborative. Superintendent Hamilton responded that they are and that North River Collaborative has expressed an interest but we need to look at what works best for the district. Transportation has been a huge issue in the past and we are looking to see if we can bring some students back in district or consolidate some van rides to have a cost savings.

Mr. Flanagan asked if we can look into purchasing a van. Superintendent Hamilton stated that we have started looking at this and would look at capital improvements to cover the cost.

Financial Update

Ms. Lugo stated that the total FY18 budget is \$14,637,152 which is a 4.3% increase over the current budget. The town said they would give us \$334,000 which leaves a shortfall of \$279,314.

Superintendent Hamilton commented that the trends we would like everyone to take from this is that we have taken into consideration all the concerns that have been voiced and we are looking at consolidations, moved things around, what is being utilized what is not, we really feel we are stretching to a point and trying to be very transparent in our needs and not underutilizing the line items we currently have. We will be meeting with the finance committee and welcoming input to continue to tighten up this budget.

Personnel

New Hires

Ms. Melissa Callahan, Paraprofessional, Holbrook Middle-High School, effective November 20, 2017

Resignations

Ms. Deirdre Ford, Paraprofessional, John F. Kennedy Elementary School, effective November 1, 2017

3rd Reading of Use of Facilities Form

Table until next meeting.

School Committee Sub-Committee Members Report

Table until next meeting

School Committee Members Report

Table until next meeting.

November 16, 2017

Mr. Flanagan made a motion to accept the November 16, 2017 School Committee minutes as amended.

Voted:

(Alterio/Tolson) made a motion to accept the November 16, 2017 School Committee minutes as amended.

5-0-0

Old Business

None.

New Business

None.

ADJOURN or VOTE TO CONTINUE

Voted: (Alterio/Flanagan) The School Committee made a motion to adjourn regular School Committee Meeting of December 7, 2017 at 9:30pm and not to reconvene in open session.

Respectfully submitted,

Bridget Baker

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School Committee Secretary