

**Minutes of School Committee Meeting 02/12/2015**

A regular meeting of the Barrington School Committee was held on Thursday, February 12, 2015 in the Administration Building. School Committee Chair Kate Brody called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m. Present were Mrs. Brody, Dr. Dominguez, Mr. Alessandro, Mr. Guida, Dr. Shea, Ms. Schwartz, Mr. Messore, Mrs. Dillon, and Mr. Tarro.

Mrs. Brody introduced School Committee members present at the meeting: Student Representative Ms. Lucina Schwartz, Mr. Patrick Guida, Dr. Robert Shea, Dr. Paula Dominguez, and Mr. John Alessandro. Mrs. Brody also introduced the Administration and Central Office Staff: Superintendent Mr. Michael Messore, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction Mrs. Paula Dillon, Director of Administration and Finance Mr. Ronald Tarro, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent Mrs. Elizabeth Levesque, and Computer/Network Technician Mr. Michael Fallgren.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

Mrs. Kellie Polando led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Achievement Recognition**

Mr. Messore announced the following achievements across the district:

Twelve Barrington High School seniors were selected as candidates for the United States Presidential Scholars Program: Natasha Anis, Emma Gurchiek, Theodore Kurkoski, Matthew Lamontagne, Brian Mc Gartoll, Kieran Mc Gartoll, Rachel Nassau, Samuel Nozaki, Lauren Parola, Lucina Schwartz, Rachel Sheinberg, and Haley Wohlever.

The Barrington High School Jazz Ensemble, directed by Music Teacher and Co-Department Chair Mrs. Barbara Hughes, won First Place in Division 3 at the 47<sup>th</sup> Annual Berklee High School Jazz Festival. Outstanding Musician winners included Seniors Riley Saeger (Alto Sax) and Jared Remson (Guitar). The band also received four 50% scholarships for summer study at Berklee College of Music in Boston.

Barrington Middle School 7<sup>th</sup> Grader Ari Dulchinos won the school's Spelling Bee and will represent Barrington Middle School at the Statewide Bee. Runner-up was 6<sup>th</sup> Grader Rima Irfan.

Hampden Meadows School students Lulu Arnone, Willow Rathbone, and Erin Welshman visited with and interviewed Governor Gina Raimondo for the Kids Corner feature of the Barrington Times.

Barrington High School Speech and Debate varsity debaters dominated the Top Ten at the February tournament taking 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 7th, and 9th as teams; and 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 5th, 6th, and 8th as individuals. Novice debaters earned 3rd, 4th, and 6th place as individual speakers, and 1st, 5th, and 7th as teams.

The Unified Basketball Team played an exhibition game during halftime at the Barrington High School Boys Varsity game versus Bishop Hendricken and raised funds for Rhode Island Special Olympics Unified Sports.

The Boys Indoor Track and Field team is 2015 Class B Champions. Barrington High School Senior Adam Kelly was named U.S.A. Track and Field New England's Athlete of the Month for January 2015.

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Barrington High School Math Teacher Ms. Paula Morrissette has been selected by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards to participate in an alignment study between the National Board Standards and Common Core State Standards in February.

Barrington High School Director of Guidance Mrs. Toni Corry received a Commendation for Distinguished Service from the National Merit Scholarship Corporation.

Barrington Public Schools is participating on the Mathematics Networked Improvement Committee (MathNIC), an initiative for enhancing mathematics education in Grades 6-12. Barrington was the only district in Rhode Island selected. Administrators and teachers participating are Mrs. Dillon, Barrington High School Principal Mr. Joseph Hurley, Barrington Middle School Principal Dr. Andrew Anderson, Barrington High School Math Department Head Mr. Robert Marley and teachers Mr. John Sexton, and Mrs. Lisa Mendo, and Barrington Middle School Math teachers Mrs. Megan Medeiros and Ms. Danielle Teoli.

The Primrose Hill School cast of Willy Wonka Kids held performances on January 23-24, 2015.

The Nayatt School cast of Aristocats held performances on February 6-7, 2015.

Barrington Middle School students Will Cauley, Ryan Hellmann and Trent Kellum placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in their weight categories at the Wrestling State Championships. The team placed 7<sup>th</sup> overall. Notable finishes included 4<sup>th</sup> place: Lucas Wilson-Wuestefeld and Zach Leonard, and 5<sup>th</sup> place: Theo Adams and Ethan Tutt.

Primrose Hill School Math and Science Night, held on February 11, 2015 and organized through the PTO, showcased various Science and Math activities, included collaboration with the Barrington High School Science Olympiad team led by Science Teacher Ms. Kara West and lead student Junior Samyukta Mallick; and Barrington Middle School Wooden Car Racers team led by Industrial Arts Teacher Ms. Cheryl DelSanto, and the Barrington Middle School First Lego League Robotics team.

**Spotlight on Teaching and Learning**

Mr. Messore introduced Barrington Middle School (BMS) Business Teacher Mrs. Kellie Polando who presented information on business technology integration including financial literacy and life-learning skills in the Computer Technology Program at Barrington Middle School. The presentation included a demonstration of Sphero, an app-controlled ball used for exploration and technology integration. Mrs. Polando also shared a desired layout for classroom space and the importance of 1:1 devices.

**Information and Proposals**

Mr. Messore and Mrs. Dillon provided information on the district's plan to introduce financial literacy in the program of studies in the next academic year. Financial literacy will be a graduation requirement beginning with the Class of 2019. Questions from the Committee included the ability to share program information with other districts, whether the program would require additional funding, and when the graduation requirement would be introduced to incoming freshman students.

Mr. Tarro presented the proposed comprehensive Operating Budget for FY2015-2016. The presentation, to be made available on the district website, included information on proposed new initiatives for a

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School Resource Officer and Technology Fellowship, the capital budget request including technology and improvements to the preschool/elementary playgrounds, as well as adjustments to certified staff based on enrollment. The total net impact to taxpayers is \$922,650 representing 1.99%. Discussion ensued on the rationale for a School Resource Officer and measurement of metrics for that position. Mr. Messore noted that Barrington Chief of Police John LaCross has been invited to the next meeting to provide information to the Committee relative to the School Resource Officer initiative. Following discussion, the School Committee authorized Mr. Tarro to prepare the proposed comprehensive budget document for the Committee's review prior to consideration for approval at the next regular meeting.

**General Public Discussion and Information**

Mr. Michael Carroll, Town Council Liaison to the School Committee, of 24 Third Street, congratulated the Barrington High School Jazz Band and praised the extraordinary work of Mrs. Barbara Hughes and the great value of the Music program at Barrington High School.

**Old Business from Superintendent and Staff**

Mr. Messore provided an update relative to the District Strategic Communication Plan and reported that two press releases will be shared with the school community this week, a press release on further educating the community and bringing recognition to Barrington High School's performance on the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) assessment and a press release on the upcoming Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) assessment. Due to weather, the PARCC informational night for parents has been postponed to February 24, 2015. The Barrington High School student forum scheduled for earlier this month will also be rescheduled.

Mr. Messore reported on the progress of the School Start Times Task Force with a timeline that included historic data, present data, and next steps for a proposed schedule to include communication with the community. As there may be anticipated impact on the budget, the proposal will align to the budget season next year. The timeline was shared with the Health and Wellness Committee on February 4, 2015. Discussion and questions from the Committee included the possibility of a more aggressive timeline, holding a public forum earlier in the 2015-2016 academic year, whether the timeline affords parents the opportunity to budget for daycare, and communication with the public.

**Old Business from School Committee**

Mr. Guida reported that the Barrington Middle School Building Committee is scheduled to meet next on March 7, 2015. The School Committee will be invited to attend the meeting, as presentations will be heard from the three selected firms: Edward Rowse Architects, Inc., Kaestle Boos Associates, Inc., and Symmes, Maini and McKee Associates. Following the March 7 meeting and due diligence process, the Building Committee will reconvene and make its recommendation to the School Committee.

The School Committee policy on Learning Environment was read aloud for a second reading. Mrs. Brody noted two typos in the policy for correction.

**Dr. Dominguez moved and Dr. Shea seconded to adopt the policy on Learning Environment. The motion passed 5-0 with Mrs. Brody, Dr. Dominguez, Mr. Alessandro, Mr. Guida, and Dr. Shea voting in the affirmative for the motion.**

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**New Business from Superintendent and Staff**

Mr. Messore announced the leave of absence for Ms. Stephanie Spaziano, HS, Theatre Arts.

**Dr. Dominguez moved and Dr. Shea seconded to approve the monthly expenditures for January in the amount of \$5,339,106.36.**

Mrs. Brody asked for clarification on line item 55660 for charter schools. Mr. Tarro stated that there would be an adjustment made for the remainder of the academic year and noted the current number of students (10) who are enrolled in charter schools.

**The motion passed 5-0 with Mrs. Brody, Dr. Dominguez, Mr. Alessandro, Mr. Guida, and Dr. Shea voting in the affirmative for the motion.**

Mr. Tarro reported that no bids were received for the Renewable Energy Project Manager for Barrington High School. Mr. Tarro is looking into the possibility of a grant application through the assistance of an outside vendor that may result in the cost under the bid amount.

**New Business from School Committee**

No issues were raised at this time.

**Decision Items**

**Dr. Dominguez moved and Dr. Shea seconded to approve the consent agenda. The motion passed 5-0 with Mrs. Brody, Dr. Dominguez, Mr. Alessandro, Mr. Guida, and Dr. Shea voting in the affirmative for the motion.**

**Discussion Future Agenda Items**

Mr. Messore reported that the next regular School Committee meeting scheduled for February 26, 2015 will feature continued budget discussion. Mr. Messore has invited Barrington High School Administration and Barrington Chief of Police John LaCross for discussion on the School Resource Officer initiative.

Mr. Alessandro requested clearer information be provided to the parent community on Professional Development in the district.

Mrs. Brody requested discussion on the draft 2015-2016 school calendar at the next meeting.

Dr. Dominguez inquired as to how information of the OECD assessment participation can also be shared with Barrington Middle School faculty and students.

**Announcements**

Mr. Messore recognized the efforts of the district's maintenance staff, as well as the collaboration and timely efforts of the municipal staff, of snow removal at all schools during recent storms.

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Mr. Messore noted that a number of certification retitling changes have occurred at the state level, including for the position of Director of Curriculum and Instruction, and announced that Mrs. Dillon's new title will be Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction.

**General Public Discussion and Information**

Mr. Edward Frenette, Senior Vice President of Symmes, Maini and McKee Associates (SMMA), stated that he and colleagues have been attending School Committee meetings to better understand the Committee's values and goals with the hope to address those goals in their proposal to the Building Committee.

**Dr. Dominguez moved and Dr. Shea seconded to adjourn the regular meeting at 10:16 p.m. and go in to Executive Session pursuant to Rhode Island General Laws Section 42-46-5(a)(3) for discussion regarding the matter of security including but not limited to the deployment of security personnel or devices. The motion passed 5-0 with Mrs. Brody, Dr. Dominguez, Mr. Alessandro, Mr. Guida, and Dr. Shea voting in the affirmative for the motion.**

**Dr. Dominguez moved and Dr. Shea seconded to adjourn the Executive Session at 10:22 p.m. and to seal the minutes. The motion passed 5-0 with Mrs. Brody, Dr. Dominguez, Mr. Alessandro, Mr. Guida, and Dr. Shea voting in the affirmative for the motion.**

**Mrs. Brody noted that no votes were taken in Executive Session.**

**Dr. Dominguez moved and Dr. Shea seconded to adjourn the regular meeting at 10:23 p.m. The motion passed 5-0 with Mrs. Brody, Dr. Dominguez, Mr. Alessandro, Mr. Guida, and Dr. Shea voting in the affirmative for the motion.**