

Minutes of School Committee Meeting 04/30/2015

A regular meeting of the Barrington School Committee was held on Thursday, April 30, 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, Dr. Shea, Ms. Schwartz, Mr. Messore, Mrs. Dillon, and Mr. Tarro. Absent was Mr. Guida.

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Mrs. Joanne Royley led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Achievement Recognition

Mr. Messore announced the following achievements across the district:

The Barrington High School LifeSmarts Team finished second in the nation at the 21st National LifeSmarts Championship in Seattle. Team members are Seniors Steven Forte, Matthew Lamontagne, Brian Mc Gartoll, and Teddy Ni, and Sophomore Eli Shea, led by Barrington High School Mathematics Teacher and Coach Samuel Schachter. The team lost to Florida by only two points with the final score 176-174, the closest final score in LifeSmarts history. Individual winners included Matthew Lamontagne in Personal Finance, Steven Forte in Consumer Rights and Responsibilities, and Teddy Ni in Technology. Matthew Lamontagne was also named one of the 2015 Students of the Year.

The Barrington Middle School Team placed first in the 2015 Rhode Island Science Olympiad competition and have been chosen to represent Rhode Island at the national competition in Nebraska in May. The team is led by Barrington Middle School Science Teacher Rebecca Ferry. The results from the state competition included eight first place finishes, seven second place finishes, and two third place finishes.

The Barrington High School Team also placed first in the 2015 Rhode Island Science Olympiad competition and will also represent Rhode Island at the national competition in Nebraska in May. The team is led by Barrington High School Science Teachers Kara West and Sonalya Jayasuriya. Results from the state high school competition included 12 gold medals, four silver, and one bronze, for a total of 17 medals out of 22 events.

Ms. Jennifer Duarte, Barrington High School Science Teacher, was awarded an NBC 10 Golden Apple Award on April 27, 2015 and the broadcast date for the Golden Apple Award is May 14, 2015. Ms. Duarte was nominated by BHS Senior Joshua Seifert.

Two Barrington students competed in the 2015 National Geographic State Bee and finished in the top five in Rhode Island: Charlie Durkin, Hampden Meadows School Grade 5 student, finished in fourth

Minutes of School Committee Meeting 04/30/2015

place; and Eytan Goldstein, Barrington Middle School Grade 7 student, finished in fifth place.

The Barrington High School Mathematics Team won the state title for the sixth year in a row. The team includes top members Teddy Ni, Matthew Lamontagne, Adam Kelly, William Yao, Eliot Laidlaw, and Michael Lamontagne. William Yao also won an award for being the top sophomore student at the meet. Forty students participated on the team including Kieran Mc Gartoll, Brian Mc Gartoll, Gerald Guerrieri, Haley Wohlever, Vivian Tien, Sahil Mishra, CeeCee Sheng, Eli Shea, Isabelle Rea, Quentin Boothman, Wanqing Li, Andrew Sheinberg, Tripp Carolan, Rayna Mishra, Connor Mc Gartoll, and Andrew Cooke.

The School Committee also recognized Ms. Schwartz who announced that she will attend Princeton University in the fall.

Spotlight on Teaching and Learning

Mrs. Dillon introduced Hampden Meadows School faculty members Mr. Brian Fernandes, Mrs. Terri Couto, Mrs. Sara Cabral, Mrs. Whitney Norton, Assistant Principal Mr. Gino Sanguiliano, and Principal Mrs. Tracey McGee, who provided information on ongoing collaborative professional development work with Solution Tree and in district assessment strategies with Lead, Educate and Promote the Profession (LEAPP) initiatives. The faculty also shared a video illustrating the use of student data binders. Questions from the Committee included the structure of faculty collaboration, expanding beyond Grade 5, and how communication about classroom teaching and learning initiatives is shared with parents.

Information and Proposals

Mr. Messore provided an update on the Strategic Plan Smartsheet, the internal working document used to track the progress of the Strategic Plan priorities. Mr. Messore introduced the new format of the Smartsheet and a brief overview of the current status of district initiatives. The Committee applauded the reorganization of the data, and discussed the opportunity to discuss the Smartsheet at the next regular meeting as well review the Strategic Plan at the end of the academic year.

Mr. Messore introduced Barrington Adult and Youth (BAY) Team Program Director Mrs. Kathleen Sullivan and Barrington High School Student Assistance Counselor and Liaison to the BAY Team Mrs. Joanne Royley. Mrs. Royley provided an overview of the student assistance counseling program, as well as resources and events available to students at the High School. Mrs. Sullivan highlighted the BAY Team's mission to create a safe and healthy community through educational resources and community events, and stressed concerns relating to student stress, an increase in marijuana and e-cigarette use, healthy coping strategies as well as funding for the BAY Team to sustain its efforts. Discussion ensued on the visibility of drug and nicotine use at the High School and resources for transition to college.

The Committee agreed to hear the New Business School Committee Field Trip Approvals agenda item out of order.

Mr. Messore introduced Science Olympiad Coaches, Ms. Rebecca Ferry from Barrington Middle School, and Ms. Sonalya Jayasuriya from Barrington High School, who requested approval for an overnight field trip on May 14-17, 2015 to Lincoln, Nebraska for students from both teams to participate in the Science Olympiad National Competition at the University of Nebraska. Ms. Ferry and Ms. Jayasuriya provided an overview of the trip logistics for the 19 students from Barrington Middle School and 17 students from

Minutes of School Committee Meeting 04/30/2015

Barrington High School, as well as information on plans for fundraising events.

Dr. Dominguez moved and Dr. Shea seconded to approve the overnight field trip on May 14-17, 2015 to Lincoln, Nebraska for Barrington Middle School students to participate in the Science Olympiad National Competition. The motion passed 4-0 with Mrs. Brody, Dr. Dominguez, Mr. Alessandro, and Dr. Shea voting in the affirmative for the motion.

Dr. Dominguez moved and Dr. Shea seconded to approve the overnight field trip on May 14-17, 2015 to Lincoln, Nebraska for Barrington High School students to participate in the Science Olympiad National Competition. The motion passed 4-0 with Mrs. Brody, Dr. Dominguez, Mr. Alessandro, and Dr. Shea voting in the affirmative for the motion.

General Public Discussion and Information

No issues were raised at this time.

Old Business from Superintendent and Staff

Mr. Messore provided an update relative to the District Strategic Communication Plan, including recent communication on budget updates and the development of an informational piece for parents on the impact of the 1:1 technology initiative. Mrs. Dillon noted the recognition the district received in the edSurge.com article titled *Leading Rhode Island Districts on the Quest Towards Blended Learning*.

Mr. Tarro presented an update to the proposed 2015-2016 budget that represents an increase of 1.71% with a net impact to taxpayers of 0.91%. Mr. Tarro noted the School Committee adjustments approved on April 9, 2015 and the school improvement capital projects planned for the Summer of 2015. The Town Budget Hearing will be held on May 13, 2015 and the Financial Town Meeting on May 27, 2015.

Old Business from School Committee

Mr. Tarro reported that the Barrington Middle School Building Committee met on April 27, 2015 and voted to establish a subcommittee to continue contract deliberations with Kaestle Boos Associates, the architectural firm selected for the Barrington Middle School building project. The Barrington Middle School Building Committee will meet next on May 18, 2015.

Mrs. Brody reported on the inaugural meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Artificial Turf Field held on April 29, 2015 attended by Mrs. Brody, Mr. Alessandro, Mr. Messore, and Mr. Tarro. Initial broad topics discussed included the purpose and organizational structure of the Ad Hoc Committee, the turf field proposal, and the bond motion filed for the Financial Town Meeting by The Campaign to Build a Turf Field. A lengthy discussion ensued on topics for clarification including School Committee statutory and Town Charter responsibility, eligibility for state housing aid reimbursement, and the possible impact on the school budget if the turf field bond is approved at the Financial Town Meeting. The Ad Hoc Committee is tentatively scheduled to meet next on May 6, 2015. The School Committee agreed to seek legal counsel to determine how to best direct the focus of the School Committee in the process and continue discussions at future School Committee meetings. Mr. Messore noted that while he is not in opposition of a turf field, the project is not in the district's Strategic Plan and would need to be looked at strategically, and health and safety needs would need to be identified relative to the project. Mr. Tom

Minutes of School Committee Meeting 04/30/2015

Rimoshytus, President of the Barrington Boosters, stated that the next meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee may include a presentation by Gale Associates on its feasibility study and the meeting may be available on video. Mr. Rimoshytus asked if the School Committee will be involved on the Ad Hoc Committee. Mrs. Brody answered that Mr. Messore and Mr. Tarro will be School Committees designees on the Ad Hoc Committee as they await legal counsel. Mr. Michael Curry, member of the Ad Hoc Committee, offered information on the website, www.barringtonturffield.com, where information is available on the turf field project, including the feasibility study on the Victory Field project by Gale Associates.

New Business from Superintendent and Staff

Mr. Messore announced the resignations for Mr. Enzo Iorio, Electrician/Maintenance, Mr. Brent Dalessio, Assistant Football Coach, and Mr. William McCagney, Head Football Coach.

Mr. Tarro reported that the East Bay Business Managers, with the assistance of a transportation specialist, issued a Request for Proposals for student transportation services and that two sealed bid proposals were received. A memo and bid tabulation sheet was provided to the Committee prior to the meeting and it was recommended by the Administration to award the bid to the lowest qualified evaluated bidder, Ocean State Transit, for a five-year contract beginning on July 1, 2015 and ending June 30, 2020. Mr. Tarro added that the contract includes new buses and the hiring of existing bus drivers. There is no impact to bus monitors as they are district employees.

Dr. Dominguez moved and Dr. Shea seconded to award the bid for a five-year contract for student transportation services to the lowest qualified evaluated bidder, Ocean State Transit.

Questions from the Committee and discussion included the potential impact on changes to start time, bus driver training to maintain the health and safety needs of students, and communicating with the community relative to support for the continued employment of current bus drivers.

The motion passed 4-0 with Mrs. Brody, Dr. Dominguez, Mr. Alessandro, and Dr. Shea voting in the affirmative for the motion.

New Business from School Committee

Mrs. Brody led the discussion on plans for the fifth and final District Governance Program workshop as part of the 2014 pilot program initiative with the Massachusetts Association of School Committees and Rhode Island Association of School Committees. The workshop will be led by facilitator Mrs. Dorothy Presser, Massachusetts Association of School Committee consultant, member of the Lynnfield, Massachusetts School Committee, and co-author of the Massachusetts District Governance Support Project curriculum. The Committee agreed to target a June, 2015 workshop date. Dr. Dominguez offered to create a summary sheet of the first four workshops in advance of the final workshop date. Mr. Alessandro requested to speak with Mrs. Presser individually in advance of the final workshop as he was not present for the first four sessions. Mrs. Brody will follow up with Mrs. Presser to confirm a date and provide contact information for Mr. Alessandro.

Decision Items

Mrs. Brody noted for the record that there was not a quorum of School Committee members present at

Minutes of School Committee Meeting 04/30/2015

the April 7, 2015 Committee on Appropriations meeting, therefore there are no minutes for that meeting.

Dr. Dominguez moved and Dr. Shea seconded to approve the consent agenda. The motion passed 4-0 with Mrs. Brody, Dr. Dominguez, Mr. Alessandro, 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 May 21, 2015 will feature a student transition program update, a revisit of the Strategic Plan Smartsheet, and a followup discussion on the requested clarifications from the Ad Hoc Committee on the Artificial Turf Field meeting.

Mrs. Brody requested that a future agenda include the policy on the facilities fee structure and a policy workshop discussion.

Announcements

Ms. Schwartz announced that her last meeting as Student Representative to the School Committee will be June 4, 2015.

Mrs. Brody noted that the Rhode Island Association of School Committees will hold its annual meeting on May 2, 2015, the Town Budget Hearing will be held on May 13, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. at Barrington Middle School, and Barrington High School Senior Project presentations are scheduled for May 20, 2015. The next meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Artificial Turf Field is tentatively scheduled for May 6, 2015.

General Public Discussion and Information

No issues were raised at this time.

Dr. Dominguez moved and Dr. Shea seconded to adjourn the regular meeting at 10:10 p.m. The motion passed 4-0 with Mrs. Brody, Dr. Dominguez, Mr. Alessandro, and Dr. Shea voting in the affirmative for the motion.