

**SCITUATE SCHOOL COMMITTEE
REGULAR SESSION MEETING-TUESDAY, MAY 2, 2017
TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Mr. LaPlante: We had a closed session:

Attorney D'Agostino: Motion to ratify the superintendent's contract to correct scrivener's error regarding the terms and evaluation process and authorize the chairman to execute. No changes to any other terms of employment.

Mr. LaPlante: The issue has been resolved.

1. Reconvene into open session at 7:00 PM.

A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Chair LaPlante, the Committee and audience participated in the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. ROUTINE MATTERS – MINUTES AND BILLS:

Mrs. Guglielmi: Motion to Approve the Scituate School Committee Regular Session Meeting Minutes Tuesday, April 4, 2017.

Mr. Scacco: Second

All in favor: Yes
Motion passes

Mrs. Guglielmi: Made a motion to approve General Fund for May 2017 in the amount \$101,721.93.

Mrs. Pendergast: Second

All in favor: Yes
Motion passes

Mrs. Guglielmi: Made a motion to approve 2017-2018 Budget General Fund for May 2017 in the amount \$429,327.30.

Mr. Scacco: Second

Mrs. Pendergast: Page 2 of 3, Ed Myers and we are in this year's operating budget.

Dr. Filippelli: Ed comes in 2 days a week.

Mrs. Pendergast: That will need to change.

Mrs. Dias: Can we have Ed come in based on need.

Dr. Filippelli: Typically that is what he does.

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Mrs. Dias: Do you see a time we will not need this service any longer.

Dr. Filippelli: We would need Ed or legal and Ed is cheaper.

Mrs. Dias: Questions on Federal funding.

All in favor: Yes
Motion passes

Mrs. Guglielmi: Made a motion to approve Early Grant Bills for May 2017 in the amount \$20,422.09.

Mr. Scacco: Second

All in favor: Yes
Motion passes

C. CORRESPONDENCE:

A letter to the Superintendent from Mrs. W requesting home schooling for the remainder of the 2016-2017 school year for one child

Recommendation: Approve the request, according to the policies and procedures established by RIDE and the school department.

A letter to the Superintendent from Ms. R requesting home schooling for the remainder of the 2016-2017 school year for one child

Recommendation: Approve the request, according to the policies and procedures established by RIDE and the school department.

3. A letter to the Superintendent from Ms. K requesting home schooling for the remainder of the 2016-2017 school year for one child.

Recommendation: Approve the request, according to the policies and procedures established by RIDE and the school department.

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4. A letter to the School Committee from Joan Selfridge announcing her retirement from the Scituate School System effective as of the last day of the 2016/2017 school year.

Recommendation: Accept the retirement, with regret.

Mrs. Pendergast: Move to approve home schooling according to the rules and regulations of RIDE.

Mr. Scacco: Second

All in favor: Yes
Motion passes

Mrs. Pendergast: Motion to accept the retirement with regret

Mr. Scacco: Second

All in favor: Yes
Motion passes

Mr. LaPlante: Motion to take New Business #8220: Breathalyzer Use at Schools out of turn.

Mrs. Pendergast: So moved.

Mrs. Dias: Second

Discussion/First Reading of Revised Policy #8220: Breathalyzer Use at School & School Sponsored Events

Erica McCormick:
428 Trimtown Road

At the end of every year I do exit interviews and surveys and the message is the same, nothing has changed. Most students have taken a 10 hour course. We are trying to change behavior. Policy is the best way to change behavior, 23% of our Seniors report drinking in the last 30 days.

Mrs. Dias: What has the data been?

Mrs. McCormick: There is not a lot there. I am working on a grant and it is for marijuana. We are at state average.

Mrs. Dias: Mike what does the data show?

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Dr. Sollitto: The breathalyzer policy has been in place and this is a change to allow for random testing rather than testing when there is reasonable suspicion. We have never used the breathalyzer, the student normally admits to being under the influence.

Mrs. Guglielmi: Why are you opposed?

Dr. Sollitto: I am philosophically opposed to this. I believe it is a violation of students' Civil rights. However, when I met with the SADD group, I told them that they could move forward and present to the School Committee even though I am against random testing.

Matthew Besser
6 Maple Lane

Mr. Besser, President of the SADD club.
Read into record his report from the SADD club.

Mrs. Dias: What would the scenario be?

Mr. LaPlante: That is what they are proposing as they walk in.

Dr. Sollitto: Every 5th kid or a different color chip taken out of a bowl.

Mr. Besser: As a club we decided on a blue or white chip system. If you pull a blue then you have to take a breathalyzer test. Majority of students are thinking about drinking, as a club we talked up the breathalyzer which was a deterrent to some kids.

Mrs. Dias: How many school districts have this policy?

Mrs. McCormick: I think 2.

Mr. LaPlante: Legal side.

Attorney D'Agostino: In RI you cannot test in the work place, I have reviewed the ACLU fact sheet. The random test is at an event that they are choosing to attend. You can implement this policy without a law suit.

Mr. Scacco: All the kids are under 21.

Mr. LaPlante: How distracting is this.

Mr. Besser: Attending a dance is a privilege not a right and if they are not doing anything wrong then they should not mind.

Dr. Sollitto: Less than a minute and give results immediately.

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Mrs. Dias: There has to be data.

Mr. Besser: It is the 23%, Mrs. McCormick mentioned and the data is not available.

Mrs. McCormick: Protective factors and feeling connected to your community that will lessen the use of drugs and alcohol.

Mrs. Dias: What is Larry's recommendation?

Dr. Filippelli: Trial period.

Mrs. Pendergast: What is not working in our present policy?

Trisha Stewart
680 Hartford Pike.

The only way that someone gets caught is if other students go to the faculty.

Jeanie Besser
6 Maple Lane

Have a procedure in place to deter and have a better thought process.

Ms. Stewart: Would you rather have an accident?

Mr. Grande
1 Hickory Drive

Electric Boat has random testing.
Mrs. McCormick and I spent time at the state house regarding the legalization of Marijuana.
Random breathalyzer is illegal search and seizure.
I would advise my daughter not to take the test.
Marijuana and pills still make you intoxicated.

Mr. LaPlante: Mrs. McCormick what do you think about the kids being forced into other areas instead of drinking.

Mrs. McCormick: We have to do something.

Mr. Grande: The kids watch us and I tell kids to protect their rights.

Diane Sacco
19 Crest View Drive

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Isn't this a great opportunity to teach kids?

Mr. Grande: There is data. At Electric Boat people get caught and lose their jobs.

Andrea Olsen
43 Spruce Valley Drive

Most houses have alcohol, and it is everywhere and I think it is the biggest issue.

Jennifer Pierce
84 Woodsong Drive

Why not change the culture and have it voluntary.

Mrs. Pendergast: We need to have 2 readings of a new policy.

Mrs. Dias: Maybe Mrs. Pierce's idea can have something in effect.

Mrs. Pendergast: How do administer this?

Mr. Scacco: I respect every point of view. When I was in high school I was the one who introduced the breathalyzer. In Scituate a dance is a privilege not a right.

Mr. LaPlante: You are mandating it, kids can opt out. The impact sounds minimal.

Mr. Scacco: Providing the safest environment for our kids.

Jennifer Vangel
103 Central Pike

I worry about the kids who sneak it in. Change our culture so kids can step up.

Allie George
99 Gleaner Chapel Road

I do not think kids should be put in that position.
I think the breathalyzer is a deterrent.

Anna Scacco
19 Crest View Drive

It should not be the student's responsibility to keep other kids safe it is up to the school.
Someone needs to make the change.

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Mrs. McCormick: I am concerned about the soft start. Allie addressed that last year versus this year.

Mr. Besser: Catch the kids that have had one drink.

Mrs. Dias: I want to implement and track the results.

Mrs. McCormick: I will contact URI see if they can collect data.

Mrs. Guglielmi: Test everyone.

Mrs. McCormick: West Warwick and Cumberland do that.

Ms. Votta
45 Hunter Ridge Drive

When you fly you give up some of your rights for securities sake.
We are trying not to discriminate.
Setting an example early.

Mrs. Dias: I would imagine that there are parents that will tell their children not to do it.
What kind of policy will we put in place.

Dr. Filippelli: A district with a huge impact, Barrington do they have this policy. We are in May and prom is when. Reading number 2 is June. Communication in September at the beginning of the school year.

Mr. Scacco: The Seniors in this room are invested in this and want to set this up for the future.

Mr. LaPlante: Barrington has breathalyzer in and out of the dances.

Dr. Sollitto: Student who refuses and we send them home, we would face questions from parents. Are we prepared to face the question of why we denied a student a rite of passage such as a Prom when they are just standing up for their rights and refuse to take the breathalyzer even though they did not have a drink?

Mrs. Guglielmi: If we did in and out can they refuse.

Trisha Stewart
What if people do refuse? If you do not do you senior project you cannot go to the prom.

Dr. Sollitto: This is different though, student is standing up for their rights. The Senior Project is an Academic requirement

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Mr. Grande:

Everyone who takes a breathalyzer gets a ticket for a raffle.

Dr. Sollitto: Only can use the breathalyzer if there is suspicion under current policy.

Mrs. Scacco:

Crest View Drive

Schools must be safe healthy and secure, enforcing our strategic plan.

Mrs. Dias: Approve for 1 year effective September and revisit in June of 2018.

Mr. LaPlante: Participation in the event, intrusion is limited,

Mrs. Dias: Need to prevent anyone from feeling targeted.

Mr. Scacco: Kids had a system in place.

Mrs. Guglielmi: I am worried about random part.

Mr. LaPlante: I do not want to follow other districts like sheep.

Mrs. Dias: It is a phase in.

Mr. Scacco: Why don't we be the leaders of other school districts?

Mr. LaPlante: This is a good idea to try. It is important to get feedback. Use a questionnaire?

Mrs. McCormick: Need 3 testing points and I will contact the URI data team.

Mr. Scacco: The way that it is written: what if we took out randomly?

Dr. Sollitto: Mandatory or random are the options.

Mr. Scacco: Reserves the right?

Mr. LaPlante: Random or mandatory needs to be vetted.

Mrs. Dias: Move forward with my motion.

To approve the change in the breathalyzer to take effect at the start of the 2017-2018 to be revisited in July 2018.

Mr. Scacco: Second

All in favor: yes. Motion passes 5-0

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Motion passes

D. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE LIAISONS:

Mrs. Dias & Mr. LaPlante, Budget Committee: No need to talk about it anymore.

Mrs. Dias & Mr. LaPlante, School Space Needs Study Committee: Larry has information.

Mrs. Guglielmi & Mrs. Pendergast, Collective Bargaining and Negotiations: We are meeting with the custodians.

Mrs. Pendergast & Mr. Scacco, Policy Development: none

Mr. Scacco, Scituate Prevention Partnership: Went to Mock Trial, Conference in Florida.

Mrs. Pendergast: Scholarship Foundation: May 18, 2017 Sr. awards night.

Mr. Scacco, Health and Wellness: None

E. ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Dr. Sollitto read his report into the Record (which is attached hereto and incorporated herein by the referenced.)

1. Course Projections

Mr. Scacco: We need to implement with less than 15 students. It would be a stop in the road if we do not offer the classes because of the numbers.

Mrs. Pendergast: No new staffing? I am concerned class with the 7 students.

Dr. Filippelli: Great job on this because this is a very involved process at all levels.

2. Rhode Island State Assessment System Transition

3. District Technology Assessment Update

Mr. LaPlante: Who are they surveying for students?

Mrs. Pendergast: Need to have emails going out under separate cover.

Mrs. Dias: How have you been reaching out to the educators?

Dr. Sollitto: Overwhelmingly positive.

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4. CTE Update

Mrs. Dias: Sponsorship does that mean dollars.

Mrs. Dias: Could we see students next year?

Dr. Sollitto: We are a year ahead of our timeline.

5. Other Items to Note

F. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Dr. Filippelli read his report into the Record (which is attached hereto and incorporated herein by the referenced.)

1. STAGE II AND BOND APPROVAL UPDATE

Mrs. Dias: Dave can you send us a copy of that?

2. 4th GRADE UPDATE – 5th GRADE TRANSITION PLAN

Jennifer Vangel
103 Central Pike

Is that program just for grade 5?

Mrs. Pendergast: Is the plan being communicated to the parents?

Mrs. Guglielmi: Social, emotional program.

Tara Piecyk

How often will this be implemented?
I would like to look into plan.

Mrs. Kristine Gregory
439 Rocky Hill Road

Thank you for your plan.
No real data in the weekly reports.
Swiss system: it has objective data to pin point when and at what point you need help.

Mrs. Dias: The data that we are getting is what you are looking for.

Mrs. Gregory: I have a daughter in each class.

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Mr. LaPlante: I believe in data points. It is really good to hear from parents. Is it getting better?

Mrs. Gregory: I am not hearing bad things from my children. I have a suggestion going forward. If Bryan is getting 3 or more calls it should be moved up to the front office.

Ryan Adams
5 Adams Way

My daughter said nothing in the first semester then Bryan implemented this disciplinary procedure and my daughter is doing great. Then her seat was moved and it got worse again.

Mrs. McCormick: Is there a parent training piece to this? Maybe I can get a grant to help for that age group.

3. LED LIGHTING PROJECT CONTINUED

Mrs. Dias: Question about envelope projects, they were high priority.

4. EVACUATION DEBRIEF

Mrs. Pendergast: Positive response from the community on how the incident was handled.

5. ELEMENTARY LAPTOP/STREAM PROGRESS

Mrs. Pendergast: This is not to place blame, but we have to do better for our kids.

Mark DiLuglio
355 Elmdale Road

Money has been put into the budget and then taken out.

Larry put money in the budget and then it was taken out.

Dr. Lescault had a moratorium about adding more computers because we did not have the support.

We are finally reaching a breaking point.

I am a business man and I was insulted that you had to bring someone in here and spend thousands of dollars to tell you the same thing I have been telling you for years.

Mr. LaPlante: The teaching piece.

Mrs. Dias: It is priority

Mark: Sorry for my attitude. It is 12 years in the making.

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Mrs. Pendergast: We are catching up.

Mrs. Dias: We need a benchmark.

Mrs. Pendergast: You guys go above and beyond.

6. ARAMARK PRICE INCREASE

Mr. LaPlante: We support.

7. WEST BAY HEALTH

G. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mrs. Dias: List the topics of the Superintendent and Assistant Superintendents on the agenda.

Mrs. Scacco: Thank the school Committee
Lost our Commended Status with lack of PARCC participation?

Jennifer Vangel
103 Central Pike
Announcement to the families explaining about the testing.

Tim McCormick
428 Trimtown Road

Budget question-interim budgets. Need to keep looking at all the numbers.

Mrs. Dias: Needs to go to monthly.

Mrs. Pendergast: More a formal vetting of the budget.

Mr. McCormick: No mention of FUND balance.

H. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Durham Child Check Pledge

Mr. LaPlante: We dealt with that years ago and I think this is fine.

I. RESIGNATIONS

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APPOINTMENTS

Eric McKeon; Middle School Softball Volunteer Coach
Aaron Ring; Middle School Softball Volunteer Coach
Nicole Venturini; Middle School Softball Volunteer Coach
David Pannone; JV Baseball Volunteer Coach

Mr. Scacco: Motion to approve the 4 coaches.

Mrs. Pendergast: Second

All in favor: yes
Motion Passes

REAPPOINTMENTS

NON-RENEWALS

See attached list

Mrs. Dias: Motion to approve
Mr. Scacco: Second

Mrs. Guglielmi: It does not matter how long they have been here?

All in favor: Yes
Motion Passes

VOLUNTARY TRANSFERS

INVOLUNTARY TRANSFERS

TERMINATIONS

J. COMMITTEE REMARKS:

Mr. LaPlante: Thank everyone for being here at the meeting tonight.

Mrs. Guglielmi: Nothing

Mrs. Pendergast: Nothing

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Mrs. Dias: Nothing

Mr. Scacco: Thank you all for staying. I will have officially graduated from college. I want to thank everyone. Honored to be a part of it.

K. DISCUSSION OF FUTURE BUSINESS

L. ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. Dias: Motion to adjourn

Mr. Scacco: Second

All in favor: yes

Motion passes

The Committee unanimously approved the motion at 9:45 PM.

Respectfully Submitted

Mrs. Guglielmi, Clerk

Minutes were prepared by Theresa C. Yeaw, Recording Secretary. Neither the Clerk nor the Recording secretary is the designated Public Records contact for the Scituate School Committee or Scituate School Department under the RI Access to Public Records Act ("ARPA"). For all APRA inquiries, please contact the Superintendent's Office.

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**ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT
May 2, 2017**

1. Course Projections

With the redesign of our Program of Studies and the implementation of our Pathways Programs, there are 46 new course offerings at Scituate High School.

Students have chosen classes for next year and I met with Principal Hassell and Guidance Director Battisti several times to review numbers of students enrolled in each course. As you know, the difficulty with the introduction of new courses is having enough students to fill the sections of classes and keeping a full offering of courses that allow for students to take all of the classes that they need to fulfill graduation requirements and requirements for specific college program acceptance.

With a small school, this becomes increasingly difficult due to a large number of “singleton” course offerings.

I am thrilled to report that we have been able to run most of the new courses (including all first year Pathways courses) without increasing overall staffing numbers. However, we have a number of classes that we would like to run with fewer than 15 students. Past practice is that all classes with fewer than 15 students enrolled would need School Committee approval in order for the courses to run. Please keep in mind that these are classes that are necessary for programmatic and scheduling purposes. I am requesting approval for the following courses with fewer than 15 students:

AP English 11 – 13 French IV EE Honors -11 Spanish IV – 10 AP Computer Science Principles – 9 (CTE) Computer Science Principles – 9 (CTE) Pre-Calculus Honors – 13 Physics - 9 Sculpture -12	*Foundations of Algebra – 8 *Biology Level 2 – 11 *Physical/Earth Science level 2 – 7 *Modern World History Level 2 – 7 *Co-taught Special Education classes
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2. Rhode Island State Assessment System Transition

On April 14th, Commissioner Wagner and RIDE announced a change in state assessments starting in the 2017-18 school year. The PARCC will no longer be used as the state assessment measure. This will be replaced by the Rhode Island Comprehensive Assessment System or RICAS in grade 3-8. At the high school level, the state will use PSAT and SAT to meet federal testing requirements. All of this comes to light as RIDE is drafting the state plan for the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). This is federal legislation that replaced No Child Left

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Behind. RICAS is still under development and RIDE is working closely with Massachusetts as they have used the MCAS for several years.

This transition will not affect classroom instruction since the assessment does not impact graduation requirements or grade-level expectations. RICAS and PSAT/SAT are less time intensive than PARCC. Additionally, RICAS will utilize the same computer program system (Test Nav) that was used for PARCC so the transition should be seamless.

What does this mean for Scituate? At the high school level, we conducted school-wide PSAT and SAT this year and will continue this in the future. Student performance on these assessments are not tied to graduation. Testing time is greatly reduced as these tests take only one day to complete. In grade 3-8, the estimated total testing time will be reduced by about 85 minutes. As RIDE continues to develop the RICAS, there is sure to be training provided. We will be sending principals and teacher leaders to the training in preparation for the transition.

3. District Technology Assessment Update

I have been working closely with Eric Butash from the Highlander Institute to coordinate technology surveys for students, parents, teachers, and administrators. Due to April recess and the PARCC administration throughout the month, Eric recommended pushing back the survey with a deadline of May 10th. Survey links have been sent to each school principal and they are coordinating the completion of these. This extended window will allow Eric ample time to break down and analyze the data. He will also be conducting a few more site visits. The findings and recommendations will be presented at the June school committee meeting.

4. CTE Update

Throughout the month, I have had a number of meetings regarding our CTE program implementation and future plans to further strengthen pathway options for students. We are in discussions with American Safety Programs & Training regarding a possible Fire and EMT training program. Follow up meetings will be held in May.

I have spoken with a representative from NEIT regarding a dual enrollment Computer Science option for grade 12 students. This is a new program and Mike Hassell and I will be meeting with NEIT program directors to see if it is a good fit for our students.

Leadership Rhode Island is an organization that trains business and community leaders in efforts to strengthen Rhode Island. I have had a number of meetings with a group of business partners from Leadership Rhode Island. They have a strong interest in building a relationship with our pathways programs. Ideas discussed

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include sponsorship, marketing assistance, and internships. Members of this group include representatives from Amgen, Greenwood Credit Union, RIPTA, AAA, Rhode Island College, CCRI, and KPMG (among others). On April 25th, Mike Hassell, Linda Silva, and I discussed ways that Leadership Rhode Island group could assist our CTE programs. They are bringing these ideas back to the bigger group and we will have a follow up meeting to discuss next steps.

Over April break, I met with the program director and administrator for the Teacher Academy, a providence schools CTE program. We discussed their program to see if a Teacher Academy would be a viable option for future CTE pathway at SHS. At this time, it does not seem like a good fit for us. We can revisit this in the future.

Mike Hassell and I have both joined a RIDE CTE workgroup to discuss CTE funding and CTE program development. Meeting times and dates have not been release yet.

Mr. Hassell has completed all paper work needed for full RIDE approval of our CTE pathways. We received feedback from Steve Osbourne and Paul McConnell from RIDE that we are well on our way towards RIDE approval. There is a possibility that we may get full approval by early May. The CTE approval process is based on the CTE program standards as part of the Board of Regents Governing Career and Technical Education in Rhode Island. If the board approves our application in May, we will receive full RIDE approval and can begin work on an application process/marketing campaign geared towards bringing in out of district students.

5. Other Items to Note

- ✓ We continue to work on updating our PBGR policy. With the new state assessment system information recently released, we will likely incorporate this language into the graduation requirements. Mr. Hassell and I will be meeting to discuss these revisions. The new regulations may allow for some changes to PE instruction and toe the 4th year of mathematics requirement.
- ✓ Strategic Plan update - the draft plan is close to completion. School Committee member Dias has requested that she and I review the plan to ensure proper goal alignment. We will schedule a meeting within the next week or so. Once finalized, the plan will be shared with the committee and widely publicized. There is no formal school committee approval needed for the Strategic Plan but it will be presented to the committee upon completion.
- ✓ I will be unable to attend the July School Committee meeting due to a family vacation that was planned long ago. In lieu of my attendance, I will prepare a detailed report and will be available via email or phone conference if needed. I apologize for the inconvenience.
- ✓ Teacher nonrenewal list – as is done every year, there is a list of non-tenured teachers and least senior teachers in each department for nonrenewal. However, we anticipate that the vast majority of these teachers will be hired back as soon as we have definitive enrollments for next year.

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**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT
May 2, 2017**

1. STAGE II AND BOND APPROVAL UPDATE

We are anticipating full approval from RIDE on our Stage II Construction Submittal. I am meeting with Jeanne Vachon and Carolyn Dias on 4/28 to plan out and strategize information dissemination regarding the scope of the work, the bond components, the improvements to the schools, and fiscal impact of going to bond. I have spoken with Dave D'Agostino about getting the language set for Representative Quattrocchi to bring the general assembly once I have been officially notified of our approval. Additionally, I have been in contact with SYA who is also mobilizing to help support the bond and get the word out to our community and our stakeholders.

2. 4th GRADE UPDATE – 5th GRADE TRANSITION PLAN

I have been in consultation with Principal Byerlee about the 4th grade at NSES transitioning to 5th grade next year. The school psychologist will be implementing a social emotional program curriculum next year which includes group skills, social dynamics, self-awareness and self-control (mindfulness). Bryan asked if he could purchase this curriculum a few weeks ago and of course, I agreed. We also feel it is in the best interest of the students to secure consistency of instruction and expectations by moving up Ms. Augustine with the class next year rather than posting for a new position and having the students make another transition. Finally, Bryan will be assigning a paraprofessional to the 5th grade to assist as needed. This paraprofessional will be assigned to both classes. Additionally, for the remainder of this year, Principal Byerlee will continue to give parents weekly updates on the class and I will continue to give the School Committee weekly behavioral updates on the class.

3. LED LIGHTING PROJECT CONTINUED

I have had the opportunity since our last full meeting to discuss the possibility of funding some of our energy projects through National Grid and the RI infrastructure bank. At this time, I will need some direction from the committee on how they would like to proceed with this project. There are definitely direct benefits, but the committee needs to weigh out the cost of the loan from the infrastructure bank over the projected life of the projects. At this point I am not convinced that we will achieve all of the projected savings on every project. Therefore, I am recommending that we pump the brakes a bit on this project until we can fully ascertain what the fiscal impact/obligations will be for us. As of right now, I am more comfortable with some of the lighting upgrades being funded, but I am less comfortable with some of the

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exterior envelope upgrades as they don't produce the same rate of return from an efficiency perspective.

4. EVACUATION DEBRIEF

On Monday 4/24, Council Vice President Payette held a debriefing of the incident that took place at the high school on 4/13. It was a meeting of first responders, school personnel and the RI Bomb Squad. We debriefed on how the incident was handled, the many strengths we found in working collaboratively, and also identified some areas collectively that we could have handled differently to better facilitate communication. The commander from the RI Bomb Squad was very complimentary to school personnel and police personnel for the way in which the scene was handled and how the protection of our students was initiated. Hats off to everyone involved in the situation.

5. ELEMENTARY LAPTOP/STREAM PROGRESS

As mentioned at the last school committee meeting and through various other communications, there is a need to address the laptop/stream situation at Clayville and Hope elementary schools. I have asked Mark DiLuglio to attend the School Committee meeting to assist in answering some of the questions that were asked about how and why the streams were not able to be set up at each of the schools. The concern, which is 100% valid is that it is now May, and the technology for those schools has not been set up yet. As I understand the situation from Mark, the streams arrived in the schools in late August, early September. However, the carts for the streams did not arrive until late September. Finally, the carts arrived at Scituate High School because there was a \$450 charge to have them delivered to each individual elementary school. At this time, Mark and Erik's time was occupied with AimsWeb issues at all of the elementary schools and the bulk of their time was spent addressing those issues. According to Mark, we had AimsWeb issues from early October through February (with a break in December). Also during this time, the district was experiencing server lockups that had to be addressed by Mark and Erik. These were happening via updates from Microsoft causing manual restarts of the servers in the morning. They were finally able to shut the updates off but that necessitated manual updates of the servers to avoid system shut downs. Around October 6th, 8 streams were taken to high school science because the science department needed them for daily coursework. In November, 6 streams were utilized for middle school robotics. Around late January a cart of machines arrived at NSES and were not set up for a few weeks due to Mark and Erik having to complete a Windows 10 upgrade (complete replacement of operating system). Around 2/24, the Clayville and Hope carts were delivered and that's when Mark realized that we didn't have all the Streams. High school science and middle school robotics did not order streams to replace those being utilized from the Fall. Also at this time, Mark and Erik needed to add 16-20 units in the library in order to be in compliance with PARCC.

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Due to budgetary constraints, we could not order these 16-20 units so the streams had to now be utilized for PARCC testing. At this point, once the PARCC testing is over, the streams can be and will be delivered to Clayville and Hope. Everyone acknowledges that almost an entire academic year has passed since the streams were delivered, but given the aforementioned timeline and the constraints Mark and Erik were working under, resources had to be deployed in the best and most critical areas.

6. ARAMARK PRICE INCREASE

I had a meeting last month with the representatives from Aramark. They discussed potentially raising the rate of school lunches by 10 cents. We have not raised rates of school lunches in the last two years. The current school lunch costs \$2.50 at the elementary school and \$2.75 at the middle/high school. The current cost of reduced lunch is 40 cents at the elementary and secondary levels. Thus, the costs would increase to \$2.60, \$2.85, and 50 cents respectively.

7. WEST BAY HEALTH

I have been in conversations with Alan Lord, the Executive Director of West Bay Health about our balances in our healthcare account and our dental account. I had these conversations in an effort to try and find any savings I could possibly achieve due to the fiscal impact of our budget which has been highlighted over the last few months. We have unfortunately been experiencing high claims in our healthcare account. Fortunately, we have enough of a balance in that account to cushion the blow of what is expected to be a \$200,000 overage in the health account. The good news is that we have additional cushion in our dental account and I have requested that West Bay Health remove \$200,000 from our dental account to be paid to the district. Unfortunately, based on the WB agreement, we will not realize this payment until 3/31/18. This payment will be utilized to offset the losses experienced this year in order to replenish our fund balance back to an appropriate level. It is important for the committee to understand that these are not accounts that can be looked to yearly to find funds as other districts who have tried to do so have found themselves needing to go to their town government for additional appropriations for healthcare. It is my recommendation, given the high cost of health care and the fact that we have a \$200,000 additional expenditure to contend with, that we do not touch the healthcare account at this time. Conversely, there were funds in the dental account that Alan and I discussed and that is how we came to the decision to remove \$200,000 to help support the replenishment of our contingency line in our budget. I discussed the decision to do this with the budget liaisons and the auditor general's office to be sure that I was on sound footing to do so.