

SCITUATE SCHOOL COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING-TUESDAY, JUNE 6, 2017
TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS

1. 7:00 PM- Open Regular Meeting
2. Call of Members – Chair LaPlante

Present were Mr. LaPlante, Chair, Mrs. Guglielmi, Mrs. Pendergast, Mrs. Dias and Mr. Scacco. Also present Dr. Lawrence Filippelli, Superintendent, Dr. Michael Sollitto, Assistant Superintendent, and Attorney David D’Agostino.

- 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 Executive Session Meeting Minutes May 2, 2017.

Mrs. Pendergast: Second

All in favor: Yes
Motion passes

Mrs. Guglielmi: Motion to Approve the Scituate School Committee Regular Session Meeting Minutes Tuesday, May 2, 2017.

Mr. Scacco: Second

All in favor: Yes
Motions passes

Mrs. Guglielmi: Made a motion to approve 2016-2017 Budget General Fund for June 2017 in the amount \$668,061.14.

Mrs. Pendergast: Second

All in favor: Yes
Motion passes

Mrs. Guglielmi: Made a motion to approve Grant Bills for June 2017 in the amount \$22,658.06.

Mrs. Pendergast: Second

All in favor: Yes
Motion passes

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C. CORRESPONDENCE:

A letter to the Superintendent from Christine Luchun informing him of her decision to resign from her position as preschool teacher at Clayville Elementary, effective at the end of the contract year.

Recommendation: Approve the resignation, with regret.

A letter to the Superintendent from Jean Smith informing him of her decision to retire from her position as Paraprofessional at Hope Elementary, effective June 20, 2017.

Recommendation: Approve the retirement, with regret.

A letter to the Superintendent from Michael Zajac informing him of his decision to resign from his position as Principal of Scituate Middle School, effective June 30, 2017.

Recommendation: Approve the retirement, with regret.

A letter from Lil Zarli informing him of her decision to retire from her position as Secretary at North Scituate Elementary, effective June 27, 2017.

Recommendation: Approve the retirement, with regret.

Dr. Filippelli: Read a letter into the record from the Middle School Teachers regarding Mr. Zajac resignation.

Mr. Scacco: Motion to approve the resignation of Christine Luchun.
Mrs. Pendergast: Second

All in favor: Yes
Motion passes

Mr. Scacco: Motion to approve the retirement of Jean Smith.

Mrs. Guglielmi: Second

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All in favor: yes
Motion passes

Mr. Scacco: Motion to approve the resignation of Michael Zajac.

Mrs. Dias: Second

All in favor: Yes
Motion passes

Mrs. Dias: Motion to accept the retirement of Lil Zarli.

Mr. Scacco: Second

All in Favor: yes
Motion passes

Mr. Scacco: Motion to move E. Presentation and recognition of Peter Ceprano, New Business 1. Discussion/Second Reading/Vote concerning Revised Policy #8220: Breathalyzer Use at School & School Sponsored Events and presentation of Highlander Institute out of order.

Mrs. Pendergast: Second

All in favor: Yes
Motion passes.

E. Presentation and recognition of Peter Ceprano (State, Regional, and National Coach of the Year)

Presented by Mr. Scacco

Discussion/Second Reading/Vote concerning Revised Policy #8220: Breathalyzer Use at School & School Sponsored Events

Erica McCormick:
428 Trimtown Rd.

Explains how changing policy is how to change behavior

Data: 3 theory of change is:

Deterrent

School Influence/Bonding to school

Social Norms

Presented a letter from the SADD students who could not attend the meeting.

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SADD group showed a video of some of the student's that could not attend.

Mrs. McCormick presented a handout to the committee on policies for other school districts.

Mary Morse
404 North Road

A couple of the kids said that they want the community to care about them, I care about the kids in the schools.

I walk and bike the roads of Scituate, I have counted 292 pieces of evidence of drinking. That is evidence that people are out drinking and driving. I have 35 years of experience as an educator running dances.

The breathalyzer is nondiscriminatory.

I urge you to consider voting yes to the policy.

George Kuzmowycz
37 Esek Hopkins Road

I do not have children in the school system, however I have grown children. Trust is how I raised my children and this policy shows that you do not trust the children. If you believe someone is impaired test them.

I urge you to vote against this policy.

Sarah DeMatteo

I have friends that their parents trust them but they are betraying their parents.

I have seen students go into dances drunk and not get caught.

The last dance people thought there might be a test and there was no one drunk.

Matt Besser
6 Maple Lane

It is not someone picking the person to be tested. It's a chip and that ensures random testing.

The homecoming dance there was a rumor that random testing was going to occur and no one was drunk.

Allie Caleb
99 Gleaner Chapel Road

I have attended many dances over the years and I have never seen anyone tested with a breathalyzer.

What we have is not good enough and we need to step it up a notch.

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Ms. O'Rourke
47 Rolling Green Drive

We have watched funding being cut from MADD.
I worry about everyone driving home from the dances.
We look at the victim. Being involved with SADD has changed me.

Mrs. Pendergast: I support this policy. Will there will be notice? Clarification of what a school event is?

Mr. LaPlante: With respect to random testing you want to know what events?

Mrs. Pendergast: Policy would fall back to administration.

Mr. LaPlante: Define the mythology?

Mrs. Guglielmi: Reserve the right to ensure the safety.

Mr. Scacco: Is it just dances?

Dr. Sollitto: We have had issues with outings.

Mr. LaPlante: Discretion of when it will be implemented.

Attorney D'Agostino: Extracurricular activities.

Mrs. McCormick: Add the word and Guest.

Dr. Sollitto: Guest expectation clause. Random should be spelled out in that policy.

Mr. LaPlante: You have the word random; I do not know how more specific.

Mrs. Pendergast: Can we amend the language.

Ray Grigevich
16 Woodland Road

I think you want to modify random and discipline, they need to know what the ramification is.
Is there a presumption of guilt?

Mrs. McCormick: If you refuse you do not go to the dance.

Mrs. Guglielmi: We are on the second reading, would changing the language put us back?

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Attorney D'Agostino: You can change it at any time prior to adoption.

Mrs. Pendergast: We have time. I want this policy to be sustainable.

Mrs. Dias: Pilot the first year.

Mr. LaPlante: We will revise it. Let's get to the language.
Random and nondiscriminatory for all students attending extracurricular events.

Dr. Filippelli: If a student is refusing you are not getting in but we are also calling your parent because you are not getting into a car and driving home.

Dr. Sollitto: That is standard.

Mr. LaPlante: When you have a violation you have a result and I do not think it is wise to leave it open. Refusal will be a result in non-admittance and parental contact.

Mr. Scacco: Motion to approve the policy with the following change:

In addition, the Scituate School Department reserves the right to randomly and non-discriminatorily use a breathalyzer test for all students attending extracurricular school events to ensure the safety of students. A student who refuses a random breathalyzer test will be denied admittance to the extracurricular school event and their parents will be notified.

Mrs. Guglielmi: Second

All in favor: Yes
Motion passes

HIGHLANDER INSTITUTE PRESENTATION:

Dr. Sollitto: What I am hearing is that we need to pick a platform.

Dr. Filippelli: We are at a crossroads, office 365 is a lot of training for teachers and students, and if we have students in the Google environment, trying to get them to change?

George Kuzmowycz
37 Esek Hopkins

I appreciate the work that this group has done.
You need to focus on the education and that has to change. Teachers do not need to teach facts any longer you can find that information immediately.
Every budget year someone tells you the same thing and maybe now you will listen to it now you have paid for it.

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D. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE LIAISONS:

Mrs. Dias & Mr. LaPlante, Budget Committee: None

Mrs. Dias & Mr. LaPlante, School Space Needs Study Committee: None

Mrs. Guglielmi & Mrs. Pendergast, Collective Bargaining and Negotiations: Custodians contracts are going pretty well and when we need committee input I will let you know.

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

Mr. Scacco, Scituate Prevention Partnership: Congrats to SADD Group. Congrats to my sister for the scholarship she received.

Mrs. Pendergast: Scholarship Foundation: None

Mr. Scacco, Health and Wellness: Food service meeting through play works and training they are looking to change recess. Field days are coming up. Big kids and little athletes, high school kids are playing with the younger kids.

F. ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

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

1. CTE Update:

Mr. Scacco: Are there any other grants.

Dr. Sollitto: We have applied for another grant.

Mr. LaPlante: Do you have anything in the works for our promotional campaign.

Dr. Sollitto: Leadership RI is going to help handle our promotional campaign for us.

Mr. LaPlante: I have been sharing all social media.

Dr. Filippelli: We have boosted the posts on Facebook.

Mr. Hassell: Ads are in all the local papers.

Dr. Sollitto: Our promotional campaign will be all digital.

Mr. LaPlante: Stem the tide.

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Mr. Hassell: We did not think we were going to get approval in May, this is our soft open.

2. Strategic Planning
3. Consolidated Resource Plan
4. PARCC and NECAP Testing

Mrs. Dias: Why would a student know that the Science test is going away?

5. Teacher Recall
6. District Technology Assessment Update

Dr. Sollitto: Going to Portsmouth and Middletown this week.

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: When is the Senate legislation?

2. Budget Contingency Line Item:

Mr. LaPlante: Only this group can direct the dollars. Advisory tonight and next month have it on the agenda. Let's push that back into the fund balance.

3. Request from Chief Delaere for Financial Assistance for Resource Officer:
4. LED Lighting Project:

Mr. LaPlante: Source of monies? We do not have capital sources.

G. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Tim McCormick:
428 Trimtown Road

I feel bad for the police chief for his budget issues. Any money you spend outside the budget takes out of the contingency.

The money is in the police budget, and I do not know what is going on with the chief's budget. This is not the school department's problem it is the Town Council.

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Mrs. Pendergast: Why are you alluding that this is a police problem.

Attorney D'Agostino: This all happened in a prior financial town meeting.

Mrs. Pendergast: We need to pay our fair share.

Mr. McCormick: This is already funded through the town.

Mrs. Dias: This has been in the budget, there is a new position needed in the police department. Do we want to be collaborative and supportive of our fellow town employees? I want to support our police department, but it is a timing issue.

Mr. McCormick: It is the town's people who said how the money is spent. It is a Town Council problem.

Mr. Scacco: I think right now the timing does not work. We cannot give money away so early in the budget year.

Mr. LaPlante: Of course we want to be cooperative and respectful of other departments. My issue is the law; we do not have the legal right to spend our dollars for other departments' needs.

Mrs. Pendergast: This position is solely focused on the school.

Mrs. Dias: Is it legal for us to do this?

Attorney D'Agostino: Read a case into the record regarding the question of legality.

Mrs. Dias: We have a big budget but our needs are big too.

Mr. McCormick: I would urge you to honor the commitment and the last word the taxpayers said was no. You have a deficit you need to take every extra dollar you have to knock that down.

Mike Payette
482 Rocky Hill Road
I support the school.

Mr. LaPlante: The money for the SRO is in the police budget.

Mr. Payette: There are several more issues and things went under the radar in the police budget and now we need a detective.

Mrs. Dias: He can cover everything but \$25,000?

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Mr. Payette: The Chief took this upon himself to write the letter to the School Department. I am speaking on his behalf as the town administrator.

Mr. LaPlante: If we consider giving money towards a new police officer is unlawful. The only thing we can do is give money towards the SRO officer and I do not know if that is lawful. The taxpayers gave us the money. I am having a hard time with the legal issue.

George Kuzmowycz
37 Esek Hopkins

There was a very clear intent at the 2015 meeting. The school department should not be funding the salary of a police officer, because the chief did not plan his budget.

Mrs. Pendergast: People did not realize what they were doing.

Mr. Kuzmowycz: I have come to accept the outcome of that meeting and the police department should come to that to.

Mr. LaPlante: The town's people voted on the police budget as well and we would be meddling in that.

Mrs. Dias: We have a Town Council.

Mrs. Guglielmi: The town's people have spoken.

Mrs. Dias: This is a onetime anomaly, they are asking for a favor.

Mr. Kuzmowycz: It is not yours to give.

Mr. Scacco: Where is the money going to come from?

Mr. LaPlante: We have competing issues.

Mr. Scacco: It is the timing.

Ray Grigevich
16 Woodland Road

90% of the town's people are unaware that the police pay for that position. There is a reasonable expectation.

Mr. McCormick: It is my understanding that this is not a deficit in the staff this is an addition to the staff that we would be funding.

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Mr. Payette: We never solve any crimes because we do not have a detective. I will sit down to take a look at taking the officer out of the school for several days if the committee can't find the money.

Mrs. Dias: I would want a memorandum of understanding.

Attorney D'Agostino: We have that.

Mrs. Guglielmi: I moved that we deny the request from the Chef.

Mrs. Pendergast: I would like a second so we can table this discussion based upon further information.

Mr. Scacco: I want to know the amount of hours that the officers need to be there.

Mrs. Guglielmi: The money for the police officer is there.

Mr. Scacco: Larry can you get the memorandum.

Dr. Sollitto: I think that it is generalized.

Mrs. Dias: Motion to table for more information.

Mr. Scacco: Second

Dr. Filippelli: Read into record the MOU.

Mr. LaPlante: Does not speak about the dedication of hours.

Mrs. Guglielmi: Withdraw motion.

Mrs. Pendergast: Motion to table for more information

Mrs. Dias: Second

All in favor: Yes
Motion passes

H. NEW BUSINESS:

See above: Discussion/Second Reading/Vote concerning Revised Policy #8220:
Breathalyzer Use at School & School Sponsored Events

1. Request from Chief Delaere for financial assistance from the School Committee for the School Resource Officer

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See Superintendent's Report for details on this item.

2. Discussion/Vote concerning District Website Design and Content

Mrs. Dias: Can we revise the School Department's Website? You cannot read it.

Dr. Sollitto: Make it more user friendly.

Mrs. Dias: Look the same as the new town website.

3. Discussion/Vote concerning School Committee Approval Form for 2018 RI Student Survey

Mrs. McCormick: Same survey as 2016, student behaviors.

Mrs. Dias: Motion to approve

Mr. Scacco: Second

All in favor: yes

Motion passes

Discussion pertaining to the Highlander presentation:

Mr. LaPlante: I want the vision developed by stakeholders.

Dr. Sollitto: We have a technology team with about 15 people on it.

Mr. LaPlante: I would like to see a proposed document. What is the timing?

Dr. Sollitto: Hopefully by the beginning of July.

I. RESIGNATIONS

Jacqueline Lagueux; Part-time Paraprofessional, North Scituate Elementary School, effective 5/19/2017

Melissa LaVallee; Part-time Paraprofessional, North Scituate Elementary School, effective 5/26/2017

Mrs. Guglielmi: Motion to accept the resignations.

Mrs. Pendergast: Second

All in favor: Yes

Motion passes

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APPOINTMENTS

REAPPOINTMENTS

See attached Teacher Recall List

Mrs. Dias: Motion to accept the Teacher Recall List.

Mrs. Pendergast: Second

All in favor: Yes
Motion passes

VOLUNTARY TRANSFERS

INVOLUNTARY TRANSFERS

Jennifer Roy; Grade 1, Hope Elementary School
Jaclyn Augustine; Grade 5, North Scituate Elementary School

Mrs. Dias: Motion to accept the transfers.

Mrs. Pendergast: Second

All in favor: Yes
Motion passes

TERMINATIONS

J. COMMITTEE REMARKS:

Mr. LaPlante: None

Mrs. Guglielmi: Mrs. Zarli retirement party on June 17th.

Mrs. Pendergast: Shout out to Mike Zajac; sad to see him go.

Mrs. Dias: none

Mr. Scacco: Congratulations to the Seniors

K. DISCUSSION OF FUTURE BUSINESS

L. ADJOURNMENT

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Mrs. Dias: Motion to adjourn

Mrs. Pendergast: Second

All in favor: yes
Motion passes

The Committee unanimously approved the motion at 10:21 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.

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

June 6, 2017

1. **CTE Update**

At the CTE Board meeting in May, the Board granted approval of our Engineering and Computer Science Pathways. Our Biomedical Pathway will be presented for approval at the June board meeting. Throughout the process, we have been in constant communication with RIDE and with Project Lead the Way to ensure that our programs are aligned to the CTE standards. At this point, teachers have registered for professional development throughout the summer. We are in the process of determining equipment needs for the 2017-2018 school year. The CTE team at the high school and Mr. Hassell have been wonderful to work with. Due to the program approval, an application was designed to allow for out of district students to apply for pathways at SHS. A limited number of seats are available for next school year due to course enrollment numbers. Plans are to expand this for the 2018-2019 school year with a full-scale promotional campaign. Also, we were informed on June 1st that the grant application that Mr. Hassell and I wrote and submitted in December was approved by RIDE CTE Trust. This means that we will be awarded a \$50,000 grant to assist with our PLTW costs.

2. **Strategic Planning**

With assistance from committee member Dias, I have contacted Peg Votta from RIDE. She is conducting a data analysis based on district statistics. Once completed, she will present this to us. The goal is to incorporate data into our strategic plan in order to establish specific, applicable goals aligned to our objectives. We plan on coordinating a meeting of district administrators in late June to work on these goals. Once goals are established and incorporated into the plan, the final draft will be presented to the Strategic Planning Committee for final approval.

3. **Consolidated Resource Plan**

The consolidated resource plan or CRP is completed each year to determine Title I, Title II, and IDEA expenditures. This is a tremendous undertaking; I am nearing completion of the Title I and Title II sections for submission to RIDE. Northwest Special Education completes the IDEA portion of the CRP.

4. **PARCC and NECAP Testing**

PARCC and NECAP testing has been completed at all schools. By all accounts, the PARCC process went well with student participation and engagement at a high level. The Science NECAP however was not as well received. Particularly at the high school level, the testing seemed to lose steam with many students completing the testing very quickly. As you are aware, this is the last year for both the PARCC and the Science NECAP. The announcement of the change in state testing came just prior to the

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NECAP and students seemed to have taken notice. We should receive results of all testing in the fall.

5. **Teacher Recall**

Based on student enrollment and identified needs, there are a number of teachers scheduled to be recalled tonight. We are asking for approval of several reappointments.

6. **District Technology Assessment Update**

Over the past few months, the Highlander Institute has completed a district-wide technology assessment. This included site visits to each school, interviews of staff, and surveys of parents, students, and teachers. Eric Butash from Highlander is here to present findings and recommendations. At this point, I will defer to Eric for his presentation.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

June 6, 2017

1. STAGE II AND BOND APPROVAL UPDATE

I just wanted to say “thank you” to the members of the school committee and town council for the work that was put in to the bond language. As you know, we have come a long way in 10 months and the bond is now going to the legislature for approval. On 5/31, I hand delivered the signed MOU to Joe DaSilva at RIDE to be sure it got there on time. We also faxed it in as a secondary measure. The next phase is to bring stakeholders on board and begin planning the informational sessions for bond approval.

2. BUDGET CONTINGENCY LINE ITEM

I am recommending to the committee that they formally place the additional \$300,000 given to the school department at the FTM in the contingency line in the budget. The school department made a verbal commitment to use those funds towards the impending structural deficit for next year barring any extreme circumstance that would necessitate the emergency use of those funds. The committee did not take any action on this at the last meeting so I am recommending you take formal action so that Lisa in my office can appropriately allocate those monies in UCOA.

3. REQUEST FROM CHIEF DELAERE FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR RESOURCE OFFICER

On May 12th, I was contacted by Chief Delaere asking if the school department would be able to offset the school resource officer's salary by \$25,000. I indicated to the Chief that I would need the entire committee to discuss this request at their next meeting. I have asked the Chief for salary information. Attachment A is the Chief's response to that request and attachment B is Karen Beattie's response to my request for benefits information so that the committee can be well informed. For the committee members who were not part of this committee two years ago, it should be noted that at the 2015 FTM, a motion was made, seconded and ultimately passed that took the SRO funding out of the school department budget and put it back over to the town side. As a result, the school department budget was reduced by that amount of money. My recommendation to the committee is to discuss this request and take whatever action they deem appropriate given the request.

4. LED LIGHTING PROJECT

Glen and I had a meeting with Council Vice President Payette and Gerry Drummond from National Grid. We talked at length about the LED lighting project I reported on last month. In order to complete this project, we need the support of the town council as the

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application has to be made through the town. Therefore, we brought on VP Payette, as the town has some LED project needs as well. In regards to the funding, the LED project is the way to go rather than trying to get the exterior envelope projects completed. As I understand it, there is a much greater and faster return on the electric projects than the window projects. Therefore, our budgeted energy line savings will be used to pay for the principle and interest. Both the town and the school are going to have third party reviewers come in and make sure that the numbers are accurate and work out prior to us committing to the work.