

SCITUATE SCHOOL COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING-TUESDAY, JANUARY 9, 2018
SCITUATE COUNCIL CHAMBERS

1. 7:00 PM – Reconvene into Open Session - Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

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

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, December 5, 2017.

Mrs. Pendergast: Second

Motion to change the regular meeting minutes with the following changes: change to 7:00 pm reconvene into open session.

All in favor: yes

Motion Passes

Mrs. Guglielmi: Motion to Approve the Scituate School Committee Executive Session Meeting Minutes Tuesday, December 5, 2017.

Mrs. Pendergast: Second

All in favor: yes

Motion Passes

Mrs. Guglielmi: Made a motion to approve 2017-2018 Budget General Fund for January 2018 in the amount \$504,003.52.

Mrs. Pendergast: Second

Mrs. Pendergast: We are still paying for port-a-johns year-round?

Dr. Sollitto: They stay there year-round.

Mr. LaPlante: We need to do something about the port-a-johns at Manning field.

Mrs. Pendergast: I had mentioned that we should have a handicap accessible.

All in favor: Yes

Motion passes

Mrs. Guglielmi: Made a motion to approve Grant Bills for January 2018 in the amount \$24,512.69.

Mrs. Pendergast: Second

All in favor: Yes

Motion passes

Mrs. Dias: Make a motion to take (H) New Business 6. Appointment of Robert Corrente as Director of School Facilities out of order.

Mrs. Pendergast: Second

All in favor: Yes

Motion passes

Mr. Kuzmowycz: Has the job description changed?

Dr. Filippelli: I can email you the description on School Spring.

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Mr. D'Agostino: The budget needs to be fixed. We changed the title from Building and Grounds to Director of School Facilities.

Dr. Filippelli: Speaks to the process of hiring a new facilities manager and the hiring of Robert Corrente as the new manager.

Mrs. Dias: Motion to appoint Mr. Corrente.

Mrs. Guglielmi: Second.

All in favor: Yes

Motion Passes

Mrs. Pendergast: The big "wow" factor is his experience with construction.

C. Correspondence:

1. A letter to the Superintendent from Glen Mathieu informing him of his decision to resign from his position as Director of Facilities, effective 1/6/2018.

Recommendation: Accept the resignation.

Mr. Scacco: Motion to approve.

Mrs. Dias: Second

All in Favor: yes

Motion passes

Mr. LaPlante: I appreciate what Glen brought to this district.

2. A leave form from Lisa Meyer requesting to use two personal days with reason on 1/11 and 1/12/2018.

Background: The date requested is contiguous with a school vacation. According to the STA contract, the school committee must vote to allow the date requested.

Recommendation: Approve the Request.

Mr. Scacco: Motion to approve

Mrs. Dias: Second

All in Favor: yes

Motion passes.

Mr. LaPlante: Correspondence from the Scituate Lions Club to replace the sign in front of the High School.

Mrs. Pendergast: Go Lions!

Dr. Sollitto: This has been moving forward for some time.

D. Report of the Committee Liaisons:

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Mrs. Dias & Mr. LaPlante, Budget Committee: Wait for agenda.

Mrs. Dias & Mr. LaPlante, School Space Needs Study Committee: Nothing

Mrs. Guglielmi & Mrs. Pendergast, Collective Bargaining and Negotiations: We are ready to sign the contract with the custodians.

Mrs. Pendergast & Mr. Scacco, Policy Development: Nothing

Mr. Scacco, Scituate Prevention Partnership: On February 9th No One Eats Alone at the High and Middle School and thank you to SPP for three on-line classes.

Mrs. Pendergast: Scholarship Foundation: Mrs. Guglielmi: Make the scholarships larger. Bill Lenox is the chairman and he has spoken to all scholarships and they will be increased to \$2,000.00. There will be fewer scholarships but larger amounts.

Mr. Scacco, Health and Wellness: Nothing

E. Assistant Superintendent's Report:

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

1. Frontline Training:

2. Technology Update:

Mrs. Dias: At the last school committee meeting some of the Principals were talking about delays.

Mr. LaPlante: Infrastructure.

Dr. Sollitto: Mark is working on that.

Mr. LaPlante: Needs to be mission critical.

Mrs. Dias: The North Scituate computer lab.

Dr. Filippelli: Thin clients still there.

Mrs. Pendergast: We had new computers on order?

Dr. Sollitto: The model we ordered was no longer in production.

Mrs. Pendergast: Are the new computers in place of the thin clients?

Dr. Sollitto: No they are for classroom use.

Mrs. Pendergast: What are they doing to address that?

Dr. Sollitto: Explains how the hardware is going to be utilized.

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Mrs. Dias: The 8th grade experience is so important.

3. State Testing Information:

Mr. LaPlante: We had some other ideas at the last meeting.

Mrs. Pendergast: I speak as proactive, students are taking the tests but now they need to be taking the tests seriously.

Dr. Sollitto: Using PSAT and SAT are viewed as valid tests so we do not need to promote those much. The elementary schools are making better progress.

Mrs. Dias: We have to get teacher buy in. I spoke to a parent that was pushed off by teachers in the Middle School.

Mrs. Pendergast: The first round was horrific we lost our status. We did not do a good job praising students.

Mrs. Dias: It was not evident in the last round of testing. Where are the educators in that building?

Dr. Sollitto: I think that the state changes are making a big difference.

Mrs. Dias: Do you have any more work to do?

Dr. Sollitto: We always have work to do. We do not know what the testing will be. We have new leadership in the Middle School.

Mrs. Guglielmi: We had a period of changing the testing each year.

Dr. Sollitto: The state has cleaned up their end.

Mr. LaPlante: Action plan: Letter to parents, communicate with teachers, and the other piece is the kids is a reward factor.

Mike Payette: I will pay for the pizza party, just give me advance notice if you decide to do it.

F. Superintendent's Report:

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

1. 2018- 2019 School District Budget

Mrs. Pendergast: Start with the Capital, what was our capital for this year?

Dr. Filippelli: \$300,000 budgeted for this year.

Mrs. Pendergast: We should receive what back?

Mrs. Dias: We should get \$35,000 back, only if we spend \$300,000 or more.

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Mrs. Pendergast: We are looking at a \$300,000.

Dr. Filippelli: We are around that.

Mrs. Pendergast: Our ask is still the same and not more burdensome to the town.

Mrs. Dias: Could be more money in the future.

Mrs. Pendergast: There is room to move projects around.

Dr. Filippelli: If you want to give me the direction.

Mrs. Dias: There are some big things happening here. The state aid is going down \$300,000 in this budget.

Mr. LaPlante: Students going to other districts, but we have taken action.

Mrs. Pendergast: I did not see that in here, should that number be coming down further?

Mrs. Dias: I think he cut a 1/2 million out. A couple of things to talk to the committee: I would like to propose to move expedite that.

We need to have that data for the footprint of our central office.

I would like to propose to talk about how we can reduce this further. This budget will be a challenge to meet and we could come in at a deficit of \$400,000 and at that time we tap into the reserve. If we can get it down to a place with the understanding, we have some reserve. If they give us a 2.5% each year until we get out of this. I feel that we need to send a million-dollar budget to the town.

Mr. LaPlante: We need to identify what we need to propose to the Town.

Mrs. Dias: We are at risk of having a deficit.

Mrs. Pendergast: We are doing a deeper analysis.

Dr. Filippelli: We will not know sections for another month.

Mrs. Pendergast: We have not received the NESDEC projections.

Dr. Filippelli: Bigger is the facilities projections.

Mr. LaPlante: We have reduced the teacher salary line.

Dr. Filippelli: I think we have great momentum in the district and you have to maintain that. The alternative is to dip into the reserve.

Mrs. Dias: Based on conversations with the prior Superintendent and the Treasurer. It is not going to happen in one year. If we can continue to get an addition 2.5% every year.

Mrs. Pendergast: Kids going out has to stop.

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Dr. Filippelli: There are things moving in the state.

Mrs. Pendergast: The numbers are worst case scenario.

Mrs. Dias: What percent?

Dr. Filippelli: 5.4 percent.

Mrs. Dias: What about a 3 percent?

Mr. LaPlante: 3 percent is \$564,000 which leaves a hole.

Mrs. Dias: We know we have a little wiggle room. I do not want to wrangle at the budget meeting. I do not want to play any games. We took this extremely seriously.

Dr. Filippelli: We had 8 new students come this week.

Mr. LaPlante: We are paying for students still going out of district.

Dr. Filippelli: Lisa broke out contractual obligations 1.4 million, is what we are looking at for operations everything else is contractual obligations.

Mr. LaPlante: It has spiked over the last few years.

Dr. Filippelli: The new CTE.

Mrs. Dias: The Charter School in the State are suffering because of the CTE programs.

Mr. Scacco: Show we are working on this.

Mrs. Dias: We need to talk about enrollment. We are looking at a 3-year approach. We will have opportunities.

Mr. LaPlante: Where are we going to find the \$400,000 to cut.

Mrs. Dias: We are not supplementing; we are going to go negative and tap into the reserves.

Mrs. Pendergast: We have to find savings.

Dr. Filippelli: The more savings you can find it lessens your burden.

Mr. Scacco: Could be some savings in the out of district.

Mrs. Pendergast: Out of district tuition Page 3 let's bring down \$162,000? We are going into deficit. I will not support a student going to a district if we offer the same programs.

Mr. LaPlante: It is in the courts now.

Mrs. Pendergast: We need to take a stand and not let students out if we offer the same programs.

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Mrs. Dias: Take the personnel lines down, if we are going to have savings it will be there.

Mr. LaPlante: Increase the student revenue line item by \$182,000.

Mrs. Dias: This has to be articulated to the budget committee.

Mr. Scacco: I have the utmost faith in Mike Hassell, but I do not know if we can get that many students.

Mr. LaPlante: We have to put it somewhere.

Mrs. Dias: We are going to hit the reserve, so it is just the way we are presenting it. I know Mike is trying to play it safe. When does the marketing campaign start?

Dr. Sollitto: February 1st is the open house.

Mr. LaPlante: I understand the strategy.

Dr. Filippelli: CTE, Tuition, and salaries.

Mrs. Dias: Northern RI Collaborative?

Dr. Filippelli: Could be a revenue stream.

Mr. LaPlante: Are we pursuing this strategy? Not using the fund balance and we want to aggressively get new students to plug the holes.

Dr. Filippelli: We will not see any savings from people leaving the district until summer.

Mrs. Dias: Any retirement incentives?

Dr. Filippelli: The numbers are not there.

Mr. LaPlante: The remaining \$276,000 will come out of salaries.

Mrs. Dias: Going down \$115,000 and another \$276,000 and that has to be articulated. We have shown what happens when the plug is not there.

Dr. Filippelli: Page 3,162 CTE, 20 out of facilities out of page 2, 276 out of salaries on page 5, and 106 increase in revenue in tuition. Balances.

Paul Lamoureux
117 Trintown Road

Do you have a contract on heating oil?

Mrs. Dias: Can we pursue that.

Dr. Filippelli: We cannot get out of our current contract for electricity. Direct energy was really clear about that.

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Mike Payette: Unless you are under the MPA. You can break the contract, we have the same thing with Cox Cable.

Mr. D'Agostino: There is no way out of it.

Mrs. Dias: Up for renewal in beginning of 2019.

George Kuzmowycz
37 Esek Hopkins Road

Increase of repair budget for Middle school and High school? Bond and Capital Improvement.

Dr. Filippelli: Any repairs.

Mr. Kuzmowycz: More than the other buildings.

Mr. LaPlante: Bigger site.

Mr. Kuzmowycz: I am looking on Page 7.

Mrs. Pendergast: Any repairs would not be a capital improvement.

Mr. LaPlante: In the past we did not put enough money to those line items.

Mr. Kuzmowycz: You were not over budget last year.

Dr. Filippelli: Those were things that Glen had planned out.

Mr. LaPlante: Worth looking into, in our motion any items that you think can be reduced to do so.

Mrs. Pendergast: What are the numbers based upon?

Dr. Filippelli: This last week of cold weather is going to throw everything off.

Mr. LaPlante: Look at the heating contract.

Mrs. Pendergast: If we are looking at replacing boilers we are going to be more efficient.

Mr. LaPlante: I think we have done our job.

Ray Grigelevich
16 Woodland Road

Page 4 what is in the athletic budget?

The Athletic Director gave us a budget.

What about monies that are collected for admissions?

Mr. LaPlante: The athletic department asks for less the money they collect.

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Dr. Sollitto: Those monies are held in a different account.

Mr. LaPlante: Need transparency, but I do not think we need to see that.

Mrs. Dias: Enterprise funds get audited every year.

Paul Lamoureux:
Trimtown Road

Up keep and grounds gone up?

Mrs. Pendergast: We have gone a very long time without maintaining our fields.

Mr. Lamoureux: Anything in this budget for replacement of the new fake field. I would like to see that in a trust fund.

Mrs. Dias: Once it comes back to the town it is our money.

Mrs. Pendergast: Can we build it first? Then talk rental of the field.

2. School Day Waivers for our Three Elementary Schools

3. Technology Proposal:

Mrs. Pendergast: I see salaries and cost but are they pension positions? Who designed this plan?

Dr. Filippelli: I spoke with Mark and he and I created the plan together.

Mrs. Pendergast: Have we looked at other districts.

Mrs. Pendergast: How much?

Dr. Filippelli: About \$90,000 for technology directors.

Mrs. Pendergast: Are we going to attract the best with these salaries?

Dr. Sollitto: Yes, if we take away the data management.

Mr. LaPlante: I think it is consistent with plan we are putting into place.

Mrs. Pendergast: The director is an educator and the technicians are hardware.

Dr. Sollitto: One-year contract with Highlander. I can pay for that with Title 2 money. There is nothing in the budget.

4. Bond/Construction Project Progress:

Mr. D'Agostino: Under the RIDE building regulations: need a commissioning agent who is an engineer who oversees the entire project.

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Mrs. Dias: Commissioning agent only reviews the system.

Mr. D'Agostino: I received an email: The Commissioning Agent is a third-party eye.

Mrs. Dias: Same as the project manager.

Mr. D'Agostino: Project manager and clerk of the works are same and will oversee the day to day. The commissioning agent reviews to make sure the plans have been followed.

Mrs. Dias: Who is on the line if something does not work?

Mr. D'Agostino: We are going to cast a wide net to get a commissioning agent with architectural and engineering services.

Mrs. Dias: Commissioning Agent will make less money.

Mr. D'Agostino: Commissioning Agent is more important. The use of a project manager could also increase the odds for more reimbursement.

Mr. LaPlante: Having a project manager would be important.

Mr. D'Agostino: I received a couple of recommendations from bond council. You would approve the RFQ tonight with the caveat that it can be changed slightly.

Mrs. Dias: You did not talk to any potential vendors?

Mr. D'Agostino: No, we did not. The municipal statute prohibits that. You had requested a scoring rubric. If the committee wants one, we can put it in.

Mrs. Dias: Where is the scoring? Where are you reviewing your efficiency? List of people that are eligible, is the first phase.

Dr. Filippelli: Dave and I would need to work on that score.

Mrs. Dias: If you put the score there everyone is looking through the same lens.

Mrs. Pendergast: Local firms?

Mr. D'Agostino: It is covered, but I will put a reference into the school committee policy to reiterate the use of local vendors.

Mrs. Dias: What is your push back on scoring?

5. Central Office:

Mrs. Dias: We need to wait for the study.

Mr. LaPlante: If a communication needs to be made to the Town Council that this is not an ideal place for the school department's central office.

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Mrs. Pendergast: Where you are right now is not ideal.

Dr. Filippelli: Mike and I close our imaginary doors all the time.

Mrs. Dias: The current year has some flexibility in it.

6. SRO Offset:

Mr. LaPlante: The town was giving all the dollars?

Mrs. Pendergast: It was a percentage.

Mrs. Guglielmi: Two separate motions.

Mr. D'Agostino: Your budget is set at the Town at the financial town meeting.

Mrs. Dias: Budgets change.

Mr. LaPlante: Needs to be considered.

Mrs. Dias: I think we should put this back to the budget committee. If they want it in our budget and then fund it.

Mr. Kuzmowycz:

You were given a clear direction by the voters and someone wants to circumvent that. If you do it now it goes against what the voters wanted. The police chief was given the money.

Mrs. Pendergast: The money was moved. We lost that amount and it was moved to the other side. Not every city or town has a full time SRO. The money was given to the police department. What is in front of us is salary with no benefits and that officer is a full-time police officer.

Mr. LaPlante: George does not believe we need a full time SRO.

Mr. Grigevich: What is the \$2,000.00 in the budget.

Dr. Filippelli: Police details.

Mr. LaPlante: This need to go back to the budget committee.

7. New Facilities Director:

8. Access to Town Accounting Software:

Mrs. Dias: Does Mark think he can resolve this?

Mr. LaPlante: I think you should talk to Mark.

Dr. Filippelli: Kyle and Mark?

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Mrs. Dias: Can Mark and Kyle work together on this?

G. Public Comments

Erica McCormick
428 Trintown Road

Your approval of the breathalyzer policy was for one year, how do we continue?

Mr. LaPlante: Survey?

Mrs. McCormick: We do not have the money.

Mrs. Dias: It is not on you to evaluate our policy and I would like to do it after prom.

Mr. LaPlante: Bring the kids in and I will cross examine.

Mrs. Pendergast: We want to hear the plus and minuses.

Mrs. McCormick: Next meeting? What are your questions?

Mrs. Pendergast: I am afraid to evaluate too soon.

Mr. Ray Grigelevich:
16 Woodland Road

Ask questions as part of the event ask some informal questions.

Mrs. Pendergast: I want to afford everyone the opportunity to evaluate.

Mr. Kuzmowycz:
It is an exceptional student that would come to this meeting to speak against that policy.

Mrs. Pendergast: I want to hear from the student who thinks that we are infringing on his/her rights.

Mr. Kuzmowycz: The meeting when this was decided was a very slanted meeting.

Mrs. McCormick: The SRO has a good pulse on the students so maybe he can ask around.

Mrs. McCormick: I got approval from my grant manager for the purchase of more materials. We are putting together a parent survey. I am hiring a company to do this survey, however I would look to this committee for questions. National Prevention Network would like our SADD students to conduct a workshop because of their accomplishments.

Ray Grigelevich
16 Woodland Road

Uploading of attachments of the reports in the agenda on the website.

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Kristen Polseno

Asked questions about the applicants the new CTE program and ideas on how to market the new programs.

My kids were out sick today and my son was able to go onto his teachers Google Classroom and he was able to do a big chunk of his work.

I am really happy about how we have moved forward.

H. New Business:

1.

Mrs. Dias: Motion to adopt the previous discussion which gave Dr. Filippelli direction the budget.

Mrs. Pendergast: Second

All in Favor: Yes

Motion passes

2. Approval of change of date of February meeting.

Mrs. Dias: Motion to change the February 6 School Committee meeting to February 13, 2018.

Mrs. Pendergast: Second

All in Favor: Yes

Motion passes

3. Authorization for Superintendent to issue RFP for Commissioning Agent and Architectural & Engineering Services, and to coordinate the same as needed with the Town Council, pursuant to RIDE School Construction Regulations (5/24/07)

Mrs. Dias: Motion to approve based on discussion and changes agreed to by this body.

Mrs. Pendergast: Second

All in Favor: Yes

Motion passes

4. Appointment/reappointment and confirmation of members to RIDE School Construction Building Committee pursuant to RIDE School Construction Regulations (5/24/07)

Dr. Filippelli: Changes Middle School Principal, Facilities Director, school committee members, chair, and treasurer.

Mr. D'Agostino: I think the intention is to vote on everyone who has been members of this committee and replace the people based on the changes in staff. I think you satisfied most of these requirement.

Dr. Filippelli: Currently: Mike Payette, June Guglielmi, myself, we are replacing Dr. Napolitano, new Middle School Principal, Mike Hassell, Town Treasurer or his designee, Carolyn Dias, Our new Facilities Director Robert Corrente, Casey Irving. Joe Cassell was on the committee however, I do not think he wants to be on the committee because he wants to bid on some of the work.

Mrs. Dias: How do we approve this with the RFQ?

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Dr. Filippelli: You have to vet and vote.

Mr. LaPlante: If the Town Council has anyone else we can put them on.

Dwight Farrar:

Engineer is necessary, and I believe the building committee should appoint the chair.

Mr. D'Agostino: We have satisfied the regulations.

Mr. LaPlante: Mike Payette, Dr. Filippelli, Mike Hassell, Casey Irving, Nick Pompano, June Guglielmi, Town Treasurer or his designee, Dr. Napolitano, Robert Corrente, and Carolyn Dias.

Dr. Filippelli: Who calls the committee to order.

Mr. LaPlante: Larry you would call the meeting to order until a chairperson is appointed by the committee.

Dr. Filippelli: Need to have a motion.

Mrs. Dias: Motion to appoint a building committee as discussed.

Mr. Scacco: Second

All in favor: yes

Motion passes

Mrs. Dias: Is the Town Council going to be happy with what we did?

5. Ratification of collective bargaining agreement between School Committee and educational support personnel.

Dr. Myers: We are in agreement on all the essential items. I have written a draft memorandum of agreement and Attorney D'Agostino is reviewing that.

Mrs. Dias: Motion to Ratify the new contract.

Mr. Scacco: Second

All in favor: Yes

Motion Passes.

I. RESIGNATIONS

1. Frank Pisaturo, II; Music Teacher, Scituate High School, effective 12/8/2017
2. John Barnes; Middle School Drama Club advisor

Mrs. Pendergast: Moved to accept the resignations.

Mrs. Dias: Second

Mrs. Pendergast: Have we posted for the Music Teacher position?

All in Favor: Yes

Motion passes

APPOINTMENTS

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1. Brendan Cabral; High School Girls' Basketball Assistant Coach, pending completion of paperwork
2. Robert Corrente; Director of Facilities

Mrs. Dias: Move to accept the appointments.

Mr. Scacco: Second

All in Favor: Yes

Motion passes

REAPPOINTMENTS

None

NON-RENEWALS

None

VOLUNTARY TRANSFERS

None

INVOLUNTARY TRANSFERS

None

TERMINATIONS

None

J. Committee Remarks:

Mr. Scacco: I was there when the artificial arm was presented. The students who built it and their teacher were so happy. One year today Carolyn and I were appointed to the committee.

Mrs. Pendergast: Can we make him a Spartan? I would like put on next month agenda the coaching evaluation surveys.

Mrs. Guglielmi: Just before Christmas the artificial arm was given and then it was national news. Going forward future students will be able to make his arm bigger as he grows.

Mrs. Dias: Shout out to June regarding the flag presentation at North Scituate Elementary School it was a nice celebration.

Mr. LaPlante: We can give some Spartan gear to the artificial arm recipient. Thank you for the custodians for their help in the basketball tournament. Best in the state and it is because we all work together.

K. DISCUSSION OF FUTURE BUSINESS

None

L. ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. Pendergast: Motion to adjourn

Mrs. Dias: Second

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The Committee unanimously approved the motion at 10:10 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

January 9, 2018

1. Frontline Training

Jenn Carnevale and I are continuing with our training for the Frontline absence management system. We have completed most of the modules and the district specific Scituate data has been uploaded to the system. We hope to complete all training by the end of January and then roll-out the system to teachers for February. When ready, I will coordinate with principals to develop a training for teachers at each school. We will also get the information out to our substitute teachers so they can set up accounts in the system. The system is user-friendly and we do not anticipate many problems as we move forward.

2. Technology Update

Our work with Highlander continues. I check in with principals several times a week and also coordinate with our implementation trainers from Highlander. As we head towards the mid-point in the school year, Highlander will be conducting a survey of teachers and compiling a mid-year report for the district.

The district Technology Committee met on December 18th. We discussed the Highlander work and the needs of the district for both hardware and professional development. Once the mid-year reports are compiled by Highlander, the committee will meet again to discuss. This will also serve as a jumping off point for the revision of the district technology plan. The Technology Plan will align with the Strategic Plan and include the needs identified by teacher responses to the Highlander survey.

Mr. DiLuglio informed me that we had some difficulties with the ordering of 120 new HP Streams in the district. The model ordered is no longer in production; we have reordered the latest model but this has pushed back the arrival. Once they are in hand, 60 are scheduled for the middle school, 10 for the high school, and the remaining 50 will be split up among the elementary schools based on need. Mark has worked closely with each building principal on this and we are looking forward to the increased number of devices at each level.

3. State Testing Information

As you are aware, we have several standardized testing windows during the spring. This includes the Rhode Island Comprehensive Assessment System (RICAS) and the Rhode Island Science Assessment. The RICAS window is in April and May. The Science Assessment is in May and June. PSAT and SAT will be given on April 10th for grade 10 and 11 students. I will be attending RIDE hosted workshops in January and February regarding the administration of the new assessments. Building principals will also be attended workshop sessions.

The testing not only serves as a measure of where our students stand but can be used to inform our instruction and curriculum revision. The importance of this cannot be overstated. For this reason, I would like to work with the committee to draft a letter regarding the importance of the upcoming testing. This would be sent to all parents in the district asking for their continued support.

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**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT
JANUARY 9, 2018**

1. 2018-2019 School District Budget:

Attachment A is the first draft of the school department budget after our work session on 12/22/17. After taking direction from the committee at the work session, I have reduced the proposed expenditures which were up \$1,450,574 from last year by \$418,653 to create a proposed expenditure budget of \$1,031,921. This represents a 5.48% increase. It is listed for action under New Business. Copies will be made available to members of the public at the meeting, on our website, and on the ClerkBase website after the meeting. Attachment B is the proposed Capital Improvements budget. The town has funded capital improvements outside of our operating budget for the past several years. Therefore, rather than artificially inflating our operating budget, the Deputy Treasurer and I agreed that we would present our proposed capital expenditures separately. The proposed district budget is a draft only, subject to any changes the Committee wishes to make to it at the January 9th 2018 School Committee meeting. However, the Committee should adopt some form of it under New Business in the preparation for the meeting with the Town Budget Committee which is scheduled on February 6, 2017 which is the same night as our regularly scheduled school committee meeting.

2. SCHOOL DAY WAIVERS FOR OUR THREE ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

I applied for a waiver for our elementary schools from the department of education based on us having to close the three elementary schools on November 1st, 2017 due to power outages. I received word in writing from Commissioner Wagner that each of our elementary schools have been granted waivers so that those schools do not have to make up the day at the end of the year.

3. TECHNOLOGY PROPOSAL

At our 12/22/17 work session, I began to outline the district's vision for technology support moving forward. There was some conversations some months ago about going out to RFP for technology services for the district. As we have discussed, the school department has been getting the better end of the technology deal with Mark and his company and what he has been charging us over the years. It is my recommendation that Scituate brings technology services in house like the other districts in the state. To this end, I have outlined the following plan:

1. Create a 1.0 full time instructional technology director position and post it with a salary of \$80,000 (plus benefits - assume \$17,000 for a family plan which brings the total to \$97,000)

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2. Create two 1.0 FTE technician positions and post them with a salary of \$50,000 each plus benefits - assume \$37,000 for 2 family plans) with a total of \$137,000
3. Create one part time .50 FTE Data manager position with no benefits at a salary of \$40,000.

The total is approximately \$274,000 give or take depending on what the final salary and benefit options the committee would agree upon. That is an approximate increase of \$80,000 over the current budgeted amount for a full complement of technical staff which the district will control because they will be our contracted employees. Each of these positions will have a job description, will be posted and advertised, and will receive contracts signed by the Superintendent and School Committee. This plan has other benefits as well such as taking away from the stigma of contracted services and also provides us with a dedicated instructional technologist to lead the district.

4. BOND/CONSTRUCTION PROJECT PROGRESS:

I met with the town council leadership, our respective attorneys, and bond counsel on 1/3/18. We were able to discuss a plan to move forward with an RFQ for architectural/engineering services and also membership of the RIDE building committee. At the meeting, President Mahoney indicated that he would like for the town council to have purview over reviewing all RFQs and be able to approve them after the school committee meets and approves them. As you know, the town council has issued RFQs for additional members of the building committee. Those names will be available at a later date for school committee vetting and approval. Once that full committee is represented, it is my hope that the building committee can drive much of the work that needs to be accomplished as both the school committee and town council will have adequate representation. Attachment C is a copy of the RFQ for architectural/engineering services. It is on new business for your approval tonight. I am asking for the committee's approval to put this RFQ out so that we can get started on fulfilling the RIDE obligations for the project. Additionally, the committee will need to appoint the following members to the building committee: Two school committee members, the high school principal, the superintendent of schools, the town treasurer or his designee, a member of the town council and our incoming school facilities director. The school committee will also need to appoint a chair of the committee.

5. CENTRAL OFFICE:

The town council leadership has reached out to inquire if the school department will be moving back into its old offices at 197 Danielson Pike. As I understand it, there is a cost associated with this move back as there is work that needs to be done to the building. I believe the estimated cost of the work needed to be done is around 80 to 85 thousand dollars. As you know, the school department has been paying rent to the town for the use of that building for many years. It is a town building and not a school department building. Therefore, the costs of the

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work that needs to be done were not in our budget for this year. I am seeking some direction from the committee in regards to if you would like to budget monies for our return to 197 Danielson Pike.

6. SRO OFFSET:

I have received correspondence from Chief Delaere on 12/19 asking for the school department to pay for 75% of our Officer Parenti's salary. Attachment D in your packet lists the break down in cost from Chief Delaere. The budgeted cost of this would be \$58,567.76. You will remember a few years ago that a motion was made at the financial town meeting to remove the portion the school department paid from the school department's side over to the police department. As a result, our budget was reduced by that corresponding amount and those monies were added to the town side of the budget. I have done some research on this topic with my superintendent colleagues. There is no one set model. In some districts, the police department bears the entire cost of the SRO. In other districts there is a shared model of 70% cost from police and 30% cost from the school district. That was the model from many years ago when the original SRO came out late in 1999 early 2000. As our budget process unfolds, I will need some direction from the committee on this request.

7. NEW FACILITIES DIRECTOR:

Under appointments tonight, the committee will need to act on my recommendation to appoint Robert Corrente as our new facilities director. Robert was the unanimous choice of our interview group on 1/3/18 to be the next director for the Scituate Schools. Robert comes to us from Warwick and has vast construction, facilities management, operations, and management experience. We all felt he will be the right fit for our district and be able to further our district vision from a facilities management perspective.

8. ACCESS TO TOWN ACCOUNTING SOFTWARE:

I just wanted to inform the committee that my office staff is at seven weeks without remote access to the town's accounting software. This is causing a backlog with our office staff and hindering our ability to pay bills, file reports with RIDE etc. While our office has been given access to the town's computers, my office staff have had to drive down to the town garage and town hall to use their computers which causes a backlog in their work. We know that the town's technology support person is working to rectify this, but I would like Mark DiLuglio to be able try and fix the problem on the town side if at all possible.