

SCITUATE SCHOOL COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING-TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2018
SCITUATE COUNCIL CHAMBERS

1. 7:00 PM – Convene 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 and Attorney David D’Agostino.

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

Dr. Sollitto: We have two published authors and we would like to recognize them now.

Linsey Catanzaro: “Finding Harmony” published last summer. Mr. LaPlante presents a citation.

Jill Fague: “The Unfamiliar Road” a memoir. Mr. LaPlante presents a citation.

- B. Routine Matters – Minutes and Bills:

Mrs. Guglielmi: Motion to Approve the Scituate School Committee Executive Session Meeting Minutes of Tuesday, January 9, 2018.

Mrs. Pendergast: Second

All in favor: yes
Motion Passes

Mrs. Guglielmi: Motion to Approve the Scituate School Committee Regular Session Meeting Minutes of Tuesday, January 9, 2018.

Mrs. Pendergast: Second

All in favor: yes
Motion Passes

Mrs. Guglielmi: Made a motion to approve 2017-2018 Budget General Fund for February 2018 in the amount \$773,891.25.

Mrs. Pendergast: Second

Mrs. Pendergast: Page 2 of 8 \$20,000 intercom system in Hope?

Dr. Filippelli: We had to replace and it came out of Capital.

Mrs. Pendergast: Did it go out to bid?

Dr. Filippelli: I would have to check with Glen but I do know it was an emergency repair because the school could not be without an intercom system for safety and security reasons.

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Mrs. Pendergast: Page 3 of 4 second to last page, HPs

Dr. Filippelli: Hope, Clayville and Middle School.

All in favor: Yes

Motion passes

Mrs. Guglielmi: Made a motion to approve Grant Bills for February 2018 in the amount \$30,986.10.

Mrs. Pendergast: Second

All in favor: Yes

Motion passes.

C. Correspondence:

1. A letter to the Superintendent from Joan Ricci informing him of her decision to retire from her position as School Psychologist, effective 6/30/2018.

Recommendation: Accept the retirement, with regret.

Mr. Scacco: Motion to approve

Mrs. Pendergast: Second

All in Favor: Yes

Motion Passes

2. A leave form from Jennifer Bromage requesting use of one personal day with reason on 2/16/2018.

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. Pendergast: Second

All in Favor: Yes

Motion Passes

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3. A leave form from Wilma Napolitano requesting use of one personal day with reason on 4/13/2018.

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. Pendergast: Second

All in Favor: Yes
Motion Passes

4. A letter from the Ms. M requesting home schooling for one child for the remainder of the 2017-2018 school year.

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

5. A letter from Ms. R. requesting home schooling for one child for the remainder of the 2017-2018 school year.

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

6. A letter from Ms. P. requesting home school for one child for the remainder of the 2017-2018 school year.

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

Mr. Scacco: Motion to approve

Mrs. Pendergast: Second

All in Favor: Yes
Motion Passes

- D. Report of the Committee Liaisons:

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Mrs. Dias & Mr. LaPlante, Budget Committee: Going to defer to Dr. Filippelli's report.

Mrs. Dias & Mr. LaPlante, School Space Needs Study Committee: There was a meeting scheduled by Mr. Maggiacomo.

Mrs. Dias: I was not included in the emails until after the meeting. The study that the school committee has requested has gone out to bid and is an independent study. The public can ask questions. No one on this committee wants to alter the results.

Mr. LaPlante: We have already invested the dollars and we will get the information and if this information is not acceptable then we can go forward with the needs committee for further review. The fact that we do not have the information yet. I got notice a couple days in advance and could not make it.

Mrs. Guglielmi & Mrs. Pendergast, Collective Bargaining and Negotiations: Begin with the paraprofessionals starting in March.

Mrs. Pendergast: Are we being televised?

Dr. Filippelli: No. The town's computer that we use is not working and we don't have a computer to use because we would need permissions to access the town's new network. We would like to propose the purchase of our own system and holding all our meetings in the Scituate High School library.

Mr. LaPlante: Can you get a cost together for that for our next meeting?

Mr. Scacco: When does the Custodial contract go into place?

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

Mr. Scacco, Scituate Prevention Partnership: Nothing

Mrs. Pendergast: Scholarship Foundation: Mrs. Guglielmi reported that at the meeting on Monday, the Scholarship Committee discussed increasing many of the scholarships from \$1,000.00 to \$3,000.00.

Mr. Scacco, Health and Wellness: Meeting tomorrow.

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:

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Dr. Sollitto: We are running old and new system to start.

2. Highlander institute Work:

Mrs. Pendergast: Does this make sense?

Dr. Sollitto: We have to base it on teachers that apply.

Mrs. Pendergast: Great point that the teachers have to want this.

Mrs. Dias: I would like to get a report by each building, the reach and what the impact is.

Dr. Sollitto: We will be getting a report from Highlander.

Mr. LaPlante: Highlander could be self serving.

Mrs. Dias: I want the principals to be very honest.

3. District Newsletter:

4. Attendance Tool:

5. Assessment Trainings:

Mrs. Dias: Other than the execution, what else do you see that will be happening around these tests?

Dr. Sollitto: Pilot year for science.

Mrs. Dias: Do we know the mapping?

Dr. Sollitto: it is supposed to be aligned to the common core.

F. Superintendent's Report:

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

1. Update 2018- 2019 School District Budget:

Dr. Filippelli: My recommendation is to have a budget meeting on Friday when I will have the most up to date information.

Mrs. Dias: We need to take a step back. We have not had access to the town's financial management system for 5 months. The information we have been getting has been all over the place. I want to take a step back to understand.

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Mrs. Pendergast: How do the figures come and go?

Mrs. Dias: We started in November. We are trying to figure out what is the starting point and we finally came to a conclusion and confirmed and at 4pm today Karen sent it to us. It was not a final number.

Mr. LaPlante: The budget committee is supposed to have a meeting on the 6th of February and it was cancelled and we were inundated with questions and records requests. To date the meeting has not been rescheduled.

Mrs. Dias: We have to resolve this issue.

Mrs. Pendergast: What is the difference between today and Friday.

Dr. Filippelli: This affects everything. Step one is getting 100% accuracy.

Mrs. Pendergast: Who is the authority?

Mr. LaPlante: The budget committee, treasurer, Karen Beattie.

Mrs. Dias: All the conversations we need to move forward with it in.

Mrs. Pendergast: Just be a meeting of the School Committee.

Mrs. Dias: 1.5 million over when the principals came to the meeting and we took it down to 1 million and then we took it down more. I have requested an analysis by school building. It is exact, with current service level budget.

Dr. Filippelli: Shares data from an analysis prepared from 2007 - 2017.

2. Update - School Building Committee:

We have chosen our commission agent and Architect/Engineering.

Feb. 21st at 6:30 here at town council chambers.

Mrs. Dias: As soon as the contracts are signed they are off and running.

Dr. Filippelli: Yes, Bob Corrente was the right person for the director position based on his input during our School Building Committee meeting.

3. Technology Position Progress:

Mrs. Dias: Post subject to funding availability.

4. NRIC Autism Behavior Program:

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Dr. Filippelli: I still have questions, I will ask Dave to look at the legal aspect of it.

Mrs. Dias: We need to come up with a number.

Dr. Filippelli: We have one student, the credit is nice however, we need some clause in the contract for a monetary collection of rent.

Mrs. Pendergast: Will this impact our space needs analysis?

Dr. Filippelli: They will be investing the use of 2 classrooms in North Scituate and the cost.

Mrs. Pendergast: We have not done our study.

Mrs. Dias: The mayor of Woonsocket is interested in this.

Dr. Filippelli: North Scituate is a good proximity for them. There is more work to be done.

G. Public Comments

Stacy Wortman
9 Azalea Court

Space needs committee did not disregard the study that is being done.

Mrs. Dias: They want to do an additional study.

Mrs. Wortman: No

Mr. Ray Grigelevich:
16 Woodland Road

What can we do to retain these Lighthouse teachers?

Mrs. Pendergast: I do not see Scituate as a stepping point.

Mrs. Dias: We can retain great people if we can grow and become a top district in the state. The way we keep teachers happy is to keep them growing.

Mr. Grigelevich: How do we get a teacher to agree to stay.

Mr. LaPlante: Larry do you see that?

Dr. Filippelli: A commitment is not uncommon in some districts.

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Mr. LaPlante: Mike Hassell what do you think about that.

Mr. Hassell: The part time teachers are the ones we lose.

Mr. LaPlante: Something to consider.

Mr. Grigelevich: We did not get the email report card this quarter again?

Mr. Hassell: High school we did the all call.

Mr. Grigelevich: We checked everything.

Dr. Sollitto: What provider are you through?

Mr. Grigelevich: Gmail account and we checked.

Mr. Grigelevich: Issue in the high school with a locked bathroom.

Mr. Hassell: This is the first I have heard of this. We do not feel it is necessary to unlock the A corridor bathrooms.

Mrs. Pendergast: I saw a sign too about a bathroom being locked.

Mr. Grigelevich: Summer reading and nothing has been done.

Mr. Hassell: This was not tied to a grade. You had some great feed back and we are working on next summer.

Mrs. Dias: Summer reading?

Mr. Hassell: What we were doing was not working and we tried something new and that did not work and now we have a new team together to address it.

Mr. Grigelevich: Thank you for the efforts and would like to see more reports.

Erica McCormick
428 Trimtown Road

We have hired a focus group regarding the breathalyzer test.
It is happening Thursday.

Sometime in April a parent survey, we have hired JSI.

Mrs. Dias: Health department? Is there overlap.

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Mrs. McCormick: Different for Students and Parents. Working with a framework of prevention. There has been an uptake in vaping we have purchased materials to address this issue.

Mrs. Dias: The data we get from this, how does it get used to share with the buildings and administrators?

Dr. Sollitto: In the past it was a help in forming the Health curriculum.

Mrs. McCormick: Talk of phase II of a grant and that will provide more funds.

Jen Pierce
84 Woodsong Drive

Page 6 Health Insurance on the budget.

Mrs. Dias: It is correct, what you are seeing has the credit in that number that Larry spoke about previously.

Stacy Wortman
9 Azalea Court

When and where are the agendas for each meeting.

Mr. LaPlante: I think it should be on the website. But, if you need to find any meeting look on the Secretary of State website.

Dr. Filippelli: Give Jenn a call.

Mrs. Dias: A lot people do not know about the Secretary of State.

Scott Amaral: No Town Council meeting until March 15th.

Mrs. Dias: Can you have a special meeting to approve the contracts.

Mr. Amaral: We cannot meet next week.

Mr. Payette: Let me see what we can do.

Mr. Amaral: This is the first I have heard about this.

Mrs. Pendergast: The building committee has set dates, arrange the dates so they so coincide.

Michelle Fiske
3 Cook Drive

I want to apologize to you Mrs. Dias however, I do not like to be accused of being political.

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We have lost children every year and our expenses are going up.

Dr. Filippelli: Lisa has the updated figures.

Mrs. Fiske: I have the report.

Dr. Filippelli: Expenses go up every year.

Mrs. Fiske: I will be requesting invoices and backups.

Dr. Filippelli: We have explained the losses.

Mrs. Fiske: This is not what your figures state.

Mrs. Dias: I would be happy to meet with you to go over this.

Mrs. Fiske: You should never offer to sit down privately. It is a red flag.

Mrs. Pendergast: I disagree. That is part of my job to talk to people and make a difference. I think if you ask the gentlemen in the town council that are here they would agree.

Mrs. Fiske: Passed out an email. Should you call Mr. Mahoney?

Mrs. Dias: That was a private communications between Mr. Mahoney and myself. I have had to ask the several town council members that are here to intervene. That night that you were upset. I said why would someone misinform a constituent. I am glad you have exposed this.

Mrs. Fiske: If my name gets named again we are talking slander.

Mrs. Wortman: I was in this too.

Mrs. Dias: A private communication and you do not have to worry about it we do not speak any longer.

Mark Horner
81 Trimtown Road

How many students did we get from new CTE?

Mr. Hassell: Right now we have 48% of our Scituate students enrolled in the programs. We are marketing for 2018-2019 start. We had a successful open house. We have on outside student in our bio-medical program.

Mr. Horner: What do we pay for Ponaganset? What will we be getting for students coming to our school?

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Dr. Sollitto: We will not be paying more than our per pupil rate which is \$15,765.

Mrs. Dias: Students that are already at Ponaganset are at the old rate.

Mr. Horner: IT service contract? What are we going to pay for?

Dr. Filippelli: We added \$50,000 for 4 people. Mark has been charging very low amounts for his services for years. However going forward, it will be much more cost effective to have those positions in house and that is what we will be posting.

Mr. Horner: Employees of the school.

Mrs. Dias: The piece that has been missing is an educator to drive our IT education.

Mr. LaPlante: Mark has been limited.

Mr. Horner: What is Mark doing about your town/school department computer problems.

Mr. LaPlante: That is on the town side?

Dr. Filippelli: Yes, the accounting system access is on the town side not the school department side. That is what Kyle, the town's network person has been indicating.

Tim McCormick:
428 Trimtown Road

I was at the space needs and there was a lot of discussion, with no vote. We would have to go to the town to appropriate funds to perform an additional study. The email was from the chairman and not speaking on behalf of the committee.

I have been involved with the budget. Nothing has changed and it has been a positive year for the budget. The issue is if \$261,000.00 was a permanent number or just a number given us from last year.

Mrs. Dias: We do not have a starting point to complete our budget.

Andrea Olson
45 Spruce Valley Drive

Is the school committee voting on the members appointed to the building committee, I do not agree on one of the recommendations, he was against the bond.

H. New Business:

1. Discussion/Vote/Ratification of current coaching policies

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Mr. LaPlante: I have thought about this and I think we should reconvene that committee and include the stakeholders.

Mrs. Pendergast: We brought this up last meeting. I think the coaching policy is a good policy. I do not know we need the whole committee. It is the survey, getting to parents and students.

Mr. LaPlante: Meet once and figure out where the issues are.

Mr. Hassell: I agree with that, I think we should get back together, I would welcome that.

Mr. Scacco: Some have been going out for some parents and some not.

Mr. LaPlante: I have learned that some of it is seasonal. How do we improve it?
No vote necessary.

2. Discussion/Vote/Ratification of contract for Robert Corrente

Dr. Filippelli: I sent out the contract and it was what we discussed.

Mrs. Pendergast: Motion to ratify the contract.

Mrs. Guglielmi: Second

Dr. Filippelli: Mr. Corrente was the right choice this position.

Mrs. Pendergast: We all agreed.

Mrs. Guglielmi: He is the right person.

Mrs. Pendergast: His title at his last position was Director of Construction.

Dr. Filippelli: He feels he can take on more responsibilities, so we can put money back into the project.

All in favor: Yes

Motion passes

3. Discussion/Vote/Ratification of Fiscal Impact Statement for custodial contract

Mrs. Pendergast: Motion to approve

Mr. Scacco: Second

All in favor: Yes

Motion passes

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4. Review and appointment of the Town Council's recommendations for appointments to the Building Committee:

Mrs. Pendergast: Opposing views are not a bad idea.

Mr. LaPlante: Let's talk about police station bond, let's talk about appointing someone who is against the new police station. Vinny Ferrara I have had discussion with him. There is one person on the list that said no bond.

Mrs. Dias: I implore the committee to appoint everyone who was recommended. It will come down to a vote. I only care about the work. We have the power to take people and if they are obstructions then we remove them from the committee. I would like to go forward in good faith.

Mr. Scacco: I think we should follow Carolyn's lead, no one worked harder on the bond passing than her.

Mike Payette: We cannot just have yes people. I am asking that you confirm.

Mrs. Dias: We can come back and revisit.

Mrs. Pendergast: Are we able to appoint Brian Piccolo.

Mr. LaPlante: It is ok to appoint him.

Mr. Scacco: Motion to approve the appointment of the following recommended by the Town Council:

1. Sal Gelsomino
2. Paul Lamoureux
3. Ray Grigelevich
4. Joe Casali
5. Vincent Ferrara
6. Dennis Lessard
7. Joseph Mendozzi;

Brian Piccolo in place of Nick Piampiano.

Mrs. Pendergast: Second

Mrs. Guglielmi: I have been on a lot of committees and we worked really hard. I want to make sure this committee will be working together. I get tired of the blocks to get things done. I will not be the obstructionist tonight.

Dr. Filippelli: I think it is a wait and see, there is a laser focus to get things done.

Mrs. Dias: I do think that Mike will be instrumental and there is a trust issue.

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All those in favor: Yes
Motion passes

I.RESIGNATIONS

None

APPOINTMENTS

1. Dave Pannone; Baseball Assistant Coach, pending completion of paperwork
2. Tim Brown; Golf Coach

Mrs. Guglielmi: Motion to appoint

Mrs. Pendergast: 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: 1st year principal of the year Mike Hassell.

Mr. Hassell: I am a finalist and you just jinxed it.... We had a visit today.

Mrs. Pendergast: Robots were amazing. Our teachers and both our principals where great. Never ceases to amaze.

Mrs. Guglielmi: 24 years on the school committee and you have to believe in what you are doing. I believe we will get this done.

Mrs. Dias: Nothing

Mr. LaPlante: The appointment I share concerns and I think people can change their minds and I have a faith in the committee as a whole.

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Mr. Hassell: Eight grade move up night. It was great and we saved some families from leaving the district.

Mr. LaPlante: Meeting Friday 10:00 am

K. DISCUSSION OF FUTURE BUSINESS
None

L. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Scacco: Motion to adjourn

Mrs. Pendergast: Second

The Committee unanimously approved the motion at 9:20 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

February 13, 2018

1. Frontline Training

Training modules have been completed. Administrators received a user guide and log in information. The next step is to send out log in instructions to all teachers and substitutes. We hope to have this done and the system operational by the end of the month. As a fail-safe, we are keeping the paper system in place as we pilot the system for teacher absences.

2. Highlander Institute Work

This month, I worked closely with the implementation and planning specialists from Highlander on plans for next school year. Plans are to utilize Title II funds to continue the great work we began this year. The proposal for 2018-2019 involves creation of pathways to Lighthouse Classrooms and coaching supports. In short, teachers who are interested in being part of the program will apply to become a certified Lighthouse Classroom Teacher. We will have a total of 10 Lighthouse Certified Teachers throughout the district. These classrooms serve as resources and model classrooms for blended learning activities. Training and certification are based around the following domains: classroom culture, identity, interest & agency, differentiation, and rigor & mastery.

3. District Newsletter

The latest edition of the District Newsletter went out on January 29th. This was sent to all parent and teacher emails in PowerSchool. I also forwarded it to the Town clerk for distribution to the town list-serve and to all principals to include a link in their weekly/monthly newsletters.

4. Attendance Tool

At a recent RISSA meeting, a principal from East Providence presented on a new attendance tool that RIDE offers to combat chronic absenteeism in schools. I reached out to the RIDE contact to see if this is something we could pilot in elementary schools. The program links to the district's information system and the school principal can send alert texts and other messages to parents in attempts to improve attendance. Chronic attendance is an issue that we identified in our Strategic Plan and it will also be addressed in each school's School Improvement Plan.

5. Assessment Trainings

Our principals and several of our teachers have been attending training sessions on both the Rhode Island Comprehensive Assessment System (RICAS) and the Next Generation Science Assessment (NGSA). As district testing coordinator, I have attended these sessions as well. As you know, both assessments are new this year and the administration differs from what was done in past years. We are working closely with Mark DiLuglio to make sure all computers are properly configured for the testing. There is much work to be done; this includes uploading rosters, identifying students in need of accommodations, and establishing testing logistics. I will keep you posted as we head towards the testing windows in April and May.

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1. UPDATE - 2018-2019 SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET

As I indicated in my letter to the town council for the budget hearing originally scheduled for 2/6/18, this year's budget was managed prudently and responsibly. Recall that the school department began the year with a planned budget deficit of \$650,000. The deficit would have been \$950,000 if not for the extra \$300,000 that was appropriated to the school department at last year's financial town meeting. We had a plan to close the operating deficit over a period of a few years through a combination of cost reduction efforts and, at some point, some relief on the outflows being sent to outside districts. We made significant headway of the cost savings in the current year as the school department was able to realize the benefit of a couple of one-time anomalies which allowed us to avoid operating in a deficit and responsibly manage the taxpayer dollars. The first one-time anomaly came with a one-time savings credit to our dental account. The second one-time anomaly came from savings through an extraordinarily high employee attrition (retirements or resignations). While much of the savings from retirements/resignation will continue into future years, the one-time items cannot be counted on or budgeted for moving forward. At our last regularly scheduled meeting, I was asked to trim our budget down significantly. Our goal in doing this was to be respectful to our taxpayers in presenting our budget and our fiscal ask to the council, the budget committee, and the taxpayers. Last year, the school department received much needed funds. This year, our budget, as presented, is very lean. Thus, there is the potential that the cuts we have made will more than likely push the school department to dip into our reserves next year in order to meet our educational obligations. This will unquestionably force us into a deficit next year if we don't receive the much needed funds as presented in our budget. We've worked hard to contain expense growth and our school department needs every dollar of our proposed budget in order to avoid returning to the unmanageable and potentially destructive operating deficit that we faced during the budget season last year. These dollars are vital to sustaining our current level of educational support, sustaining programming for our students, and continuing the work in revitalizing our district's schools. The budget is attached to your report as Attachment A. The version of this budget has also been on our school website for a few weeks.

2. UPDATE – SCHOOL BUILDING COMMITTEE

On February 2nd, we opened up the RFQs for commissioning agent and Architect/Engineering (A&E) Services. There were 2 RFQs for commissioning agent and 6 RFQ submissions for A&E. The list of these submissions are listed on our district website. As of the writing of this report, the school building committee is scheduled to meet on 2/9. At that meeting our goal is to present to the school committee a recommendation for approval for the commissioning agent and architectural/engineering firm. Additionally, a third goal of the building committee is to vet and approve an RFQ

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for Owner's Project manager. At our meeting on 2/13, I will present the recommendations of the building committee to you. Also, tonight under the new business, the committee should consider the recommendations for additional persons from the town council to be added to the School Building Committee.

3. TECHNOLOGY POSITION PROGRESS:

After reaching out to various colleagues around the state, I have received job descriptions for the various technology positions the school committee approved at our last meeting. The best examples seem to have come from Smithfield and Narragansett. Once we have the job descriptions finalized, my goal is to post the positions after the financial town meeting, and have recommendations for the committee for the May school committee meeting. We are anticipating an official start of July 1 for these positions.

4. NRIC AUTISM BEHAVIOR PROGRAM:

As indicated in a prior meeting, I have been working with the Northern Rhode Island Collaborative to create a partnership between Scituate and NRIC. This is an Autism and Behavior transitional program for students in grades K-5. This program will be a bridge program preparing students to return to their home district. As it will be in a traditional school building, students will have the opportunity to interact and learn appropriate behavior. Meanwhile, the classrooms that will be utilized will be set up in such way as to support students in a highly structured environment. This is still in its preliminary stages on both sides and any agreement will have to be run by legal and approved by the committee. The benefit for our district is that we can utilize available space, help create an innovative program, bring funds into the district (either by direct pay or tuition credit for the students we have in NRIC), and have free professional development opportunities for our staff. I will be sure to keep the committee apprised of this as it moves forward.