

**Salem Public Schools  
Salem School Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
March 20, 2023**

On March 20, 2023 the Salem School Committee held its regular School Committee meeting at 7:00 PM using a hybrid model.

**Members Present:** Acting Mayor Robert McCarthy, Ms. Mary Manning, Mr. James Fleming, Ms. Amanda Campbell, Ms. Beth Anne Cornell, Dr. Kristin Pangallo, Mr. Manny Cruz

**Others in Attendance:** Superintendent Stephen Zrike, Deputy Superintendent Kate Carbone, Assistant Superintendent Elizabeth Pauley, Ms. Ellen Wingard, Marc LeBlanc, Linda Farinelli

**Call of Meeting to Order**

Acting Mayor Robert McCarthy calls the meeting to order at 7:06pm and requests a call of attendance. He explained the Public Participation Policy 6409 and also explained the availability of Spanish interpretation.

**Attendance**

Acting Mayor Robert McCarthy recognizes the attendance with members absent and joining virtually.

Ms. Campbell	Not Present
Ms. Cornell	Present
Mr. Cruz	Present virtually (Mr. Cruz arrives in person at 7:26pm)
Mr. Fleming	Present
Ms. Manning	Present
Dr. Pangallo	Present
Acting Mayor Robert McCarthy	Present

6 members present, 1 member absent

**Approval of Agenda**

Acting Mayor Robert McCarthy requested a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Mr. Fleming motioned and Ms. Cornell seconded. A roll call vote was taken.

Ms. Cornell	Yes
Mr. Cruz	Yes
Mr. Fleming	Yes
Ms. Manning	Yes
Dr. Pangallo	Yes
Acting Mayor Robert McCarthy	Yes

Motion carries 6-0

### **Approval of Consent Agenda**

Acting Mayor Robert McCarthy requested a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Ms. Manning requests that the School Committee members vote for each consent agenda item separately. Mr. Fleming motioned and Ms. Cornell seconded. A roll call vote was taken.

#### **A. Approval of minutes of Regular SC meeting held on March 6, 2023**

Ms. Cornell	Yes
Mr. Cruz	Yes
Mr. Fleming	Yes
Ms. Manning	Yes
Dr. Pangallo	Yes
Acting Mayor Robert McCarthy	Yes

Motion carries 6-0

#### **B. Approval of Warrants: 3/9/2023 - \$206,045.33; 3/16/2023 - \$365,236.54**

Ms. Cornell	Yes
Mr. Cruz	Yes
Mr. Fleming	Yes
Ms. Manning	Yes
Dr. Pangallo	Yes
Acting Mayor Robert McCarthy	Yes

Motion carries 6-0

#### **C. Approval of Salem High School JROTC field trip to the Newport Naval Station in Newport, R.I. from 6/26/23 to 6/30/23**

Ms. Cornell	Yes
Mr. Cruz	Yes
Mr. Fleming	Yes
Ms. Manning	No
Dr. Pangallo	Yes
Acting Mayor Robert McCarthy	Yes

5 affirmative, 1 negative

#### **D. Approval of Salem High School field trip to Washington, DC from 5/22/23 to 5/23/23**

Ms. Cornell	Yes
Mr. Cruz	Yes
Mr. Fleming	Yes
Ms. Manning	Yes
Dr. Pangallo	Yes
Acting Mayor Robert McCarthy	Yes

Motion carries 6-0

### **Public Comment**

The School Committee Secretary announced that there were no public comments.

Mr. Fleming announces as of April 1, 2023 he is intending to resign from the Salem Public Schools School Committee. Mr. Fleming thanks the community for their support over the years and notes it has been a privilege to serve and he will not forget the public for their help through the years.

### **Student Showcase - Salem High School**

Principal Glenn Burns begins a presentation speaking on the computer science program at Salem High School. Mr. Burns notes beginning Fall 2023, Salem High School will offer computer science principles and computer science A courses.

Mr. Mario Sousa notes the expanding computer science program. Salem Public Schools is participating in the CS for All initiative. Current CS faculty are exploring curriculum options, including a curriculum review process for CompTIA Spark - a new 501(C) 3 from Comp TIA. Additionally, there is a robotic club which will demonstrate real-world applications of Computer Science in a tangible way. Mr. Sousa speaks on Esports which provides a unique after-school experience for students who may not participate in other sports or activities.

Mr. Cruz notes the growth of the CTE program and the interest from the students. Mr. Cruz asks for an update on how many students are waiting to get into the CTE programs.

Mr. Sousa notes there are only two students on the waiting list for the CTE programs.

Mr. Sousa mentions the Computer Science for all grant is a focus to break down the gender barriers in computer science.

### **Superintendent's Report - Update on SPS translation and interpretation services**

Ms. Alexandra Fortich begins her presentation with updates from the translation and interpretation services department in the district. The vision is to engage families as partners by providing language access. Three areas to achieve this vision are the Salem Language Access system, advanced language access skills, and encouraging a language access culture in schools and engaging families. The language service request system is a set of forms to request translations and/or interpretation services. Special education and Collins Middle School does have the most requests for interpretation services. The bilingual staff and bilingual stipend. This was by far one of the best-targeted trainings. 3.6% of language services requests have been completed by bilingual certified staff. Family engagement update is as follows: 330 translation requests, 632 contacts with families in their preferred language, and 302 interpretation requests. Ms. Fortich notes the main goal is to develop a language access plan for the district that can be implemented consistently in all of our schools. The purpose of a language access plan ensures meaningful and consistent access to SPS services. This plan will outline the tasks and actions SPS will undertake to provide access for limited English proficient individuals.

Mr. Cruz asks Mr. McCarthy regarding language access on the city side and thinking about language interpretation with fidelity.

Mr. McCarthy notes on the city side there is no Spanish interpretation available during City Council meetings however we are looking to explore hiring bilingual staff at the service desk.

Ms. Manning asks Ms. Fortich about the IEP meetings and if teachers are utilizing this to call students homes with an interpreter?

Ms. Fortich confirms teachers can connect with an interpreter over the phone or by submitting a form to have an interpreter in person. This service is available 24/7.

**Student Representative Report** - Dr. Zrike met with the Student Advisory board and they would like to come down to the middle school to establish a time to meet with the 8th graders to speak with students about the transition from middle school to high school.

### **Old Business**

none

### **New Business**

#### **Deliberation & vote on approval of the SY23-24 Bentley Academy Innovation School calendar (proposing to follow the SPS majority calendar)**

Mr. Fleming moves to approve and seconded by Mr. Cruz. A roll call vote was taken.

Ms. Cornell	Yes
Mr. Cruz	Yes
Mr. Fleming	Yes
Ms. Manning	Yes
Dr. Pangallo	Yes
Acting Mayor Robert McCarthy	Yes
Motion carries 6-0	

#### **Deliberation and vote on approval of Salem Public Schools' donation of surplus Eureka math materials to the Northshore Education Consortium.**

Mr. Fleming moves to approve and seconded by Ms. Manning. A roll call vote was taken.

Ms. Cornell	Yes
Mr. Cruz	Yes
Mr. Fleming	Yes
Ms. Manning	Yes
Dr. Pangallo	Yes
Acting Mayor Robert McCarthy	Yes
Motion carries 6-0	

### **Finance Report**

none

### **Subcommittee Reports**

a. Policies for first reading:

Policy **1700** - School Parent Associations - no substantial changes - Ms. Cornell makes a note that this policy is not a first read - this policy only has no substantial changes. No motion required due to no substantial changes to Policy 1700.

Policy **1701** - Parent Involvement - for deletion . Ms. Cornell motions and Mr. Cruz seconded.

Ms. Cornell notes this is just a philosophy not an actual policy.

Ms. Cornell	Yes
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Mr. Cruz	Yes
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Mr. Fleming	Yes
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Ms. Manning	Yes
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Dr. Pangallo	Yes
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Acting Mayor Robert McCarthy	Yes
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Motion carries 6-0

Policy **5103** - Controlled Choice Student Assignment - Ms. Cornell would like to take Policy 5103 off the table due to some outdated language. This will need to be tabled and revisited as a Policy subcommittee. No motion required at this time.

b. Policies for second reading:

Policy **5602** - Hall of Fame. Motion made by Ms. Cornell and seconded by Mr. Cruz.

Ms. Cornell	Yes
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Mr. Cruz	Yes
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Mr. Fleming	Yes
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Ms. Manning	Yes
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Dr. Pangallo	Yes
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Acting Mayor Robert McCarthy	Yes
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Motion carries 6-0

Policy **1507.01** - Public Complaints. Motion made by Ms. Cornell and seconded by Mr. Cruz.

Ms. Cornell	Yes
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Mr. Cruz	Yes
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Mr. Fleming	Yes
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Ms. Manning	Yes
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Dr. Pangallo	Yes
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Acting Mayor Robert McCarthy	Yes
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Motion carries 6-0

Policy **1507.02** - Public Complaints - for deletion. Motion made by Ms. Cornell and seconded by Mr. Cruz.

Ms. Cornell	Yes
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Mr. Cruz	Yes
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Mr. Fleming	Yes
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Ms. Manning	Yes
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Dr. Pangallo	Yes
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Acting Mayor Robert McCarthy	Yes
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Motion carries 6-0

Policy **1507.03** - Public Complaints - for deletion. Motion made by Ms. Cornell and seconded by Mr. Cruz.

Ms. Cornell	Yes
Mr. Cruz	Yes
Mr. Fleming	Yes
Ms. Manning	Yes
Dr. Pangallo	Yes
Acting Mayor Robert McCarthy	Yes
Motion carries 6-0	

Policy **1505** - Parent Information Center - for deletion - Motion made by Ms. Cornell and seconded by Mr. Cruz.

Ms. Cornell	Yes
Mr. Cruz	Yes
Mr. Fleming	Yes
Ms. Manning	Yes
Dr. Pangallo	Yes
Acting Mayor Robert McCarthy	Yes
Motion carries 6-0	

### **School Committee Concerns and Resolutions**

Mr. Cruz wanted to thank Mr. Fleming for informing the committee of his resignation and expressing his thanks for his service to the city and well wishes to him.

Mr. Fleming motions to move to enter executive session NOT to return to open session to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining.

# 3. To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair declares. Mr. Cruz seconded. A roll call vote was taken.

Ms. Cornell	Yes
Mr. Cruz	Yes
Mr. Fleming	Yes
Ms. Manning	Yes
Dr. Pangallo	Yes
Acting Mayor Robert McCarthy	Yes
Motion carries 6-0	

### **Adjournment**

Acting Mayor Robert McCarthy requested a motion to adjourn. Mr. Fleming motioned and Ms. Cornell seconded. A roll call vote was taken.

Ms. Cornell	Yes
Mr. Cruz	Yes
Mr. Fleming	Yes
Ms. Manning	Yes
Dr. Pangallo	Yes
Acting Mayor Robert McCarthy	Yes
Motion carries 6-0	

Motion carries 6-0. Meeting adjourned at 8:46pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

*Krista Perry*

Executive Administrative Assistant to the School Committee & Superintendent