

Salem School Committee
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, May 14, 2019

A regular meeting of the Salem School Committee was held on Tuesday, May 14, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in the School Committee Chambers at Collins Middle School, 29 Highland Avenue, Salem, MA.

Members Present: Ms. Mary Manning, Mr. James Fleming, Ms. Kristine Wilson, Ms. Ana Nuncio, Ms. Amanda Campbell, and Mayor Kimberley Driscoll

Members Absent: Mr. Manny Cruz

Others Present: Kate Carbone, Acting Superintendent, Jill Conrad, Chief of Systems Strategy, and Kelley Rice, Chief of Communications

Call of Meeting to Order

Mayor Driscoll called the regular meeting of the Salem School Committee to order at 7:00 p.m.

Amended Consent Agenda

- Minutes of the School Committee of the Whole (COW) meeting held May 6, 2019
- Minutes of the Regular School Committee meeting, continuation of the Public Hearing on the proposed FY20 budget, and Public Hearing on Inter-District School Choice held May 6, 2019
- Deliberation and Vote on the New Liberty Innovation School Out-of-State field trip requests to Cardigan Mountain and Lodge, Alexandria, NH on May 28-29, 2019 and Tuesday, June 18, 2019 to Canobie Lake Park, Salem, NH
- Deliberation and Vote on the request of the Salem High School Music Department's annual Fun Field trip to Canobie Lake Park, Salem, NH on June 14, 2019 at 4pm
- Approval of Warrant: 5/16/19 in the amount of \$152,898.65

Mr. Fleming motioned to approve the Amended Consent agenda. Ms. Wilson seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Approval of the Agenda

Mr. Fleming moved to approve the Agenda as presented. Ms. Nuncio seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Public Comment #1: Questions and Comments From the Audience

Cynthia Napierkowski, High School Band Director, reported on the High School Music Department's field trip to Washington, D.C. on April 25-28, 2019. Ms. Napierkowski mentioned they were invited to return to Carnegie Hall in April 1, 2020 and would be back in September to request approval from the School Committee.

Candy Gill, 12 Pope St., Student, shared a student's perspective of the High School Music Department's field trip to Washington, D.C. on April 25-28, 2019.

Alexa Ogno, 180A Federal Street, President of the Salem Education Foundation, thanked everyone for

their contributions to their Thursday night event held May 9, 2019 from 6-10pm at Stella's Restaurant and Wine Bar, 94 Lafayette Street. Ms. Ogno said they raised about \$9,000 and thanked everyone for supporting the teachers. Ms. Ogno said she would like to make sure, as a community, why principals were leaving prior to Superintendent Ruiz's leave.

Presentation and Reports

Acting Superintendent's Report – Kate Carbone

Ms. Carbone talked about the music program's visual display and performing arts event held last week at Salem High School on Wednesday, April 8, 2019. Ms. Carbone updated the School Committee on two recent ALICE parent information sessions held April 30 and May 7, 2019. Principals are in the process of scheduling a second round of ALICE drills to be conducted in all schools during the first two weeks of June. Families would be receiving a letter, next week, that share a little more information about the upcoming drills and guidance to support families on how to speak to their children about the ALICE drills. The letters would also provide a contact method for anyone requesting more information.

Ms. Carbone provided an update on the Aspen Student Information System (SIS) parent portal and reported they would be opening the portal for middle school families in grades 7 and 8. Letters would be sent out to the Saltonstall and the Collins Middle School families alerting them of their login information and how parents can retrieve information from the portal. Parents are able to monitor their child's attendance, view completed assignments, and monitor their grades through the portal. Ms. Carbone continued that parents are encouraged to use the portal to engage in a dialogue with their child about what they are studying, what is going well, and where they might need more help. Ms. Carbone said they are currently planning the next phase of the rollout for grades six and into the elementary level.

Ms. Carbone invited School Committee members, and the entire Salem High School community, to attend the multicultural spring convening that will take place tomorrow night, May 15, 2019 at 6:30pm, in the Salem High School auditorium. The school improvement team will share a brief summary of the emerging redesign work, in addition to recognizing students, staff, and community members who have been contributing significantly this year to changes underway at Salem High School. Ms. Carbone shared that students have planned ways to celebrate, throughout the night, and showcase cultural diversity of their school through displayed artwork, food, traditional uniforms, and performances.

Action Items: Old Business - None

Action Items: New Business

Deliberation and Vote on the approval of the regular School Committee meeting schedule for July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020

Discussion

Some members felt they would not be able to meet on certain dates. Mayor Driscoll suggested to table the action item to the next scheduled School Committee meeting for June 3, 2019 that they may work on their calendars offline.

Mr. Fleming motioned to table the proposed calendar to the next School Committee meeting. Ms. Campbell seconded the motion. The motion carried. The deliberation and vote on the approval of the regular School Committee meeting schedule for July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020 is tabled for the next scheduled School Committee meeting on June 3, 2019.

Update on the recruitment and hiring process for selecting an experienced Interim Superintendent for the upcoming school year

Discussion

Mayor Driscoll explained that she asked this item be placed on the agenda to allow School Committee members the opportunity to update each other on the current status. Mayor Driscoll reported they have about a dozen applicants at this time, two of which have experience as a Superintendent. There is a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) online for interested parents and community members who wish to know the hiring process for a permanent Superintendent. Mayor Driscoll shared that she and School Committee members agreed they hope to find a seasoned veteran with the experience to serve in this interim role. Mayor Driscoll talked about the steps of the hiring process and where they are at this time. There was consensus around a survey and the 6-week timeframe to have an Interim Superintendent in place by July 1, 2019. Members agreed to follow-up with each other, in terms of their availability, to begin the process of a screening committee with three consistent members.

Finance Report - None

Subcommittee Reports

Mr. Fleming reported that the Buildings and Grounds Subcommittee met at the Collins Middle School on May 13, 2019 at 10am and considered the (3/11/19) request of the North Shore Rugby Club for the use of the lower field at the Salem High School. Mr. Fleming continued that the committee found that it would be beneficial to the club and the city players and would be no charge for games. Mr. Fleming asked the School Committee for approval pending receipt of the opinion of the School Committee attorney, Counsel Colby Brunt.

Mr. Fleming motioned to request that the North Shore Rotary Club be accepted, pending approval of the School Committee attorney. Ms. Manning seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Ms. Nuncio reported that the Policy Subcommittee met last Friday, May 10, 2019 and would be meeting again on May 23, 2019. They have ten policies in the 4000s and 5000s category that will be forwarded for a first reading by the School Committee at the next scheduled School Committee meeting June 3, 2019.

School Committee Concerns and Resolutions

Mr. Fleming announced, and invited everyone to attend, the all-day Fund Our Future Rally at the Massachusetts Statehouse (located at 24 Beacon Street, Boston, MA) on Thursday, May 16, 2019 and emphasized the 5:30 – 6:00pm session in support of increasing the Foundation Budget.

Mayor Driscoll stated they have a copy of the final draft of Dr. Paul Dakin's 360 Review of the district and Superintendent Margarita Ruiz to keep in file.

Mr. Fleming motioned to have Dr. Paul Dakin's 360 Review of the district and Superintendent Margarita Ruiz be received and placed on file. Ms. Wilson seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Public Comment #2: Questions and Comments From the Audience

Mr. Gary Gill, talked about the all-day rally at the State House scheduled for May 16, 2019 and focused the need for reimbursement from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to charter school to help serve student needs. Mr. Gill asked supporters to please arrive at the rally by 12:45 noon and left Funding for the Future stickers for members.

Ann Berman, 1401 Crane Brook Way, Peabody, MA, Salem Teachers Union, informed everyone that there is a bus that would be leaving the Salem Teachers Union Office location on Thursday at 3:30pm. Ms. Berman offered her contact information (aberman@salemk12.org) for anyone needing transportation to the all-day rally at the Statehouse on May 16, 2019. The bus would be transporting to the rally and back to the Salem Teachers Union location on that day.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the School Committee this evening. Mr. Fleming entertained the motion to adjourn the Regular School Committee meeting, and not to reconvene in Open Session. Ms. Campbell seconded the motion.

Executive Session

Mr. Fleming motioned to enter into Executive Session under Exemption 7, to comply with MGL c. 30A s.22(g)(2) (Review of executive session minutes from April 15, 2019 and April 25, 2019 to determine whether the minutes or portions thereof can be released), and not to reconvene in Open Session. Ms. Campbell seconded the motion.

School Committee Secretary Roll Call

Ms. Mary Manning	Yes
Mr. James Fleming	Yes
Ms. Kristine Wilson	Yes
Ms. Ana Nuncio	Yes
Ms. Amanda Campbell	Yes
Mayor Kimberley Driscoll	Yes

Of the 6 members voting, six voted in the affirmative. The matter carried. The motion carried by a unanimous vote. Members adjourned to move to Executive Session, at 7:40pm, and not to reconvene in Open Session.

Respectfully submitted by:

Angelica Alayon, Secretary to the
Salem School Committee

Meeting Materials and Reports

School Committee Amended Consent agenda May 14, 2019
Minutes of the May 6, 2019 School Committee of the Whole (COW) meeting
Minutes of the May 6, 2019 Special School Committee meeting and Public Hearing
New Liberty Innovation School Out-of-State field trip request
Salem High School Music Department's annual Fun Field trip request
Dr. Paul Dakin's 360 Review