

Salem School Committee
Meeting Minutes
Monday, May 21, 2018

A Regular meeting of the Salem School Committee and Public Hearing on Inter-District School Choice was held on Monday, May 21, 2018 at 7:05 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, Mr. Manny Cruz, Ms. Amanda Campbell, and Mayor Kimberley Driscoll

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Margarita Ruiz, Superintendent, Kate Carbone, Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning, Margaret Marotta, Assistant Superintendent for Pupil Personnel Services, Kristin Shaver, Business Manager, Jill Conrad, Chief of Systems Strategy, and Kelley Rice, Chief of Communications.

Call to Order

Ms. Manning called the Regular Meeting of the Salem School Committee to order at 7:05 p.m.

Approval of the Agenda

Mr. Fleming moved to approve the agenda as presented. Ms. Wilson seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Approval of Minutes

Deliberation and Vote on the Minutes of the Regular School Committee Meeting Held May 7, 2018

Mr. Fleming motioned to approve the Minutes of the Regular School Committee meeting held May 7, 2018. Ms. Campbell seconded the Motion. The Motion carried.

Questions and Comments From the Audience

Carolina Soto, shared on behalf of the Destination Imagination (DI) Joes, that they have been working for essentially two years on the Destination Imagination competition. Ms. Soto provided details of the creative problem-solving program and asked the School Committee for financial support for their Destination Imagination Global competition that will take place at a college in Knoxville, Tennessee.

Nathaniel Bowditch School students shared their successes, personal experiences and self-growth as members of the Destination Imagination (DI). They asked the School Committee to please help them represent their Salem School, through financial contribution, to help them attend the Destination Imagination (DI) Global competition to properly represent the city of Salem.

Superintendent Report – Margarita Ruiz

Ms. Ruiz reported that the Bentley Academy held its 2nd lottery last week for the upcoming year. One hundred and twenty eight families opted into the lottery this year. Bentley will be fully enrolled to its capacity with 340 students in the coming year, and there is now a waiting list for all grade levels. Ms. Ruiz shared the turnaround work and innovative ways that teachers are using data to support student learning, improved communications, challenges, and school culture. Superintendent Ruiz provided School Committee members with a handout of tools being used. Ms. Ruiz shared details of the transportation process already in place for the upcoming year, applications have been provided to families. Ms. Ruiz announced the 4

recipient teachers selected to receive the Norman H. Read Trust Program for Excellence in Science Education (READ) Teaching award. They would receive a \$500 award they can use for science supplies, equipment, books, and professional development. The teachers will also be honored at an upcoming annual event. Superintendent Ruiz reported that she, the Mayor, and members of the Committee participated with the members of the Children's Cabinet, last week, in the final convening of the first phase of the By All Means Initiative at the Harvard Graduate School of Education. Ms. Ruiz highlighted current achievements of the Our Salem, Our Kids Initiative accomplishments.

Superintendent Ruiz reported that the district began conversations with Pathways for Children about consolidating their presence to under utilized space at the 79 Willson Street building, after having consulted with the district attorney on procurement rules. The Pathways for Children program currently provides Head Start program at three Salem Schools: Bates Elementary, Bentley Academy Charter, and Carlton Elementary. These three schools have expressed the great need for space. Superintendent Ruiz continued they began conversations with Pathways for Children, in terms of consolidating their different programs. Pathways for Children are very interested in consolidating their programs onto a single location where they can better utilize program specialists on an economic scale. Superintendent Ruiz added that Pathways for Children provider would become part of the partnership fabric they anticipate, as part of the Horace Mann Laboratory School – an Early Childhood need, and laid out, in Pillar 4 of the district's Strategic Plan. Superintendent Ruiz concluded her report with an update on the progress of the principal hiring process for Bates Elementary, Horace Mann Laboratory, and the Salem High School.

Discussion

Members discussed scheduling a Committee of the Whole (COW) meeting to discuss Early Childhood Education in Salem.

Presentation and Report

Pillar 2: Reimagine the High School Experience – Update on High School Redesign

Superintendent Ruiz introduced Mr. Dave Angeramo, Salem High School Principal to provide an update on the High School redesign process. Ms. Ruiz reminded everyone that they began embarking on the redesign process this year. Mr. Angeramo detailed the progress made this year and where they are heading for the coming year. Mr. Angeramo mentioned this is the 3rd time they spoke to the Committee on the High School redesign process; they were able to give an overview in September of the strategic plan and the High School redesign plan they had for this year. They talked about the program of studies in January and its support of the redesign plan. Mr. Angeramo commented that School Committee members should have received a progress report that details the redesign process and introduced three staff members who talked about the work they completed throughout the year, and highlighted key elements specific to the redesign process progress report.

Mr. Angeramo introduced three active staff members to spotlight a few of the steps that have been taken this year and highlighted the topics they would talk about: Invitation to Innovate, Early College Opportunities, College and Career Readiness Center, the Four-Year Plan they are working on with their students, Internships Currently in Place, and Future Plans or Plans for the Future going forward. The staff members specified the work they have been doing under the redesign process and highlighted quick successes for readiness that have laid the foundation for bigger deeper redesign in moving forward.

Public Hearing on Salem's Participation in the Inter-District School Choice Program for 2018-19

Mr. Fleming moved to open the public hearing on the Inter-District School Choice. Ms. Nuncio seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Superintendent Ruiz presented an overview of the proposed FY19 Recommendation on Salem's participation in the Inter-District School Choice Program. The proposal would be to continue with the same number of twenty (20) students entering 9th grade at Salem High School as last year, and accept up to ten (10) students entering any grade at the New Liberty Innovation School.

Questions and Comments from the Audience Regarding Salem's Participation in the Inter-District School Choice Program for 2018-19

There were no questions or comments from the audience.

There being no further questions or comments, at this time regarding Salem's participation on Inter-District School Choice, Mr. Fleming motioned to close the Public Hearing. Ms. Campbell seconded the motion. The motion to close the public hearing carried.

Action Item**Deliberation and Vote on Salem's Participation in the Inter-District School Choice Program for 2018-19.**

Mr. Fleming motioned to approve Salem's participation in the Inter-District School Choice program for 2018-19. Mr. Cruz seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Deliberation and Vote on the Approval of the Revised SY 2018-19 School Calendar for Saltonstall School – Tabled from 5/7/18

Mr. Fleming motioned to take the deliberation and vote of the revised SY 2018-19 School Calendar for Saltonstall School, as listed on the agenda, off the table. Ms. Campbell seconded the motion. The motion to take the action item off the table carried.

Discussion

Members shared concerns and engaged in further discussion regarding the school calendar for the Saltonstall School.

Mr. Fleming motioned to approve the revised SY 2018-19 School Calendar for Saltonstall School. Ms. Nuncio seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Deliberation and Vote on the Nathaniel Bowditch Middle School Students' Participation in the Destination Imagination Finals in Knoxville, TN, May 22 through May 27, 2018.

Mr. Fleming motioned to approve the Nathaniel Bowditch Middle School students' participation in the Destination Imagination finals in Knoxville, TN on May 22 through May 27, 2018. Ms. Manning seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Deliberation and Vote to Allow the Use of Dominion Funds, up to \$6,500 to Pay for the Remaining Cost of the Nathaniel Bowditch Middle School Students' Destination Imagination Trip.**Discussion**

Mayor Driscoll pointed out that this is consistent with some of the support given to other Destination Imagination (DI) teams in the district over the years. They have utilized these Dominion funds to help, as

they have to generate a great deal of money, in a short period of time, to help support the students and teachers.

Mr. Fleming motioned to approve the use of Dominion Funds, up to \$6,500 to pay for the remaining cost of the Nathaniel Bowditch Middle School students' Destination Imagination trip. Ms. Wilson seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Deliberation and Vote on the Liberty Innovation School Field Trip as a Whole to Canobie Lake Park at 85N Street, Salem, NH on June 26, 2018 for End of Year Celebration.

Mr. Fleming motioned to approve the Liberty Innovation School field trip as a whole to Canobie Lake Park at 85N Street in Salem, NH on June 26, 2018 for the end of the year celebration. Ms. Manning seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Finance Report

a. Approval of Warrants

May 3, 2018 in the amount of \$67, 242.55
May 10, 2018 in the amount of \$354, 890.64
May 17, 2018 in the amount of \$443, 583.11
May 24, 2018 in the amount of \$486, 210. 93

Mr. Fleming motioned to approve the warrants, as stated on the agenda. Mr. Cruz seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Budget Transfers

The School Committee approved the following FY18-22, FY18-23, FY18-24, FY18-25, and FY18-26 budget transfers recommended by the School Business Administrator, Kristin Shaver. Central Office (Teaching and Learning) has requested that the funds be transferred in order to align the funds with the intended expense as follows:

Account Description/Use	Account Number	Amount From	Amount To
Nathaniel Bowditch School - Transfer covers the stipends paid to Salem Public Schools' staff for the April & February Sontag Learning Academies:			
Contract Services	13570521-5320	\$6,000	
Stipends	13570520-5150		\$6,000

Mr. Fleming moved to approve the Teaching and Learning transfer request in the amount stated. Ms. Campbell seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Witchcraft Heights Elementary School - To provide funds for stipends for teachers for Instructional Leadership Team, Math Club, Garden Club & Art Club:

Contract Services	13570821-5320	\$2,498	
Instructional Supplies	13570821-5514	\$2,252	
Stipends	13570820-5150		\$4,750

Mr. Fleming moved to approve the Teaching and Learning transfer request in the amount stated. Ms. Wilson seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Business Office – To align funds with the intended expense:

Contract Services	13701331-5320	\$14,700	
Translation Stipends	13700130-5114		\$14,700

Mr. Fleming moved to approve the Teaching and Learning transfer request in the amount stated. Ms. Nuncio seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Account Description/Use	Account Number	Amount From	Amount To
Collins Middle School – To support additional expenses for college visits; the 8 th Grade trip to Washington, DC, 8 th Grade graduation expense, and repairs for the kiln:			
In-State Travel	13570921-5710	\$ 839	
Dues & Subscriptions	13570921-5730	393	
Printing & Binding	13570921-5381	3,055	
Office Supplies	13570921-5421	135	
Instructional Supplies	13570921-5514	300	
Salaries	13460920-5130	7,000	
Contract Services - Graduation	13570921-5320		\$1,787
Contract Services – Kiln Repair			2,500
Contract Services – College Visits			435
Contract Services – Washington, DC Trip			<u>7,000</u>
<u>Total to Contract Services</u>			\$11,722
Office Supplies	13570921-5421	\$1,400	
Pupil Transportation	13570921-5333		\$1,400

Mr. Fleming moved to approve the Teaching and Learning transfer request in the amounts stated. Ms. Campbell seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Business Office – To align funds with the needed expense due to an increased number of students who are homeless, needing transportation:

Translation	13701331-5320	\$40,000	
Other Maintenance Supplies	13530121-5780	10,850	
Medical Contractual	13640161-5302	30,000	
Contract Services – OST	13590121-5320	19,265	
Contract Services – PPS	13640161-5320	30,000	
Homeless Transportation			\$130,115

Mr. Fleming moved to approve the Teaching and Learning transfer request in the amount stated. Ms. Nuncio seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Subcommittee Reports

Discussion

Mayor Driscoll shared some of the upcoming Subcommittee meetings that will be taking place and that they had a Finance Subcommittee meeting to review contracts for the Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent.

School Committee Concerns and Resolutions

Mr. Fleming raised questions relative to the screening and selection process for the Executive Director of Pupil Personnel Services position. Mr. Fleming stated that he differs with how the process is being conducted, and shared a section of the Massachusetts General Laws Legislature

statute, which provides that it is the sole responsibility of the School Committee to do the hiring for this position. Mr. Fleming explained that the state statute could not be overturned by a local ordinance or a local policy. The statute would first have to be changed for that to happen. Mr. Fleming continued that Massachusetts General Law 71, Section 59 makes no mention whatsoever of the Superintendent's role, reported that he raised this issue two weeks ago, and continued to share his concerns.

Members shared feedback, insight, and engaged in further discussion.

Mr. Fleming requested a cancellation the Committee of the Whole (COW) meeting scheduled for June 4, 2018, as he and another School Committee member, Ms. Amanda Campbell, would not be able to attend. Members agreed to cancel the meeting.

Questions and Comments From the Audience – There were no questions or comments from the audience.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the School Committee this evening. Ms. Campbell entertained the motion to adjourn. Mr. Fleming seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by:

Angelica Alayon, Secretary
Salem School Committee

Meeting Materials and Reports

School Committee Agenda May 21, 2018

Minutes of the May 7, 2018 Regular School Committee Meeting

Superintendent Recommendation Regarding Salem's Participation in MA's Inter-District School Choice Program for 2018-19

Enrollment of Non-Resident Students in Inter-District School Choice Program Presentation Dated May 7, 2018

Strategic Planning Update: Pillar 2: Reimagine the High School Experience Presentation

Salem High School Redesign Progress Report to the School Committee May 2018

Salem High School Action Plan

Saltonstall 2018-2019 School Calendar

Nathaniel Bowditch Middle School Student's Participation and Funds Support Request in the Destination Imagination Global Finals

Liberty Innovation School Field Trip Request to Canobie Lake Park for End of Year Celebration

Budget Transfers