

Salem School Committee  
Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, August 29, 2019

A Committee of the Whole (COW) meeting of the Salem School Committee was held on Thursday, August 29, 2019 at 5:15 p.m. in the School Committee Chambers at Collins Middle School, 29 Highland Avenue, Salem, MA.

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

**Members Absent:** James Fleming, Manny Cruz

**Others Present:** Dr. Kathleen A. Smith, Interim Superintendent

Mayor Driscoll called the School Committee of the Whole to order at 5:15pm to review and discuss the items as listed on the agenda. There was consensus for an increase in website support and community involvement in the search and hiring process of a Superintendent and Communication Director and general discussion around the expectations of a Communication Director position and budget allocation. Members identified the similar process they used for the previous Superintendent search and anticipated that the search committee would hold their initial meeting in September and then work over the next several months on the timeline that include a broad community outreach beforehand. Mayor Driscoll explained the fairly broad search committee and that members previously agreed to allow the 3-member search committee to follow the search process with the understanding that School Committee members would receive a copy of all applicants and have the right to interview, if needed. There was general discussion on what the makeup of the Superintendent Search Committee, invitation to apply, would consist of. Members agreed to clarify its language to include 1 community member and 1 interested student. Mayor Driscoll indicated the need for principals to be directly engaged and involved.

Members agreed that the Superintendent and her staff would bring in the Communications Director job description for the position. Members reviewed 3 proposals to the RFP, ranked the recommendation of the UMASS Boston Collins Center, who they had worked with on the Special Education search first, and recommended to proceed with their proposal in order to begin with the formation of the Search Committee and move forward on the work of the Collins Center to assist in that work.

Members reviewed the request for a waiver, from a family who lives in Salem and is temporarily relocating to Reading to help care for a family member, to allow their child to continue to attend Salem Public Schools during the temporary stay with family.

**Motion**

Ms. Manning motioned to broaden the Communication Director job description with the understanding of an amendment to include a broader search committee. Ms. Wilson seconded the motion. The motion carried.

**Motion**

Ms. Manning motioned to enter into negotiations with UMass Boston. Ms. Wilson seconded the motion. The motion carried.

**Motion**

Ms. Campbell motioned for a favorable recommendation to request a waiver to the respective family for the Collins school. Ms. Wilson seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by:

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Angelica Alayon, Secretary  
Salem School Committee