

**Salem Public Schools
Salem School Committee
Meeting Minutes
October 16, 2023**

On October 16, 2023 the Salem School Committee held its regular School Committee meeting at 7:00 PM using a hybrid model.

Members Present: Mayor Dominick Pangallo, Ms. Mary Manning, Dr. Kristin Pangallo, Ms. Beth Anne Cornell, and Mr. Manny Cruz (Mr. Cruz arrives in person at 7:15pm)

Members Present Virtually: Ms. Amanda Campbell and Ms. Veronica Miranda

Others in Attendance: Superintendent Stephen Zrike, Deputy Superintendent Kate Carbone, Assistant Superintendent Elizabeth Pauley, Ms. Jennifer Doucette-Ly, Ms. Ellen Wingard, and Ms. Natalia Feliz

Call of Meeting to Order

Mayor Pangallo calls the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and requests a call of attendance. He explained the Public Participation Policy 6409 and also explained the availability of Spanish interpretation.

Attendance

Mayor Pangallo recognizes the attendance with members absent and joining virtually. Ms. Manning motions for approval and seconded by Dr. Pangallo.

Ms. Campbell	Present Virtually
Ms. Cornell	Present
Ms. Manning	Present
Dr. Pangallo	Present
Ms. Miranda	Present Virtually
Mayor Pangallo	Present

Approval of Agenda

Mayor Pangallo requested a motion to approve the Agenda. Ms. Manning motions for approval and seconded by Dr. Pangallo. A roll call vote is taken.

Ms. Manning	Yes
Ms. Cornell	Yes
Dr. Pangallo	Yes
Ms. Miranda	Yes
Ms. Campbell	Yes
Mayor Pangallo	Yes

Motion Carries 6-0

Approval of Consent Agenda

Mayor Pangallo requested a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Ms. Manning motions for approval and seconded by Dr. Pangallo. A roll call vote is taken.

Ms. Manning	Yes
Ms. Cornell	Yes
Dr. Pangallo	Yes
Ms. Miranda	Yes
Ms. Campbell	Yes
Mayor Pangallo	Yes
Motion Carries 6-0	

Public Comment

Mr. Benjamin Chertok, 21 Bertuccio Ave, notes that the help of all of the Salem Public Schools principles chorus has now been rescheduled to all of the schools district wide. Mr. Chertok also notes the upcoming fall concert featuring the North Shore men. This concert as well as all upcoming concert dates will be forwarded to all the School Committee members.

Ms. Ann Berman, 2101 Cranebrook Way, notes the student scholarship raffle is up and running. This is an escalating raffle. The more tickets sold, the higher the prize gets. Ms. Berman will leave this event flyer with the school committee secretary and will also be sharing with all central office staff as well. This is for the Salem Teachers Union that awards four scholarships to graduating Salem Public School seniors who sit for the AFL exam. This is a great opportunity. Event will be held this Saturday as well as November 4th in the Salem Common.

Student Showcase - Collins Middle School

Mr. Gavin Softic introduces Mr. Greg Beach and some students to present Robotics at Collins Middle School. Mr. Beach notes the core content of the robotics course is engineering, programming, design, and construction. Right now 130 current students are serviced. 6th-8th graders. This is a project-based learning classroom which enables student flipped classroom and workshop models, collaboration, individual work, and mindfulness meditation. Some major projects students have begun are the simple gear train, self-driving car, rescue vehicle, dancing machine, and virtual reality coding, as well as a free build final project. Robotics future plans is a robotics II class for 7th grade featuring sensors and systems, a robotics III for the 8th grade featuring advanced coding and independent projects, and last a generative AI featuring an MIT Media Lab program. The following Collins Middle School students introduce themselves and explain what they had built in class: Xion, 8th grade, notes most proud of programming the car; Gianna, 8th grade, notes most proud of building the car which was challenging but fun; Natasha, 7th grade, most proud to make the robot which was challenging at first but became easier as she went on; Jacob, 8th grade, most proud he built the car with seating; and Zach, 8th grade, notes he programmed the brain.

Superintendent's Report

A. Superintendent's Certificate for Academic Excellence (Strategy 1.1)

Superintendent Dr. Zrike notes this year's Certificate for Academic Excellence award is to Ms. Tilda Rieder. Tilda is recognized as an independent and critical thinker who has not only excelled academically but has applied her enthusiasm to STEM to build community and partnership at SHS. She is a reflective student who thinks globally and acts locally; she frequently challenges herself and her classmates to broaden their vision, expand their views and be open to new ideas and experiences. Tilda continued to find ways to build her knowledge not only Honors and AP courses but through multiple independent studies and college level coursework specifically in the science and technology field. Tilda expanded that knowledge to build a robotics club at SHS with innovation and sustainability to live far beyond her time at Salem High School. Tilda's continued perseverance to build science and technology knowledge that she uses not only for her future goals, but also to grow STEM practices and opportunities at Salem High School has a lasting positive impact.

B. Briefing from Food & Nutrition Services (Strategy 3.1, 4.1, 4.2)

Mr. Irvett Perrin and Ms. Michaela Short presented a briefing from the Food and Nutrition Services. First, the goal is to promote school food as a delicious and nutritious option for students through serving food that is culturally significant. Through food, we center belonging by prioritizing and attending to the mental health and wellness of every student. To align with SPS Strategic Priorities, our goal is to have all staff participate in professional development, promoting students' overall health and wellness, and updating kitchen equipment with a food service infrastructure grant. Some programs offered are the national school breakfast and lunch program, afterschool snack program, fresh fruit and vegetable program, and summer food service program.

Ms. Short notes all Salem Public School students are offered 5 food components daily and weekly. Meals including fruits, vegetables, grains, meats or meat alternatives, and milk. All schools also have an after school snack program available. For the current school year, this department is working with school leaders to expand the After School Snacks Program. Summer Food Service events included the kick off event on July 6th. Collaboration with community partners to create an event to celebrate the beginning of the summer and highlight all summertime nutrition assistance programs available for Salem residents. This year's goals is to increase meal participation, increase local food procurement, engage students and families, invest in new kitchen equipment and staff professional development, and possibly serve dinner at Salem High School.

Mr. Cruz asks if there are any opportunities for students interested in culinary arts to shadow the food services department?

Mr. Perrin notes this is a discussion he would like to revisit with Mr. Souza for future plans. This would not have been possible last year due to the turnover rate in this department and consistent employees.

Ms. Manning notes we should look into having more than one person on staff who has completed the choke safety training course.]

Dr. Pangallo asks about the average price point for reimbursement and a certain amount on each meal?

Mr. Perrin notes we would want our food cost to be at or below 50% of \$4.08.

Ms. Miranda adds she would like to acknowledge prioritizing student voices and she is grateful of the care that goes into the foods and all of the different cultures.

C. Educator Recognition - Exceptional Latino Educator Award (Strategy 2.1, 2.4)

Dr. Zrike acknowledges Ms. Odillia Smith. Ms. Smith has been a Spanish educator at Collins Middle School for 27 years. Dr. Zrike notes Ms. Smith's commitment to education her at Salem Public Schools. The second educator recognized was Ms. Janet Garcia. Her ongoing commitment to Salem Public Schools and our students.

Student Representative Report

Ms. Feliz notes the Student Advisory board is scheduled to meet with Dr. Zrike this Tuesday, October 17th.

Old Business

none

New Business

A. Deliberation and vote on approval to dispose of outdated and/or defective technology equipment - Dr. Pangallo notes most items are to be disposed of but any items that can be donated will be.

Mr. Cruz asks Mr. LeBlanc where it states stripped for parts, are these parts sent to a certain recycling center? Mr. LeBlanc notes the company SPS works with is the same e-waste company that the City of Salem works with. This company also takes any hard drives through a shredder as well. Motion to approve made by Dr. Pangallo and seconded by Ms. Cornell. A roll call vote is taken.

Ms. Manning	Yes
Ms. Cornell	Yes
Dr. Pangallo	Yes
Ms. Miranda	Yes
Ms. Campbell	Yes
Mr. Cruz	Yes
Mayor Pangallo	Yes
Motion Carries 7-0	

Finance & Operations Report

none

Subcommittee Reports

none

School Committee Concerns and Resolutions

Mayor Pangallo notes Dr. Zrike was celebrated at the Latino's for Education and Mayor Pangallo would like to recognize Dr. Zrike and his contributions to the Salem school district.

Adjournment

Ms. Cornell makes a motion to adjourn and seconded by Mr. Cruz. A roll call vote is taken.

Ms. Manning	Yes
-------------	-----

Ms. Cornell	Yes
-------------	-----

Dr. Pangallo	Yes
--------------	-----

Ms. Miranda	Yes
-------------	-----

Ms. Campbell	Yes
--------------	-----

Mr. Cruz	Yes
----------	-----

Mayor Pangallo	Yes
----------------	-----

Motion Carries 7-0

Meeting adjourned at 9:10PM.

Respectfully submitted by,

Krista Perry

Executive Administrative Assistant to the School Committee & Superintendent