Salem School Committee

Meeting Minutes

Monday, September 19, 2016

A regular meeting of the Salem School Committee was held on Monday, September 19, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. in the Cafeteria at Collins Middle School, 29 Highland Avenue, Salem, MA.

**Members Present**: Mayor Kimberley Driscoll, Dr. Brendan Walsh, Mr. James Fleming, Deborah Amaral, Ms. Mary Manning, Patrick Schultz, and Kristine Wilson.

**Members Absent:**  None

**Others Present**: Ms. Margarita Ruiz, Superintendent, Kate Carbone, Assistant Superintendent, Margaret Marotta, Assistant Superintendent, Business Manager Kristin Shaver, Chief of Systems Strategies Dr. Jill Conrad, and Chief of Communications Kelley Rice.

**Call to Order**

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

**Approval of the Agenda**

Mr. Fleming moved to approve the agenda as presented. Dr. Walsh seconded the motion. The motion carried.

**Approval of Minutes**

Mr. Fleming moved to approve the minutes of the September 6, 2016 Regular School Committee meeting as amended. Ms. Wilson seconded the motion. The motion carried.

**Questions and Comments from the Audience**

Mr. Richard Pabich of 35 Winter Island Road addressed the School Committee and stated that he is concerned about the resolution on the agenda this evening not to raise the existing cap on charter schools in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. He expressed his concern that this is not a uniting resolution at a time when the district is finally moving forward. He stated that this is not a Salem problem and it is politicizing something that should not be in front of the School Committee. He also stated that he researched Chapter 71 Section 37 Powers and Duties of the School Committee and he believes that it may be illegal to do this in this venue.

Sarah Morrill addressed the School Committee and stated that she is a Charter School parent and a Salem Public Schools parent. She stated that she feels that the resolution is a symbolic gesture and should be a personal vote that people are responsible for when they vote. She also states that she is relieved to see another proposed resolution this evening that call for collaboration. She also noted that the Salem Public Schools has a strong partnership with the Salem Academy Charter School and she has been involved in that process.

Sean O’Neil, the Executive Director of the Salem Academy Charter School addresses the School Committee and stated that the Education Reform Act of 1993 provided for several types of Charter Schools noting Commonwealth Charter Schools, Horace Mann Charter Schools, Innovation Schools to give parents a choice. He stated that the Charter Schools are not taking money away from the schools explaining that the money follows the child. He notes that SAC has grown their enrollment to 480 students over time. He also notes that the graduated reimbursement from the state has not been as generous as it was proposed to be.

Mr. O’Neil stated that the mission of the Salem Public Schools and SAC are the same and they have a cordial and cooperative relationship and are working on programs and practices for the benefit of all students. He also reported that the ballot question is intended to support cities that are in trouble.

Ben Winthrop of 3 Essex Street addressed the School Committee and stated that this is a Salem issue and he is afraid that this will be the death of public education in America. He states that he cannot really call charter schools public schools and if the cap is lifted it will open the flood gates noting instances that have happened in Louisiana and Florida. He also stated that he feels that this is a scheme to privatize public education. He states it is important to the School Committee to oversee our public schools.

Linda St. Pierre of 83 Bayview Street addressed the School Committee and stated that her son attended the Salem Public Schools and he was not motivated. She stated that it was disappointing that school did not motivate him. She feels that the education of students is personal choice of the parents and when choosing a high school for her son she did what was best for him given the choices that were available to her at that time and chose a private school. She stated that Salem has been in the bottom ten percent of schools for 20 years and notes that she has seen the focus shift in the last few years to focus on high expectations for all students and hired a deeply knowledgeable educator in our Superintendent. She stated that she feels that we should be collaborating to make all of the schools in Salem great where every child is challenged.

Beth Kontos, President of the Salem Teachers Union and a teacher at Salem High School addressed the School Committee and noted that this should have been taken care of at the legislative level. She states that it is in the purview of the School Committee to look at budgets and this school year$5.2 million dollars was lost from Salem this year to the Charter Schools. She notes that we educate absolutely everyone and further noted that the resolution is non-binding. She stated that they want to be sure that we do not lose public schools. She notes that 115 School Committee in the state have passed a resolution and reads the resolution to the School Committee.

Diane Mooney of 10 Hazel Street addressed the School Committee and states that she recently moved here from Philadelphia. She relayed her experiences as a School Nurse and states that she is concerned about fully funding public education.

Andrea French addressed the School Committee and stated that she supports Dr. Walsh’s resolution and urged that critical public funds be kept in the districts. She noted that she is a parent of a special needs student in the Salem Public Schools and there is always a need for additional funding.

Jessica Atwood addressed the School Committee and reported that he child attended the Bentley School and Collins Middle School for grade 6 and is now a Sophomore at Salem Academy Charter School. She expressed her support for Charter School and her experiences at SAC.

A student from the Salem Academy Charter School addressed the School Committee and stated that she is grateful for her education at SAC. She explains that her participation in Service Learning at SAC has made her a better person and notes that every student in Salem should have the same opportunities.

Alexa Ogno of 180 Federal Street addresses the School Committee and notes that her children attended the Horace Mann Lab School and she is now a Salem Academy Charter School parent. She states that the choices offered by the Salem Pubic Schools at the elementary level and she would like to see collaboration between Collins Middle School and Salem High School with Salem Academy Charter School. She also notes that she supports lifting the cap on charter schools in Massachusetts.

Ms. Ogno also reported that she is a representative of the Salem Education Foundation and announced that the applications for the Salem Education Foundation grants are now available for teachers and applications will be accepted until October 10, 2016.

A Salem High School student addressed the School Committee and reported that the School Committee lifted the athletic fees last year and there are more kids involved in sports at the high school this year. She also noted that last year several passionate teachers were cut last years due to budget cuts and notes that some of her teachers are stressed. She further noted that she feels nurtured and safe at Salem High School.

Liz Griffin of 7 Looney Avenue addressed the School Committee and noted that the two students who spoke this evening did an incredible job relaying their messages. She notes that it is sad that they feel that they have to defend their school and states that all schools need to be great. She also stated that she feels that we have to maintain diversity in our schools.

Jeremy Shank of the American Federation of Teachers addresses the School Committee and notes that he has two boys in the Roxbury Public Schools. He notes that they have universal free lunch and the district raised $30,000 to maintain the Art and Music programs in the schools. He notes that we need to keep more money in the public schools.

A former Salem Academy Charter School student addressed the School Committee and stated that he was invited to come to this meeting and speak by former School Committee member Rachel Hunt. He notes that he does not live in Salem and this time and he is not on any side of this issue. He explains that he is here to speak for the students. He relayed his experiences at Salem Academy Charter Schools and stated that he feels that more students should be offered that opportunity.

Stephanie Callahan addressed the School Committee and stated that she is the Head of the Salem Academy Charter School. She thanked the teachers and the families that came out tonight to share their thoughts on this matter. She expressed her support for Question 2 noting that it will expand charter schools up to 12 per year in the state and will provide more opportunities for families.

Chelsea Gordon addressed the School Committee and stated that she is a Salem Academy Charter School alumni. She reminisced about her time at SAC and notes that morning meetings were valuable to her. She also notes that she is a college graduate and she supports the lifting of the charter school cap.

A representative of the Massachusetts Federation of Teachers addressed the School Committee and explained that she is a teacher from Malden and initially came to the meeting to observe. She thanked those who attended the meeting on both sides of the issue noting that this is an important part of the process. She also stated that this ballot question is something that should have been taken care of by the legislature a long time ago. She notes that while the money does follow the student the costs for the schools for maintenance etc. remain the same and districts struggle with operating costs. She further stated that voting no on Question 2 is the only fiscally responsible thing to do.

James Willis of 18 Pingree Street addresses the Board and states that he supports Dr. Walsh’s resolution and urged the members of the School Committee to support it. He notes that the School Committee has the opportunity to join other school committee’s across the Commonwealth who oppose the lifting of the cap on charter schools and send a clear message that they support public schools.

A Salem Academy Charter School student addresses the School Committee and stated that she attended SAC from the 6th grade to the 8th grade and had a choice of where to go to high school. She stated that she looked at Salem High School and Bishop Fenwick High School and in the end decided that SAC was the best choice for her. She stated that she feels blessed to have the opportunities that she has at SAC.

Rosario Ubiera-Manaya addressed the School Committee and relayed her experiences as a student at Salem High School with no English skills. She stated that she need support to learn English and her family needed support as well. She noted that she learned English and through the help and support she received at Salem High went on to Salem State as an international student and eventually earned her degree and a Master’s Degree. She explained that he experiences led her to join the founding committee for the Salem Academy Charter School.

Ms. Manaya also relayed her experiences as a parent of children in the Salem Public Schools. She explained that she enrolled her child in the Nathaniel Bowditch School because of the dual language program only to find that the program no longer existed and eventually transferred the child to the Bentley Academy Charter School. She also notes that he other child remains at the Bowditch School and it is a good fit for him. She concluded her remarks by noting that choices are good for parents to make the right decisions for their kids.

Nestor Grullion addressed the School Committee and explained that he worked on the SAC founding committee as well and he is very proud of what they have accomplished. He stated that he is concerned that this real issue here is that it should be about education and we need to concentrate on how to fix the schools not only in Salem but all over the state and we need to work together. He noted that he sees great kids coming out of SAC with a great education.

Emma Lipinski addressed the School Committee and stated that she is a freshman at Salem High School She relayed her experiences as a student at the Bates School and Collins Middle School and noted the opportunities that she has had and the activities that she has participated in with the Salem Public Schools. She stated how happy she is at Salem High School and notes that the teachers are very supportive with extra help after school. She also noted that there are many clubs that she is interested in joining and notes that she is a member of Witch Pitch. She stated that she is here this evening to support her teachers and urged people to vote no on Question 2.

Fawaz Abusharkh addressed the School Committee and stated that he is in favor of charter schools. He explains what he views as the misconceptions that are being represented by the opponents of Question 2. He stated that this issue does affect Salem. He also stated that Massachusetts cannot be compared to other states. He further noted that Charter Schools are the same as vocational schools in Massachusetts in the way they are funded. He stated that public school budgets increase every year and there are bad decisions being made by bad politicians.

Nancy Lipinski addressed the School Committee and stated that she supports Dr. Walsh’s resolution and she feels that raising the cap for charter schools will be opening the flood gates for more charter schools across the state. She stated that she is voting no on Question 2.

Gordon Schultz addressed the School Committee and stated that he is the son of School Committee member Patrick Schultz. He explained that his father did not encourage him to speak this evening and noted that he is neutral on the matter. He also noted that there is a lot of emotion on both sides of this issue. He notes that there is so much money being spent on the military etc., and noted that if we spent as much energy and money on the issues it would be a good thing.

Fawaz Abusharkh addressed the School Committee and reported that at the last meeting people left the meeting to find that someone put Vote No on Question 2 bumper stickers on cars and urged people to check their cars when they leave tonight.

Mayor Driscoll stated that this bring the questions and comments from the audience for this portion of the meeting to a close.

**Action Items**

1. Deliberation and vote on the Resolution to Not Raise the Existing Cap on Charter Schools in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts (Tabled 8/22/16)

Mr. Fleming move to take the matter from the table. Dr. Walsh seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Dr. Walsh moved to approve the Resolution to Not Raise the Existing Cap on Charter Schools in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Mr. Fleming seconded the motion.

Discussion:

Ms. Amaral stated that she takes exception to some of the comments made this evening noting that she has taken some tough votes on the Bentley and the Nathaniel Bowditch Schools since she has been a member of the School Committee. She stated that she is personally going to vote no on Question 2 but she will be voting against the resolution presented this evening as she has concerns about the language in the resolution. She further stated that she would like to see people take all this energy and put it into addressing the funding formula for Charter Schools.

Ms. Amaral noted that her children have been very successful in the Salem Public Schools and she has not considered sending them to the Charter School. She also stated that Salem is under the cap for charter schools and if there is a need to expand charter schools there is opportunity to do so. She stated that she would like to see the state officials and administration work together to address the funding formula.

Ms. Wilson stated that she would be voting No on Question 2 and could not support the resolution this evening because she does not agree with the language. She stated that she will be supporting the resolution calling for collaboration to improve all of the schools for the students.

Mr. Fleming stated that he disagrees with Mr. Pabich’s statement about the appropriateness of the School Committee acting on this resolution and referred to a Supreme Court decision that allows this School Committee the right to give an opinion on any question put forth on any ballot. He cited the Anderson case decided by the SJC.

Mr. Fleming stated that the reimbursements from the state for Charter Schools to cities and towns has never produced the money that was promised and noted that the loss of funding has been dramatic noting that historically the state has underfunded the budget for reimbursement.

Mr. Fleming stated that charter schools do not service the population that the public schools do, noting that they send problem students back to the districts. He also stated that he is concerned that this is an effort to privatize public schools noting the large donations that are being made to the Vote Yes on Question 2 committee.

Mr. Fleming also explained this resolution does no disseminate the charter schools it is only saying that we do not favor any more charter schools.

Ms. Manning stated that it is no secret that she has been opposed to charter schools, and noted that she does not include the program at the New Liberty Innovation School here in Salem. She notes that she supports that program.

Ms. Manning stated that she would be more than eager to discuss the issues that have been raised this evening. She noted that these are state wide issues and she does not see this as a divisive city issue. She also noted that he responsibility is to vote No on Question 2 and she is going to vote to support the resolution against raising the cap noting that she does not see how she can vote for one and not the other.

Mr. Schultz stated that he will be voting no on the resolution this evening. He further stated that the resolution brought forth by Dr. Walsh was not written by Dr. Walsh and stated it is important to understand that and he feels that it is a political position and he feels that it is in inappropriate that so much attention has been given to this.

Mr. Schultz stated that he is really happy to see so much discussion and notes that we need to continue the discussion about what is best for the Salem community. He stated that there is no evidence that charter schools are a van guard to effectively eliminate the public schools and there is no evidence that Salem will need another charter school and notes that the SAC is not fearful of another charter school coming to Salem.

Mr. Schultz stated that he agrees that there are funding flaws noting that the reimbursements from the state have been severely underfunded by the state and we should be collaborating with the SAC to improve the funding of charter schools noting that there should be more equity in the funding of charter schools and the reimbursements to cities and towns.

Dr. Walsh stated that Mr. Schultz is correct that he did not write the proposed resolution.

He explained that it was written by the Agawam School Committee. He further noted that this resolution was to come up two meetings ago and he was asked to hold off on it twice because some members were unable to attend the meetings. He also notes that he offered at the time to sit down and review the language in the resolution and there were no requests to do so.

Dr. Walsh stated that it is the purpose of the resolution that counts. He notes that nothing is going to happen to the Salem Academy Charter School as a result of Question 2. He also noted that the Charter School industry shot down legislation that would have eliminated the cap all together that was offered by MASC but it was shot down because they would not be able to force a school on a community without funding. He also stated that there have been a number of times when this has been referred to as a divisive issue and noted that it is divisive because of the Charter School industry.

Dr. Walsh stated that we heard a number of good and bad stories during these discussions from people who relayed their experiences of the Salem Public Schools and Salem Academy Charter School.

Dr. Walsh reviewed the language in the resolution and the issues that it addresses. He notes that the reimbursement to districts for charter schools has failed noting that the reimbursement is a law, but it is subject to appropriation of the funds and the state traditionally underfunds charter school reimbursements.

Mayor Driscoll thanked everyone for coming out on this issue and notes that there is a lot of passion on both sides of this. She states that a lot if it was derogatory towards charter schools and noted that we should be collaborating with them to improve education.

Mayor Driscoll stated that there are a lot of families that need choices and that is a concern to her. She noted that in our city we make education a priority and focus on improving the quality of education in our community. She noted that families have different needs and often times have students in both the public schools and the charter school. She stated that we should be looking at ways to collaborate to offer suggestions to make education stronger but this debate pits one option against the other and she would like to see collaboration with SAC to discuss the funding and enrollment policies.

Mayor Driscoll stated that she has concerns that the resolution is derogatory toward charter schools. She stated that she cannot support this resolution but she cannot vote no on it either because she does not know how she is going to vote on the ballot question. She stated that she would be voting present this evening.

Mr. Fleming requested to move the question at this time.

Mr. Fleming called for a roll call vote on the matter. Dr. Walsh and Ms. Manning agreed for a roll call vote.

Mayor Driscoll called for a roll call vote on the Resolution to Not Raise the Existing Cap on Charter Schools in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts as follows:

Mr. Shultz No

Ms. Manning Yes

Mr. Fleming Yes

Dr. Walsh Yes

Ms. Wilson Present

Ms. Amaral No

Mayor Driscoll Present

Mayor Driscoll reported that the motion failed for lack of a majority. Mr. Fleming explained that there was a majority of the members voting on the matter who voted in favor and therefore the motion carried. Mayor Driscoll agreed. The motion carried (3-2-2)

Deliberation and vote on Resolution in support of fair funding and high quality offerings for all public school students and families in the City of Salem

Ms. Amaral moved approval. Ms. Wilson seconded the motion.

Discussion:

Mr. Fleming stated that he could support this resolution with an amendment and offered a friendly amendment to delete the following items from the resolution:

**Whereas, information being distributed by groups supporting and opposing the ballot question to raise the charter school cap (Question 2) can be misleading, negative and divisive within our community;**

**Now Therefore be it Resolved:**

**4. We desire to build unity in our community and not be divided by a statewide ballot question regarding lifting of charter school caps. It should be noted that Salem is not presently at our statutory cap.**

Dr. Walsh stated that number 4 is contradictory to what the School Committee just passed and he could support the resolution with the friendly amendment.

Mr. Fleming requested a roll call vote on the amendment to the resolution. Ms. Manning and Dr. Walsh agreed.

Mayor Driscoll called for a roll call vote as follows:

Ms. Amaral No

Dr. Walsh Yes

Mr. Fleming Yes

Ms. Manning Yes

Mr. Schultz No

Ms. Wilson No

Mayor Driscoll No

The motion failed (3-4)

Mayor Driscoll called for a roll call vote on the motion to approve the Resolution in support of fair funding and high quality offerings for all public school students and families in the City of Salem as follows:

Mr. Schultz Yes

Ms. Manning No

Mr. Fleming No

Dr. Walsh No

Ms. Wilson Yes

Ms. Amaral Yes

Mayor Driscoll Yes

The motion carried (4-3).

1. Deliberation and Vote on the third reading of the revision to Policy 5219 Teaching About Drugs, Alcohol and Tobacco

Ms. Amaral moved approval. Dr. Walsh seconded the motion. The motion carried.

1. Deliberation and Vote on the approval of Saltonstall School Trip to Nature’s Mr.

Classroom October 24-28, 2016

Fleming moved approval. Ms. Wilson seconded the motion. The motion carried.

1. Deliberation and Vote on the approval of the appointment a voting Delegate to the MASC Annual Business Meeting at the MASC Conference on November 2, 2016

Mr. Fleming moved to nominate Dr. Brendan Walsh to be the delegate to the MASC Annual Business Meeting. Ms. Manning seconded the motion. The motion carried.

**Superintendent Report – Margarita Ruiz**

Superintendent Margarita Ruiz addressed the School Committee and reported that long time Salem Public Schools School Resource Officer Mike Fecteau is retiring. She thanked him for his service to the Salem Public School and noted that he was a wonderful partner and friend to the schools. She further noted that he is a humble guy and wanted no recognition but she wanted to take this opportunity to thank him on behalf of the Salem Public Schools. Ms. Ruiz reported that Salem Police Officer Brian St. Pierre is the new School Resource Officer and she welcomed him to the Salem Public Schools.

Ms. Ruiz reported that there were two presentations on the agenda for this evening, however she has rescheduled Dr. Chad Leith’s presentation on the Horace Mann Lab School Partnership with Salem State University to the next meeting due to the late hour and Dr. Leith’s commute.

Ms. Ruiz requested that the School Committee reschedule their meeting on October 3, 2016 to October 11, 2016 due to the Rosh Hashanah holiday. She also requested that the October 17, 2016 meeting be moved to October 24, 2016 to avoid back to back meetings.

Mr. Fleming moved to approve the request of the Superintendent to change the meeting dates in October to October 11, 2016 and October 24, 2016. Dr. Walsh seconded the motion. The motion carried.

**Presentations and Reports**

Emily Ullman, Director of Extended Learning Time made a presentation on the 2016 Summer Learning Programs that were held in the Salem Public Schools.

**Finance Report**

1. **Approval of Warrants**

September 1, 2016 in the amount of $249,292.50

September 8, 2016 in the amount of $544,429.55

September 15, 2016 in the amount of $104,428.66

Mr. Fleming moved to approve the warrants as stated. Dr. Walsh seconded the motion. The motion carried.

**Budget Transfer Requests**

**Budget Transfer Request FY17-1**

School Business Administrator, Kristin Shaver addressed the School Committee and explained that Assistant Superintendent Kate Carbone is requesting a transfer of $65,000 from the Nathaniel Bowditch Regular Day Personnel – Administrative account to the accounts listed below, as the intended position will not be filled. The funds will be redistributed within the Bowditch School for culture building projects.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| The transfer request is as follows:  Account Description/Use | Account Number | Amount To | Amount From |
| Personnel -Administrative | 13570520-5117 |  | ($65,000) |
| Stipends -Saturday School | 13570520-5150 | $5,000 |  |
| Stipends - Nurse | 13570520-5150 | $3,600 |  |
| Instructional Supplies | 13570521-5514 | $32,600 |  |
| Contract Services -Classroom Mgt System | 13570521-5320 | $2,500 |  |
| Contract Services -Field Trips | 13570521-5320 | $3,500 |  |
| Transportation - Enrichment | l 3570521-5333 | $16,800 |  |
| Professional Development | 13990161-5317 | $1,000 |  |

Mr. Fleming moved to approve the budget transfer request. Ms. Amaral seconded the motion.

The motion was approved (7-0).

**Budget Transfer Request – FY17-2**

Ms. Shaver explains that the Bates School Principal, Thomas Milaschewski has requested two

Budget transfers. She explained that one is from Contractual Services to stipends and the

Second is from textbooks to instructional supplies. She noted that both transfers are to align

the funds with the intended expense.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| The transfer request is as follows:  Account Description/Use | Account Number | Amount To | Amount From |
| Contracted Services | 13570520-5117 |  | ($19,141.25) |
| Stipends | l 3570220-5150 | $19, 14 l.25 |  |
| Textbooks | 13570221-5511 |  | ($3,240.25) |
| Instructional Supplies | 13570221-5514 | $3,240.25 |  |
|  |  |  |  |

**Subcommittee Reports**

**Policy Subcommittee**

Ms. Amaral reported that the Policy Subcommittee met on September 15, 2016 and continued to review the 6,000 policy series. She reported that there are several policies which there are no changes recommended and 8 policies were sent to the Assistant City Solicitor for review. She reported that they will be recommending policies to be revised at the next meeting.

Ms. Amaral reported that the Policy Subcommittee also reviewed policy 3703 regarding Students in Arrears for Breakfast and School Lunch Programs. She explains that there was a concern that some students were being denied lunch if they owed money to the school and the Policy Subcommittee is recommending that the matter be referred to the Finance Subcommittee for review and to recommend that the all lunch fees be eliminated. She also recommended that the School Committee suspend the policy at this time while the matter is being reviewed.

Dr. Walsh moved to suspend policy 3703 Students In Arrears for Breakfast and School Lunch programs. Ms. Amaral seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Ms. Amaral reported that the Policy Subcommittee will meet on October 4, 2016 at 4:00 p.m.

**Buildings and Grounds Subcommittee**

Ms. Manning reported that the Buildings and Grounds Subcommittee met this evening to review the waiver of the fees for the youth sports programs for the use of Bertram Field. She stated that the Committee recommends that the School Committee extend the waiver of the fees which was approved last year for a one-year period and that the Buildings and Grounds Subcommittee will be reviewing the details of the contract language at meeting to be scheduled. She noted that the fall sports teams are currently using the field.

Mr. Fleming moved to extend the waiver of the fees for the Salem Youth Sports Organizations for the use of Bertram Field for the 2016-17 School Year. Dr. Walsh seconded the motion. The motion carried.

**Personnel Subcommittee**

Mr. Fleming reported that the Personnel Subcommittee met to review the applications for the position of School Committee Secretary. He explained that there were 33 applications for the position. He reported that the candidates will do a performance activity involving writing minutes and demonstrating the ability to post materials on the website and interviews will be held in October.

**School Committee Concerns and Resolutions**

There were no School Committee Concerns or resolutions this evening.

**Questions and Comments from the Audience Regarding the September 19, 2016 Agenda**

Andrea French addressed the School Committee and reported that the Salem Special Education Parents Advisory Committee will be holding an open forum on September 21, 2016 and noted that they will be holding other workshops throughout the school year. She noted that they are open to public and urged people to attend.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the School Committee this evening, Mr. Fleming moved that the School Committee adjourn the meeting. Ms. Amaral seconded the motion. The motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

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Eileen M. Sacco, Secretary

Salem School Committee

**Meeting Materials and Reports**

School Committee Agenda September 19, 2016

School Committee Minutes August 22, 2016

MASC Resolution on Charter School Cap

Resolution in Support of Fair Funding and High Quality Offerings for all Public School Students and Families in the City of Salem

Policy 5219 Teaching About Drugs, Alcohol and Tobacco

Saltonstall School Trip Request to Nature’s Classroom