

MINUTES OF REGULAR COMMITTEE MEETING
 February 17, 2021
 Video Conference Meeting accessible via SCTV15

<p>Chairperson Kyle Belanger called the virtual meeting of the South Hadley School Committee to order at 6:00pm, which is streaming live on South Hadley’s Facebook page.</p> <p>Present: Kyle Belanger, Chairperson Allison Schlachter, Vice Chairperson; Charles Miles; Christine Phillips; Allyson Garcia; Maddy Foley, Student Representative</p> <p>Also, present: Diana Bonneville, Ph.D., Interim Superintendent</p> <p>Approval of Minutes: January 4, 2021 & February 1, 2021; so moved by Allyson Garcia and seconded by Christine Phillips; roll call vote: motion passes unanimously 5/0.</p> <p>Warrants: Motion to approve warrants by Christine Phillips; Dated: February 2, 2021 #2021-176 \$62,417.84 February 4, 2021 #Bi-Weekly \$677,504.37 Seconded by Allison Schlachter; roll call vote: motion passes unanimously 5/0</p> <p>Allyson Schlachter announced that she has been selected to be the School Committee Representative on the Town Administrator search committee.</p> <p>Brady Currier wanted to thank the School Committee & Dr. Bonneville for allowing him to speak. He said, this is his 10th year playing football and we need to play this season. Playing football is not just healthy for the body and mind, it also teaches teamwork, responsibility, discipline, and structure. Some of my teammates have three more years to play but seniors do not, so please vote yes to football.</p> <p>Brian Morris wanted to discuss 2 issues. His youngest has had trouble with regression and remote learning. His older son has had social emotional regression from not receiving in-person learning. The CDC and medical professionals are recommending that the students return to in-person learning. Teachers need to return to work, everyone has a workplace that may have some risk. The teachers’ services are so important. No more delays. No more closures. Please vote to open as planned.</p> <p>Dr. McKiernan seconded what Brian said. It is very important we get back to school. She said that the CDC and the Mass DPH have recommended to have all children back in the classroom as soon as possible. We urge everybody to follow the guidelines with quarantining. We should go by the guidelines that were recommended by Nurse Garvey early on.</p> <p>Roxanne Sprague commented that there is a lack of transparency with quarantining, and the dashboard is not being updated. She believes the dashboard should reflect if the positive case is a student or staff, and remote or in-person. She has also questioned how close contacts were identified when all students were remote. She would like more transparency.</p> <p>Stephanie is a mother of a junior football payer, who should be playing as declared by</p>	<p>Call to Order</p> <p>Attendance</p> <p>Approval of Minutes</p> <p>Vote</p> <p>Approval of Warrants</p> <p>Vote</p> <p>Announcement</p> <p>Public Comment</p>
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MIAA guidelines. My son and his friends have played together for years and learned adversity, perseverance, discipline, dedication, and resilience since last March. This has affected my son and the team's social emotional health. Surrounding towns have played full seasons which helps in college recruitments. Please allow the Fall2 season to go on.

Scott Beaulieu thanked the School Committee and Dr. Bonneville for work on the "sick" buildings and the work towards the CDC guidelines. Our air exchange percentage rates for HVAC has not been given to SHEA. South Hadley's numbers are on the rise, if you remove the numbers from Mt. Holyoke College. The age group that is showing increasing numbers is children from 0-19 years old. Why are we not waiting a week or so after vacation before we open? We need more contact tracing and % rates on air quality to return to a safe environment.

Dr. Bonneville spoke about Hank Skala taking the rest of the year off for medical and family issues. Regina Moulton will take over as Interim for the rest of the school year. On February 4th Brooks Holmes held a virtual band concert with the students, which was magnificent. Dr. Bonneville reminded parents that if their child has not been brought up to date with immunizations, the child will not be able to return to in-person learning. Letters have been sent home to inform and remind parents about vaccine compliance for certain grades.

Chairman Belanger agreed with Dr. Bonneville about the band concert and said that the students and Brooks Holmes played a terrific concert. Chairman Belanger also wanted to mention to parents and students that there is a population that remote learning is working for. He suggested sending a letter to home schooled students, notifying them of our hybrid return and ask them if they'd consider returning to SHPS.

Maddie Foley is on break and did not have a report.

Dr. D'Alesandro said, that the rates in the community are coming down, but we may see a spike from the variant later in the spring. CDC has not made recommendations for HVAC but cracking windows for air exchange is a good practice. Distancing, hand washing, and masking is our best defense against the virus. He supports the School Committee going forward to open school.

Charles Miles presented the review of the COVID numbers with a 3 week drop and now a slight uptake. The numbers continued high till January and now are dropping significantly from 20-5. Eileen Garvey joined the meeting saying that for older grades we would not be quarantining right away until we had contact tracing results, but for younger grades we would quarantine because it is so hard to keep the younger students separate. Eileen Garvey went on to answer questions about publicizing positive tests and quarantining. There is a large number of schools that do not publicize their numbers. Nursing staff felt if we separate out staff and students within a school, it is very easy to find out who it is. Parents have been very forthcoming with

SHEA Update

Superintendent Report

Announcement

Student Representative

School Physician

COVID- related school re-entry update

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the nurses and we want that to continue. It is a HIPPA law-there is medical confidentiality. Allison Schlachter does not understand why we are not in the loop if the outbreak is outside the building or inside the building. Eileen reported that we report cases to Dr. Bonneville & DESE and that we are following medical protocol. We want to protect the relationships we have built with these families, otherwise they will not so forthcoming with the nurses. Chairman Belanger replied there is transparency here and the parents are sharing with the nurses. Dr. Bonneville will meet with the nurses to discuss changing the way we report the cases. Dr. D'Alessandro thinks we should maybe report remote numbers vs. in-person learning numbers. DESE publishes those numbers and DESE will send out a team from DESE to help with spread within the schools should they occur. Dr. Bonneville said that transportation guideline capacity has been lifted on buses, but students should wear warmer clothes and raingear if appropriate for opened windows. We have 5 companies working on HVAC and MESMS was finished last week, Mosier and SHHS are still having work done this week. Mosier portables must be properly cleaned for duct work and teachers can be moved around while those are being cleaned. Self-Attestation forms will still continue for teachers and staff, but students will not need to sign them since parents signed community agreement forms in the fall. Specialists will take students out of their classroom and escort their student back to their classes after washing hands. On February 22nd the first 2 cohorts will return (Cohort A 4 days a week and Cohort B 4 days a week).

Fall 2 season will include football, fall cheer, indoor track(outside), girls' volleyball and cross country with Granby. Coaches are all very educated in the COVID regulations. Pediatricians will check students before returning to play after they have had COVID due to the heart problems they are seeing post COVID. Chairman Belanger is so glad that the MIAA, PVIAC and Coach Castonguay have some such great work to make it possible for sports to happen. Coach Castonguay says we have a plan to go back to outdoor spectators (2) passes per student athlete. Indoor volleyball will have no spectators but we are working on plans for a Senior Night @ SHHS for girls' volleyball. Christine Phillips makes a motion for approval for Fall sports2 session; seconded by Charles Miles; roll call vote: motion passes unanimously 5/0.

Central Office

FY21 School Committee supplies – same
 HEC – same
 Superintendent search -none this year
 Administrators-increase Dr. Mosley, Asst. Superintendent and Business Admin.
 Copier-same
 Postage-same
 PD- same
 Assoc. fees-same
 Admin. Fees-same
 School Spring- increase \$500
 Legal services-same
 Software-same

Fall 2 Season

Vote

Budget Update

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Hardware-same
 Other exp-same

Plains

Principal-increase no furlough this year
 Clerical-Step-up raise
 Office Para-same
 Postage-same
 Para-same
 Sped Para- same
 Lease of Equipment- increase Canon contract
 ESL Contracted Services-increase need
 Libraries- increase Curriculum review
 General- decrease (use what we have)
 Inst. Software-increase Lexia Reading
 Librarian-step up raise
 Nurse- step up raise
 Subs-same
 Custodians-Step up raises
 Maint.-same

Chairman Belanger would entertain a motion to approve the MOA with 5 Star; moved by Christine Phillips; seconded by Allyson Garcia; roll call vote: motion passes unanimously 5/0

**MOA w/ 5 Star
 Vote**

Chairman Belanger would entertain a motion to approve the MOA from SHPS to SHEA about Contact Tracing-Working Within a School Building as written; so, moved by Christine Phillips; seconded by Allison Schlachter; roll call vote: motion passes unanimously 5/0

**MOA Contact
 Tracing
 Vote**

In person SC meetings motion by Charles Miles to allow in-person School Committee Meetings. Allyson Garcia feels that meetings should be mostly virtual. Chairman Belanger added that it would be up to the individual person; seconded by Christine Phillips: motion passes unanimously 5/0

**In person SC
 Meetings
 Vote**

Homeschool Students and unaccompanied youth policy
 Educational opportunities for Military students
 Foster Care students receive immediate enrollment

**First readings of
 Student Policies**

Christine Phillips is excited for Monday for families and students. A world of good for everybody and mindful of our behaviors and others.

Next Meeting: March 1, 2021@ 6:00 PM

Next meeting

Chairman Belanger would entertain a motion to adjourn; so, moved by Christine Phillips; seconded by Allison Schlachter; roll call vote: motion passes unanimously

Adjourned at 8:31

Vote

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Adjourned

True copy:

Diana Bonneville, Ph.D.
Interim Superintendent of Schools

Date approved: _____

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