

MINUTES OF REGULAR COMMITTEE MEETING
August 17, 2020
Video Conference Meeting accessible via SCTV15

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<p>Chairperson Kyle Belanger called the virtual meeting of the South Hadley School Committee to order at 6:00pm.</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>Minutes: August 3, 2020 & Amended minutes from July 20, 2020</p> <p>Warrants: Motion to approve warrants by Christine Phillips; Dated: August 4, 2020 #2021-27 \$50,098.61 August 4, 2020 Bi-Weekly \$596,399.06 August 11, 2020 #2021-32 \$ 28, 128.04</p> <p>Moved by Allison Schlachter; seconded by Charles Miles: motion passes unanimously</p> <p>Allison Schlachter spoke about the draft of the Superintendent posting and ad which were written based on the data collected from the focus groups. Next meeting will be on August 19, 2020 @ 6:00 PM.</p> <p>Adam Sprague joined the School Committee meeting to petition for a volunteer medical advisory board. He has 3 children in the school system and is a PA for Baystate Medical. He was joined on the School Committee meeting with Christine McKiernan, a Pediatric doctor who also lives in the community. The School Committee listened to their petition and their opinion about returning to school. Chairman Belanger reminded both guests that we had medical input from Dr. Rosen who is the school doctor, so the decision to start as remote was medically supported and it was voted on unanimously by the School Committee.</p> <p>Laura Pikhorn who wrote that her son is entering 1st grade, questioned what learning would look like at the beginning of the fall for 5-7-year old's. While her son enjoyed and looked forward to weekly check ins and small group meetings from Ms. Moulton and the Art teacher but feels there should be more. She enrolled him with the Hitchcock Center science online program where he was drawn in by the visual science lessons with different creatures and outside lessons. She also enrolled him in a virtual Art & Theatre class, where the students were engaged for over an hour. "I feel this is the kind of learning we should be getting through the schools".</p> <p>Phillip Sanford requested that remote learning be rescinded based on the survey and health standards set by the state. He requests that we start hybrid learning.</p> <p>The collaboration with School Committee, Administrators and SHEA has been great. Last week in the School Committee meeting, comments were made about "wanting to have teachers on the hook". We had a lot of hard feelings from the teachers after that meeting, we need to trust the union blending with the School Committee. Christine Phillips spoke to the hard feelings teachers had after the last meeting. Christine explained that after last spring with remote learning that was put together from necessity, that we need to have a certain standard across the board to educate the students with the best preparation and interaction we can.</p>	<p>Call to Order</p> <p>Attendance</p> <p>Approval of Minutes</p> <p>Approval of Warrants</p> <p>Superintendent Search Committee</p> <p>Public Comment</p> <p>SHEA Update</p>
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<p>Dr. Bonneville spoke about how wonderful the Meet & Greet for Pat Lemieux was at the Mosier School. Pat was very patient and kind with the Mosier families. It was a very hot day and the line to meet him was very long, but he stayed to talk to everyone until the end of the line. Dr. Bonneville had sent an email to staff and teachers to let them know that starting after Convocation on August 27th we will start our 10 days of Professional development. We are working on steps for vocational student and teacher expectations. We will conduct HVAC inspections for schools in the next 2 weeks and we are talking with the YMCA about childcare to support families. A travel policy and a face covering policy has been put in place for all South Hadley employees. Parents are reaching out about specials at the beginning or last period day of the day to help with work schedules. The final learning plan is online.</p>	<p>Interim Superintendent Report</p>
<p>Congratulations to the Class of 2020. Town reminder coverage was terrific. Neighbors and other districts are trashing South Hadley about thee decision. Fall sports is waiting for MIAA and DESE to decide. Sports are not to start until September 16th. School Committee maintains that we have made decisions with districts like ours. We would like to see PD's for parents and caregivers.</p>	<p>SC Chairman's Report</p>
<p>No report</p>	<p>Student Representative</p>
<p>The School Committee was joined by Jen Matos, a community member and a Professor at Mt. Holyoke who teaches Psychology and Social Justice and is a member of Racial Justice Task Force. The Task Force met last week and had a great discussion about the discipline and data reports and having an equity audit.</p>	<p>Racial Justice Task Force</p>
<p>There was a discussion about suspending the fees for Pre-K. We would love to bring in the High Needs population and Pre-K around October 5th. We would only have 9 students returning and that would put us out of compliance. It would not be right to charge parents for asynchronous learning if we had to go to that during the year and parents would have to be paying childcare as well. Parents could not afford this during COVID-19 and would have to choose childcare.</p>	<p>Pre-K</p>
<p>Charles Miles made a motion to suspend charging Pre-K students for the entire year and revisit this next year. Allison Schlachter seconded; roll call vote which passed unanimously. Charles Miles also asked that the School Committee would like to hear at some point about the impact that would have on the budget. Allison Schlachter asked that the School Committee talk about the timeline not being cemented in stone. Chairman Belanger reminded everyone that we are planning for 45-day increments. We are basing it on the state metrics along with input from Dr. Rosen and other considerations.</p>	<p>Vote</p>
<p>August 27, 2020- Convocation/Staff & Dept. Meetings August 31, 2020- Dojo/Google Classroom & Apps Day 4, 2020-ELMO/ Hovercam/Level Meeting/Google Classroom Day 5, 2020-Pick of 3 workshops (Social Emotional/Anxiety/Racial Justice)</p>	<p>Schedule for Re-Opening</p>

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<p>Day 6, Building Humanizing Relationships/ELMO Training Day 7, Antibias & Diversity This will be finalized at the Admin meeting tomorrow.</p> <p>Teacher Expectations: Building clean and open for teachers to teach from their classroom. Educators posting easy to follow directions Teachers to be logged on except for their prep periods All instructions to be taped and presented later on Loom. ½ days on Wednesdays/Synchronous learning & attendance taken Office hours for teachers Live working documents</p> <p>SHPS Reopening: PD for first ten days of school for teachers SHHS- Proposed their first 45 days of school MESMS- Proposed their first 45 days of school PLAINS-Proposed their first 45 days of school</p> <p>Beth Cooke spoke about returning the High Needs population back to school: There are 72 students with high needs (could put 25 in each building) 4 in Plains School & 4 in Pre-K 6 in Mosier School 7 in the MESMS 8 in the SHHS We could hold a remote PD for parents. Sped Liaisons would get in touch with parents. The parents could see what services will look like, when they would be provided and have communication with the SPED teacher. Some of the services would be done on FAPE with Telehealth visits.</p> <p>Budget Update for Phased Reopening: Jen Voyik spoke about having a discussion with the Admin team about stipends for Band & Chorus. There will be no Band concerts, no percussion and no Chorus. Also, we will not be sending students on field trips, no crossing guards or lunchtime paras which will save money from the budget. At FY20 close we returned \$48,820.85 from payroll and holdovers. We will discuss all of this at the Admin meeting tomorrow and have many more budget questions answered after that.</p> <p>Buses and Van Pool contracts have been sent over to Fred Dupre’s office to be looked at for his recommendation of what should or should not be paid. Then we will be going to back to the bus companies to settle a contract. Some of the larger schools are having the same concern with paying percentages to the bus companies when we are starting remote learning.</p> <p>The Superintendent job description will be voted on at the September 14, 2020 meeting.</p> <p>Interim Superintendent evaluation was talked about by a couple of the School Committee members. There were many compliments paid to Dr. Bonneville about her</p>	<p>Special Education Reopening</p> <p>Budget Report</p> <p>Transportation</p> <p>Interim Superintendent’s</p>
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