

**MINUTES
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING**

ZOOM: <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/71709866283?pwd=SmtpeGFGWGh0ZkUxL09lWnMwS0lXdz09>

August 5, 2020, 1:00 p.m.

In attendance:

George Scobie
Jessie Harrington
Gail Holloway
Dottie Kauffman
Meghan McCrillis

Casey Handfield
Beth Chamberland
Cecelia Wirzbicki

CALL TO ORDER:

At 1:00 p.m., Mr. Scobie called the meeting to order.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS: None

SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS: None

MINUTES:

7/29/2020 for Approval

Mrs. Harrington made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 29th meeting; seconded by Dr. McCrillis and a roll call vote was taken:

Roll call vote: Dr. McCrillis - Yes; Mrs. Kauffman - Yes; Mrs. Holloway - Yes; Mrs. Harrington - Yes; Mr. Scobie - Abstained;

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Class of 2020 Graduation

Dr. Handfield reported that the Class of 2020 Graduation had been a wonderful celebration for a great class who had had a lot to endure with their last trimester being fully remote. He said the celebration could not have happened with the tremendous amount of assistance from Darlene Coyle, Julie Jacobson, the High School teaching staff and Joe Fahey and his custodians and thanked them all.

Return to School Update

Dr. Handfield noted that he had sent a letter to families on Sunday evening, July 26th, providing information regarding the District's tentative plans for reopening schools in September. A copy of the letter had been included in the packet for the Committee's reference.

NEW BUSINESS:

Auburn Public Schools Reopening and Readiness Plan

Dr. Handfield noted that, as discussed in previous meetings, we are in the process of creating a District Reopening Plan. This plan is required to be sent to DESE by August 10th. He had hoped for a delay in submitting the plan with the start of school being delayed, however, that has not happened. He shared a draft of topics and information for the public as we understand and anticipate things now and this plan will be finalized moving forward this week to meet the August 10th deadline. Dr. Handfield reported that the plan will continue to be reviewed with administrators, Auburn Education Association, Return to School team, and the School Committee as we prepare for Town Halls with families the week of August 17th. Draft Two will be shared with the Committee at the August 12th meeting. He noted we will continue to refine this plan throughout August and then as needed. This is a plan to get us open safely. As events unfold through the fall and winter, we will continue to amend this plan as necessary. He shared the link with the Committee:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1uP-_U32JAUshMyIPQAgr-QeCNH-k4gycGQ0aGnlsDe8/edit

The question was posed about when teachers start back and that is as previously scheduled on Monday, August 31st. Parents will find out what cohort their child(ren) is in during the week of August 17th. Dr. Chamberland was asked if survey results indicated a preference for the hybrid model or fully remote and she responded that about 80 to 85% are going with the hybrid model but it is still a work in progress at this point. Bus fees will be refunded if parents who have paid for the bus choose not to use it; however, there are offsets to cover this loss of fees.

TEACHING/LEARNING REPORT:

Family Surveys

As just shared, Dr. Chamberland reported that we are in the process of gathering data from families regarding their learning model choice for the fall. Central office and building principals have been fielding some questions from families related to their choice. Once all of the data is in, the results will be shared with the Committee. Principals are working to ensure that every family shares their preference for their child as we need to hear from every family.

ZippSlip

Dr. Chamberland shared that in an effort to enhance the safety of all students and staff, the District will be purchasing ZippSlip for the upcoming school year. This program allows us to create customizable forms that can be completed electronically. We will use this for a form at the start of the year to screen all staff and students for symptoms related to COVID 19 to ensure everyone entering our buildings each day is symptom free. This can also be used for time sheets, field trips and payments, emergency contact forms and a wide range of other forms that can help to streamline our processes. ZippSlip can also track all of the data collected from any form created.

BUSINESS/FINANCIAL REPORT:

Year to Date Budget Report

Mrs. Wirzbicki provided a year to date budget report as of August 4th.

FY21 Budget Transfer

Mrs. Wirzbicki provided a list of transfers and sought the Committee's approval as one was between the Series.

Mrs. Holloway made a motion to approve the transfer between the Series as presented by the Business Manager; the motion was seconded by Mrs. Harrington and a roll call vote was taken:

Roll call vote: Dr. McCrillis - Yes; Mrs. Kauffman - Yes; Mrs. Holloway - Yes; Mrs. Harrington - Yes; Mr. Scobie - Yes;

POLICIES:

EBC, Emergency Plans - Supplemental

The Massachusetts Association of School Committee's has created a general (interim) policy on COVID-related issues and it is their recommendation that each School Committee adopt it. Dr. Handfield asked the Committee to review it as a first reading and it will be on the agenda for approval or not at the next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss Mrs. Harrington made a motion to adjourn for the afternoon a1:37 p.m.; Mrs. Holloway seconded the motion and a roll call vote was taken:

Roll call vote: Dr. McCrillis - Yes; Mrs. Kauffman - Yes; Mrs. Holloway - Yes; Mrs. Harrington - Yes; Mr. Scobie - Yes;

Respectfully submitted,

Ailaine Zautner
Recording Secretary

Referenced Documents:

Minutes from 7/29/2020
Return to School Update shared with families on August 2, 2020
Google Doc: Reopening and Readiness Plan
Year to Date Budget Report
Budget Transfers
Policy, EBC Supplemental (Emergency Plans)