

BEDFORD SCHOOL COMMITTEE

June 22, 2021

Live Virtual Online Meeting using ZOOM Audio/Video Conference Software

**** Due to the COVID-19 Crisis, this meeting was live-streamed over the internet using ZOOM video/audio conferencing software in order to adhere with social distancing measures put in place by Governor Baker. This meeting was open to the public for live chat during Public Comment.**

1. Call to Order

At 7:03 Ms. Scoville called to order the meeting of the Bedford School Committee. Other members present included Ms. Guay, Mr. Morrison, Ms. Santiago, Mr. Brosgol and student representative Ryan Doucette.

2. Comments from Public

Public comment is available through the webinar feature of Zoom™.

Participants are instructed to use the "raise hand" function in the software and add their name using the "chat" function. Mr. Conrad will invite the panelist into the webinar and each person is allowed three minutes to comment.

Kelly Horton- 7 Evan Ave

Ms. Horton sent her appreciation and congratulation to everyone involved in making it a successful school year given the circumstance. Ms. Horton asked the committee about the mask policy for summer camps and school in the fall given the new state guidance.

3. PR Report

Resignations:

Maisy Draper	Teaching Assistant	Davis
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Retirements:

Mary Warwick	EA (9/14/20202)	Davis
Rhonda Perry	EA (11/30/202)	Davis
Karen Ford	Counselor (12/14/202)	BHS
Alison Lohrum	Counselor (12/31/2020)	BHS
Amy Budka	Music Teacher (6/18/2021)	JGMS
Roseanne Ham	Phys Ed Teacher (6/18/2021)	JGMS
Nancy D'Andragora	Food Service Staff (6/20/2021)	BHS
Donna Higson	Student Office Admin. Assist (6/21/2021)	BHS
Anthony Ruscito	Tech Ed Teacher (6/30/2021)	JGMS
David Foster	TA (6/30/2021)	BHS
Barbara Collins	EA (6/30/2021)	Davis
Sherm Primmerman	Lead Custodian (6/30/2021)	BHS
Paula Rochefort	Financial Supervisor	Central

Summer School- Internal Hires:

Kristin Moore	Kindergarten Teacher	Davis
Daniel Daley	Gr. 6-12 Teacher	District
<u>New for 2021-2022:</u>		
Caitlyn Queenin	SPED Program Admin. PreK-2	Davis
Olivia Kirsch	Speech & Language Pathologist	Davis
Courtney Roy	Grade 1 Teacher	Davis
Karissa Nannariello	SLPA	Lane
Julie Swanson	SLPA	JGMS
Heather Falardeau	Art Teacher (Long Term LOA Coverage)	BHS
Courtney Barrett	COVID 1.0 SPED Liaison	BHS
Jennifer Funk	Adjustment Counselor/Psychologist (BRYT Coordinator)	BHS
Mirfat Farooqi	Physics/Computer Science Teacher	BHS
Adrienne Helmick	1.0 ESL Teacher Gr. 6-12	BHS
Adrianna Thomas	World Language Program Director Gr. 3-12	District

4. Job Description:

2nd Read & Vote- Director of Student Achievement K-5

No Changes from the first reading.

Ms. Santiago made the following motion:

MOVED: Motion to approve job description for Director of Student Achievement

MOTION SECONDED by Ms. Scoville

MOTION APPROVED 5-0-0

Ms. Santiago	Yes
Ms. Guay	Yes
Ms. Scoville	Yes
Mr. Morrison	Yes
Mr. Brosgol	Yes

- 1st Read – Computer Technician

Technology department is looking to replace a team member. This person will provide service and support to students and district employees; district-owned hardware, software and peripherals; district subscription services. This person will also perform routine maintenance of equipment and upgrades to software. Person currently in the role will move to a different role.

5. Field Trip- Johannesburg, South Africa- April 2022

Mr. Mondesir presented to the school committee and overview of a Bedford METCO opportunity to partner with Swampscott & Weston METCO programs to travel to Johannesburg, South Africa in April 2022. Mr. Mondesir stated that the Weston METCO director had reached out to other METCO program directors to see if they were interested in partnering with them to offer this opportunity to as many METCO students as possible. At this time three Bedford METCO students have indicated that they would like to participate. Explorica Travel is the company that will be used to assist with the trip details. Weston METCO has used them in the past for other trips they have organized. No

scholarships will be available for students that wish to attend. However, fundraising and other alternatives will be sought out to ensure all those that wish to attend can do so. Trip can be cancelled for a full refund within 45 days prior to departure if it is unsafe to travel. Another destination and date could be chosen at that time or a full refund would be issued to all participants. School committee vote is necessary so that planning can move forward. AN update will be given as the trip date approaches.

Ms. Santiago made the following motion:

MOVED: Motion to approve METCO preparation for field trip to Johannesburg, South Africa in April 2022. With a final vote needed 45 days prior to trip in January 2022.

MOTION SECONDED by Ms. Scoville

MOTION APPROVED 4-1-0

Ms. Santiago	Yes
Ms. Guay	No
Ms. Scoville	Yes
Mr. Morrison	Yes
Mr. Brosgol	Yes

6. Board of Health (BOH) School Start Times and Climate change

Ms. Anita Raj, BOH Chairperson and Ms. Susan Schwartz, BOH Vice Chairperson presented to the school committee with some of the following as reasons for the need to change start times along with climate change concerns.

- Last time start time change was discussed was ten years ago
- Other area school districts are talking/making changes to start times based on science
- On July 2020, BOH sent a letter to school committee that discussed evidence in support of aligning school start time with the circadian rhythms of grade school, middle school and high school-aged children, such that grade schoolers would start school earlier than adolescents.
- American Medical Association (AMA) in 2016 issued a statement recommending that adolescents start high school after 8:30 am in keeping with several reports by the American Pediatric Association and other sleep experts.
- Teens require more sleep
 - Teens have difficulty falling asleep before 11 pm
 - Melatonin released in teens happens between 11 pm and 8 am
 - Part of the maturation process in teenagers shift in the circadian rhythm
 - Problems with daytime alertness
 - Afternoon napping
- A decision to change start times will not make everyone happy, but the focus of that decision is based on what research tells us and the successes seen in other districts that have aligned school starts with the circadian rhythms of children, the decision should be clear.
- Climate change
 - Increasing number of hot days, we will be seeing at the beginning and end of the school year
 - Expand availability of air conditioned/temperature controlled classrooms and gathering spaces in the schools.

- Next steps
 - Collaborating with School Committee
 - Board of Health added to your agenda every 2-3 months and schools join our agenda every 2-3 months
 - School Start Times
 - BOH highly recommends changing school start times so that Elementary School starts before JGMS and BHS
 - Climate Change
 - Team up with the BOH for an overall plan to protect our community

7. Rescind EBCFA (BPS Face Mask Policy)

The face mask policy was in response to COVID-19 per DESE and the CDC. As the state of emergency was lifted effective June 15, 2021 and new guidance and recommendations have come out we as a district will continue to follow suit with the state guidance. Therefore, masks are not required when indoors. Those unvaccinated are encouraged to wear masks. Others choosing to continue to wear masks indoors may do so when they are unable to safely distance themselves from others.

Mr. Morrison made the following motion:

MOVED: Motion for Bedford School Committee to rescind the Face Mask Policy and endorse the CDC guidance for the summer

MOTION SECONDED by Ms. Scoville

MOTION APPROVED 5-0-0

Ms. Santiago	Yes
Ms. Guay	Yes
Ms. Scoville	Yes
Mr. Morrison	Yes
Mr. Brosgol	Yes

8. Rescind Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) Regarding Reopening of School August 31, 2020.

The memo included:

- **Personnel**
- **Workload**
- **Safety Protections and Precautions**
- **Professional Development and Prep Time**
- **Expectations of time in the building**
- **Curriculum and Technology**
- **Hybrid Model**
- **Full-District Remote Model**

Ms. Santiago made the following motion:

MOVED: Motion for the Bedford School Committee to rescind Emergency MOA regarding reopening of schools on August 31, 2020

MOTION SECONDED by Ms. Scoville

MOTION APPROVED 5-0-0

Ms. Santiago	Yes
Ms. Guay	Yes
Ms. Scoville	Yes
Mr. Morrison	Yes
Mr. Brosgol	Yes

9. Gift/Grant Acceptance

Ms. Kirrane presented to the school committee the following accounting of gifts and grants that the district has received for FY21. A vote from the school committee is needed to accept the following funds:

FY21 Grant	Award/Gift Amount
METCO (317) - State Grant	\$671,827.00
Title I (305)	\$54,233.00
Title IIA (140)	\$26,715.00
Title III (180)	\$21,806.00
Title IV (309)	\$10,000.00
94-142 (240)	\$625,350.00
Early Childhood SpEd (262)	\$20,070.00
SpEd Program Improvement (274)	\$18,611.00
EC Targeted Special Ed (298)	\$2,129.00
ESSER Cares (113)	\$46,507.00
ESSER II Cares (115)	\$181,614.00
SOA Evidence Based Programs (117)	\$8,000.00
Summer & Vacation Learning Program (114)	\$12,000.00
Remote Learning & Technology (118)	\$122,027.00
CvRF School Reopening Grant Program (102)	\$608,850.00
FY21 CvPF School Coronavirus Prevention	\$89,950.00

Donor	Description	Amount
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Anonymous	METCO Gift	\$50.00
Lueders Environmental, Inc. Needham, MA	BPS General Gift account	\$75.00
Bedford Minuteman Scholarship Fund, Bedford, MA	Davis General Gift account, supporting American Studies through library	\$3,500.00
Mass Cultural Council, Bedford, MA	In support of the American Disabilities Act (ADA), microphones for BHS Live	\$374.95
Bedford Education Foundation (BEF), Bedford, MA	General use for BPS and consultant for BHS due to COVID-19.	\$17,930.00

Mr. Morrison made the following motion:

MOVED: Motion that the school committee accept the grants, gifts and donations as stated above.

MOTION SECONDED by Ms. Guay

MOTION APPROVED 5-0-0

Ms. Santiago	Yes
Ms. Guay	Yes
Ms. Scoville	Yes
Mr. Morrison	Yes
Mr. Brosgol	Yes

10. Cap EX

Mr. Alani and Ms. Kirrane presented to the school committee the envisioned projects that will need to take place over the course of the next six year- between FY23-FY28.

- **Recurring School Facilities Projects**
 - Floor Scrubber Replacement- All Schools
 - Flooring Replacement- All Schools
 - Interior Painting- All Schools
 - Program Space Modifications- All Schools
- **Capital Projects**
 - Retro commissioning
 - Boilers
 - Roofs
- **Recurring School Projects**
 - Information Technology
 - Durable Furniture/Equipment Replacement
 - School Photocopier Replacement
- **New School Security Project**
 - Exterior cameras are currently installed at all schools (JGMS this summer)
 - Interior cameras needed at all schools
 - Installation in common areas and hallways

- Full implementation of the bus camera pilot project- currently installed on 9 busses

- **New School Cooling Project**

- Review 2018 Colling study
- School Boiler Replacement (6-year CIP)
- ENZ Ready buildings
- Roofs & Solar

11. BPS Class Size

Mr. Conrad gave the following guidelines for class size for K-5 during the 2021-2022 school year.

- Four new one year teachers
- Use art, library, music space as intended
- 17 students per classroom
- Reducing class size for one year to recover from COVID

12. Bedford Education Association Contract Ratification

Postponed to 6/30/2021 meeting

13. Superintendent Update

Mr. Conrad thanked everyone for all their efforts this year. Mr. Conrad also thanked all those that have retired during the year and the will retire at the end of the school year. One last Friday superintendent's letter will be sent out with information regarding commissioner's guidance. Waiting to learn what type of testing will take place next year. Thank you to all the school nurse for everything that they have done this year. Mr. Conrad also thanked the school committee for all their efforts to get through this difficult school year. Everyone have a relaxed and enjoyable summer.

14. Minutes

Mr. Morrison made the following motion:

MOVED: Motion that the school committee accept the minutes from June 8, 2021

MOTION SECONDED by Ms. Santiago

MOTION APPROVED 5-0-0

Ms. Santiago	Yes
Ms. Guay	Yes
Ms. Scoville	Yes
Mr. Morrison	Yes
Mr. Brosgol	Yes

15. School Committee Reorganization

Ms. Santiago nominates Ms. Scoville to serve as 2021-2022 School Committee Chair.

Nomination accepted by Ms. Scoville

Mr. Brosgol made the following motion:

MOVED: Motion to appoint Ms. Scoville to serve as the School Committee Chair for the 2021-2022 school year

MOTION SECONDED by Mr. Morrison

MOTION APPROVED 5-0-0

Ms. Santiago	Yes
Ms. Guay	Yes
Ms. Scoville	Yes
Mr. Morrison	Yes
Mr. Brosgol	Yes

Mr. Brosgol nominates Mr. Morrison to serve as 2021-2022 School Committee Vice-Chair.

Nomination accepted by Mr. Morrison

Mr. Brosgol made the following motion:

MOVED: Motion to appoint Mr. Morrison to serve as the School Committee Vice-Chair for the 2021-2022 school year

MOTION SECONDED by Ms. Guay

MOTION APPROVED 5-0-0

Ms. Santiago	Yes
Ms. Guay	Yes
Ms. Scoville	Yes
Mr. Morrison	Yes
Mr. Brosgol	Yes

Mr. Brosgol nominates Ms. Santiago to serve as 2021-2022 School Committee Secretary.

Nomination accepted by Ms. Santiago

Mr. Brosgol made the following motion:

MOVED: Motion to appoint Ms. Santiago to serve as the School Committee Secretary for the 2021-2022 school year

MOTION SECONDED by Mr. Morrison

MOTION APPROVED 5-0-0

Ms. Santiago	Yes
Ms. Guay	Yes
Ms. Scoville	Yes
Mr. Morrison	Yes
Mr. Brosgol	Yes

16. Adjournment

Mr. Brosgol made the following motion:

MOVED: Motion to adjourn at 9:34 p.m., not to reopen.

MOTION SECONDED by Mr. Morrison

MOTION APPROVED 5-0-0

Ms. Santiago	Yes
Ms. Guay	Yes
Ms. Scoville	Yes
Mr. Morrison	Yes
Mr. Brosgol	Yes

Exhibits/Documents

PR Report

Field Trip-Johannesburg, South Africa- April 2022

Job Descriptions: Director of Achievement & Computer Technician

BOH School Start Times

CIP

Gifts & Grants



School Committee Secretary



Date

