

## BEDFORD SCHOOL COMMITTEE

September 14, 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 7:04 PM, Ms. Scoville called to order the meeting of the Bedford School Committee. Other members present included Ms. Guay, Ms. Santiago, Mr. Morrison, Mr. Brosgol

#### 2. Public Comment

*No comments*

#### 3. PR Report

##### Transfers:

Jeffery Green	1.0 SPED TA	Lane
Diana White	5 Day Building Sub	Lane
Kimberly Parmentier	5 Day Building Sub	Lane
Jodi DeCleene	1.0 OT	JGMS/BHS

##### Retirements:

None

##### Resignations:

Jill Marquis	SPED TA	Davis
Jessica Smith	Guidance Counselor	Lane
Jessica Mason	Grade 5 Teacher	Lane
Erin Cahill	SPED TA	Lane
Fay Backert	OT	JGMS/BHS
Peter Simoni	SPED TA	BHS
Anya Kennedy	English Teacher	BHS

##### Appointments:

Danielle Withycombe	1.0 SPED TA/BT	Davis
Rose Mirisola	1.0 SPED TA – Bridge	Davis
Dorothy Miller	1.0 SPED TA/BT	Davis
Courtney Vincett	1.0 SPED TA	Lane

##### Substitutes:

Alyssa Catanzano	5 Day Building Sub	Davis
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#### 4. Review Fall 2021 Field trips

Mr. Conrad reviewed with the school committee members all of the Field Trips currently being offered/ sponsored in the district. The only sixth grade field trip for this year is taking place at Natures Classroom in, New Hampshire. It is being postponed until Spring of 2022 due to current COVID concerns. Once new dates have been set the school committee members would need to vote and approve participation. Five other trips are currently in planning stages, with cancelation windows by the tour companies fast approaching and it can impact a student's ability to get a refund if the trip is cancelled. There was a discussion about State Department Advisories for trips outside the US and what impact these advisories have a student travel trips. School Committee will meet on Friday, September 17,2020, to discuss these trips and decide if they should be cancelled or postponed.

- Greece/Italy-BHS
- Galapagos Islands-BHS
- South Africa- METCO
- DC Trip-JGMS
- Ecuador-BHS
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##### **5. BPS Athletics Updates**

- Gymnastics
- Tree Removal by BHS Athletic Fields

Mr. Mangan presented to the school committee a proposal for a cooperative Gymnastics team with the Wilmington School District. If approved Wilmington will be the host school and Bedford will be the visiting school. As proposed the cooperative team will be part of the Middlesex League. Due to the fact that the creation of this team is taking place after the budget process a user fee system would need to be implemented along with fundraising and trying to acquire sponsorships to defray cost to get the program running for this year. The cost per student athlete would be \$400. It would then be a line item during budgetary discussion going forward. Currently five Bedford High School students have shown interest if the team is put together. Some eighth grade students could also be invited to participate if space is available and a waiver is granted. Approximate cost to start the program are: Stipend for coach, transportation cost-\$2000, \$600 for referees etc., along with \$5000 towards facility costs for the season. Mr. Mangan also spoke about the DPW plan for removal of dead or damaged trees near the bleachers at the football field at BHS for safety reasons. It is understood that trees are needed for shade during the warm months when spectators are using the bleachers. However, removing these types of trees would allow for the field to be widened and remove the risk of limbs potentially falling on or near anyone to avoid injury.

Ms. Brosgol made the following motion:

**MOVED: That the School Committee votes to support planning process for creation of a Gymnastics Team.**

**MOTION SECONDED by Mr. Morrison**

**MOTION APPROVED 5-0-0**

<b>Ms. Guay</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Ms. Scoville</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Mr. Morrison</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Mr. Brosgol</b>	<b>Yes</b>

Ms. Santiago

Yes

## **6. Gift & Grants Acceptance**

Item was postponed as there are no gifts & grants at this time to accept

## **7. FY22 Budget Update**

Ms. Kirrane gave a brief budget update to the school committee members about what to expect in the coming weeks and months with regards to budget talks:

- Operating Budget revote typically takes place in Fall once staff numbers have been finalized
- COVID expenses complicate budget
- Tree Removal by BHS Athletic Fields
- Last of new hires/transfers have been made and a vote can likely take place at the September 28, 2021 School Committee Meeting
- ARPA Grants are starting to come in
- October will be final FY21 update on how we did overall for FY21
- Budget season coming up in November

## **8. Superintendent's Report**

**Mr. Conrad present the following during his superintendent's report to the school committee**

- Liaison with CIC Health, our testing contractor, has been finalized
  - Testing supplies have been ordered
- Test and stay protocol in place. No in-school transmissions have been recorded
- Student sign up for available testing per each school in the district is as follows:
  - 150 at BHS
  - 190 at JGMS
  - 320 at Lane
  - 275 at Davis
- Mr. Conrad will shorten his weekly letter to families and opt for a chart system instead
- September 11, 2021 Mr. Conrad met with Commander Stephens at HAFB to speak about what military family's experiences.
- Mr. Conrad met with State Senator Michael Barret regarding budget and what assistance the district might be able to get from the State.
- DESE Virtual Learning Academy Option
  - Essentially available for medically fragile students and students with documented medical needs
  - Cost to Bedford Public Schools for those that participate
  - Student would be supported by a district teacher and student would still be considered a Bedford student while enrolled
- Educational Assistants/Teaching Assistants (EA/TA) and school nurses' contracts are approved

## **9. Draft Minutes**

- August 18, 2021

Ms. Santiago made the following motion:

**MOVED: That the School Committee votes to approve the minutes from August 18, 2021 School Committee meeting**

**MOTION SECONDED by Mr. Morrison**

**MOTION APPROVED 5-0-0**

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

## **10. School Committee Liaison Roles**

**Ms. Scoville**

- School Committee Chair
- Fincom
- Fiscal Planning & Coordinating Committee
- Bedford Community Partnership
- Bedford Common (TV)

**Ms. Santiago**

- School Committee, Secretary
- Fincom
- Planning Board

**Ms. Guay**

- EDCO/related committees
- Youth and Family Services
- Board of Health

**Mr. Brosgol**

- Fincom
- Youth Task Force
- Energy and Sustainability
- Bedford 300 Anniversary

**Mr. Morrison**

- School Committee, Vice-Chair
- Capital Expenditures Committee

## **11. Adjournment**

Mr. Brosgol made the following motion:

**MOVED: Motion to adjourn at 9:05 p.m., not to reopen.**

**MOTION SECONDED by Ms. Santiago**

**MOTION APPROVED 5-0-0**

Ms. Guay	Yes
Ms. Scoville	Yes

Mr. Morrison	Yes
Mr. Brosgol	Yes
Ms. Santiago	Yes

#### Exhibits/Documents

Minutes

PR Report

FY22 Budget Update

2021 Fall Field Trip Review

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
School Committee Secretary

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

