

BEDFORD SCHOOL COMMITTEE

January 11, 2022

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 PM, Ms. Scoville called to order the meeting of the Bedford School Committee. Other members present included Ms. Guay, Ms. Santiago, Mr. Brosgol, Mr. Morrison, and Student Representative Prakhar Gupta

2. Public Comment

No comments

3. School Improvement Plan Presentations:

- BHS (student Advisory & School Improvement plan)
- JGMA
- Davis & Lane

Ms. Galante, Ms. Benoit, Mr. Ackerman, Mr. Hartunian all presented their school improvement plans to the school committee members. Ms. Galante provided a brief segment highlighting the Student Advisory program. Students and staff members from BHS participated in this portion of the presentation to express their views on the program and how it has changed the overall atmosphere at BHS in a positive way for both students and staff. The students spoke highly about advisory and found it to be most helpful in creating new friendships that otherwise may not have happened along with feeling a stronger connection to faculty, staff and administrators in ways that were not possible in a classroom setting. Staff members also spoke about the opportunity advisory presented in really getting to know students as individuals rather than a teacher with expectations from students in a classroom setting. All said advisory was a relaxed inviting way to have a dialogue.

Ms. Benoit and Mr. Ackerman shared their joint school improvement plan; highlighting the connectedness of Davis and Lane schools, while showing the differences. The hope in creating a joint elementary school improvement plan is to maintain continuity between the schools as students move from Davis to Lane. Ms. Benoit and Mr. Ackerman along with their school advisory boards, leadership teams, program administrators, and summer work have played a hand in devising their plan focusing on student to adult, student to student and school to community interactions. While also remaining focused on a tiered curriculum, social emotional learning and assessments.

Mr. Hartunian stated that although he has only been with a district a short time he was pleased to be able to provide some suggestions for the school improvement plan at JGMS whose

focused is to improve upon professional development, scheduling and a student-centered curriculum and assessments. Mr. Hartunian also spoke about continuing with the RULER program and maintaining a positive school environment where students feel appreciated and valued.

4. FY23 Budget Discussion

Mr. Conrad provided the following time line for the budget. What is not in the budget? Title 1 from Fed using Census data-smaller percentage of students fit into category. We would find out in the summer if the 50k would be missing. COVID- Staff outages –does not cost additional funds IEP impact because of staff outages. Teachers- what strategies to keep- technology or software, data wise work has value beyond pandemic. Not a school department concern more of a community concern. How do SPED students take advantage of recreation programs? How do we support them?

Wish list- To keep class sizes low, continue to address SEL curriculum, add additional staff- DEI Director and counselors at the elementary level. Mr. Conrad to provide the committee members with is breakdown of information used during his presentation this evening.

- Tuesday, January 11, 2022 School Committee Budget Discussion: Discussion of MOE, additions, Line Item Budget Preview.
- Tuesday, January 18, 2022- Line Item Budget Review, Additional Discussion
- Tuesday, January 25, 2022- Budget Hearing- 7 p.m.- Final Discussion
- Tuesday, January 25, 2022 School Committee Budget Vote
- Thursday, January 27, 2022 Finance Committee School Budget Presentation

SY23 District Calendar-1st Read

Postponed

5. MOU Review & Vote-

- Administrative Assistants
- Custodians

Mr. Conrad presented an overview of both Memorandum of Understanding (“MOUs”) for both the Administrative Assistants and Custodians. Both groups agreed to a one-year contract with a COLA of 2.5%. These agreements allow the two bargaining groups to move a different negotiation schedule so that five contracts do not have to be negotiated at the same time. Negotiations will begin in the spring for both the Administrative Assistants and Custodians.

Mr. Morrison made the following motion:

MOVED: Motion to approve Administrative Assistants MOU as presented.

MOTION SECONDED by Mr. Brosgol

MOTION APPROVED 5-0-0

Ms. Guay

Yes

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

Mr. Morrison made the following motion:

MOVED: Motion to approve Custodians MOU as presented.

MOTION SECONDED by Mr. Brosgol

MOTION APPROVED 5-0-0

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

6. Superintendents Report

Mr. Conrad presented the following to the School Committee during his Superintendent's Report. Commissioner Riley has extended the statewide mask mandate in public schools through February 28, 2022. Virtual Diversity events are coming up, please sign up and support these programs. Last week's state visits with DESE went well. COVID cases have exploded. Case numbers have increased significantly since September. September–December 23, 2021 the district had 111 cases (includes all schools) from December 24, 2021– January 6, 2022 a reported 280 cases were recorded. CDC has changed the protocol for quarantine- from 10 days to 5 days. Students, staff can return to school on day 6 but must remain masked at all times unless eating or drinking. Contact tracing is nearly impossible because of the back up at labs. Nursing staff is doing all they can to keep everyone safe. Staff outage concerns. KN95 masks had to be replaced and more to be acquired. N95 masks are available the nurses' office. District trying to acquire more Antigen tests.

7. Draft Minutes: Review & Vote

Ms. Guay made the following motion:

MOVED: That the School Committee votes to approve the minutes from December 21, 2021 School Committee meeting

MOTION SECONDED by Mr. Brosgol

MOTION APPROVED 4-1-0

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

8. Adjournment

Mr. Brosgol made the following motion:

MOVED: Motion at 10:43 PM to adjourn into executive session not to re-open in Open Session.

MOTION SECONDED by Ms. Guay

MOTION APPROVED 5-0-0

Ms. Guay Yes

Ms. Scoville Yes

Mr. Brosgol Yes

Mr. Morrison Yes

Ms. Santiago Yes

Exhibits/Documents

School Improvement Plan Presentation

SY23 District Calendar

Draft Minutes- December 21, 2021


School Committee Secretary


Date