

School Committee Minutes  
Virtual Meeting  
Monday, August 10, 2020

Members attending: Sharlene Cronin, SusanMary Redinger, Suzanne Allen, Shannon Molloy, Abby Besse, Maureen Babcock and Linda Dwight

Others in attendance Aziz Aghayev, Taylor Caroom, Brooke Caroom, Felicia Jamba, Maible Daly, Scott Hoffman and Josh Myler.

SusanMary Redinger called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m.

Taylor Caroom read the Vision Statement

SusanMary Redinger read a statement indicating that the meeting was being held remotely and the meeting was being held via video conferencing. Members in attendance were identified through a roll call process.

**Public Comment:**

Katy Cavino – 160 Depot Road –School Re-entry

Jen Manell – Stow Road – School Re-entry

Jennifer Finch – Codman Hill Road – School Re-entry

Dan Daly – Littleton Road – distribute school committee packet – state remote option

MaryAnn Prouty – Candleberry Lane – School Re-entry

Alexandra Moussouris – School Re-entry

**Superintendent Update - Attached**

**HPS re-Entry Plan**

Student Feedback - Taylor Caroom, Felecia Jamba and Maible Daly shared an analysis of the student responses to the re-entry survey. 207 students responded.

Parent Feedback – Dr. Dwight reported on the analysis of the parent responses to the re-entry survey. 250 students at TBS and 150 students at HES students are represented in the data. The deadline on the survey is August 14<sup>th</sup>.

**COVID-related Policy Introduction**

Shannon Molloy and Suzanne Allen worked in consultation with Dr. Dwight to create two policies related the COVID issues. Being presented for adoption tonight are Policy EBCFA – Masks and Policy E-TBD Learning Model Decision Points.

Shannon Molloy did the first read of Policy EBCFA – Masks.

Suzanne Allen did the first read of Policy E-TBD – Learning Model Decision Points.

SusanMary Redinger determined that the new policies could be approved tonight under the emergency need criteria. SusanMary Redinger asked School Committee members if they would feel comfortable approving the policies tonight pending legal review.

Suzanne Allen made the motion and Shannon Molloy seconded to move to approve the Learning Model Decision Points and the Mask Policy as presented and amended tonight pending legal review.

**VOTE:** Allen (Aye), Besse (Aye), Cronin (Aye), Molloy (Aye), Redinger (Aye)

### **Review of Side Agreement re: Teacher Leave & Pay for Additional Sections**

Dr. Dwight presented two Memorandum of Agreements between the Harvard School Committee and The Harvard Teachers' Association related to a COVID unpaid leave for the 2020-21 school year and a COVID related extra teaching sections and remote learning assistance at Bromfield for the 2020-21 school year.

Suzanne Allen made the motion and Shannon Molloy seconded to move that we authorize the Chair to sign and present the side letter of agreement to the HTA for COVID unpaid leave for the 2020-21 school year.

**VOTE:** Allen (Aye), Besse (Aye), Cronin (Aye), Molloy (Aye), Redinger (Aye)

Sharlene Cronin made the motion and Suzanne Allen seconded to approve the MOA between the Harvard School Committee and the Harvard Teachers' Association related to extra teaching sections and remote learning assistance as presented.

**VOTE:** Allen (Aye), Besse (Aye), Cronin (Aye), Molloy (Aye), Redinger (Aye)

### **Budget Impact Update**

Aziz Aghayev presented a spreadsheet that he is using to track COVID expenses. It shows actual expenses and what is forecasted to be spent for the whole school for COVID related expenses.

### **Special Services Zoom Feedback**

Dr. Dwight held a special zoom meeting for parents of students who receive special services. There were 45 people who attended.

### **Harvard Teacher's Association Feedback**

Melissa Niland, President of the HTA shared an analysis of the teachers' re-entry survey. Based on the data the HTA will not be recommending a re-entry plan.

### **HPS Re-Entry Plan; Vote**

The School Committee weighed in on their decision to which re-entry plan they preferred and then took a vote.

Suzanne Allen made the motion and Abby Besse seconded to move that we vote as a Committee to direct the Superintendent and the administrative team to reenter the 2020-2021 school year in the hybrid plan given that the numbers in our community and surrounding communities stay such that it will be safe.

**VOTE:** Allen (Aye), Besse (Aye), Cronin (Nay), Molloy (Nay), Redinger (Aye)

### **Future Meeting Dates**

August 17<sup>th</sup>

August 24<sup>th</sup>

### **Agenda Items**

Policy

Re-entry updates

Hourly employee update

### **Approval of Meeting Minutes**

With no objection SusanMary Redinger approved the minutes of the August 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting as amended.

### **Liaison/Subcommittee Reports**

*Shannon Molloy* reported that we continue to follow up with the group who wrote the “Open letter”. The next meeting is scheduled for tomorrow.

*SusanMary Redinger* reported that HCTV recorded a walk-through tour of the inside of the elementary school building project. Stu Skar served as the resident host, accompanied by project manager John Seymour. The filming is posted to the local cable channel for all to enjoy

### **Public Commentary**

MaryAnn Prouty – Candleberry Lane – Re-entry

Heather Daly – Littleton Road - remote equity

### **School Committee Commentary**

*Suzanne Allen* – Agrees that this is the most important decision we will make as a committee. Thanked everyone for their input and appreciates the insight and strength everyone brings to the discussion. Appreciate you all. Thank you to the administration and Dr. Dwight.

*Sharlene Cronin* – We need to be thoughtful about how we frame this dialogue as we move forward. Our kids and our families are counting on us to get this right. We need to lean in on remote plan and decision rubric from the Board of Health. We might want to give families the opportunity to pivot on their decision based on the backs of these two conversations.

*SusanMary Redinger* – Thanked you to everyone, it is an impossible situation –wish there was a way to eliminate all risks in all directions. We will continue to move forward and rely on leadership to develop and communicate going forward. Thank you for your participation, care, commitment and compassion. It will take a village.

**Adjourn:**

With no objection SusanMary Redinger called the meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Zadroga

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