

**BELMONT SCHOOL COMMITTEE MINUTES
CHENERY MIDDLE SCHOOL COMMUNITY ROOM
MARCH 26, 2019**

Present: Ms. Susan Burgess-Cox, Chair
Ms. Andrea Prestwich, Secretary
Ms. Kate Bowen
Ms. Tara Donner
Dr. Lisa Fiore
Mr. John Phelan, Superintendent
Ms. Janice Darias, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction
Mr. Anthony DiCologero, Director of Finance, Business and Operation

Absent: Ms. Jill Norton

1 EXECUTIVE SESSION

1.1 On a roll call vote the School Committee entered Executive Session for the purpose of discussing strategy with respect to collective bargaining given that a discussion in Open Session may have a detrimental impact on the School Committee's bargaining position.

2. OPENING BUSINESS

2.1 Call to order

Ms. Burgess-Cox called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.

2.2 Pledge of Allegiance

Ms. Burgess-Cox led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2.3 Citizens' Concerns

There were no citizen's concerns.

2.4 Adjustments to the Agenda

There were no adjustments to the Agenda.

2.5 Chair's Report

Susan Burgess-Cox announced the following upcoming events:

March 27 at 6:30 p.m. – SEPAC Meeting at Burbank

March 31 – Deadline to nominate a teacher for the Outstanding Teacher Award

April 11 – Parent Teacher Band Concert and Book Fair – Chenery Middle School Auditorium

April 23 – Chenery Middle School Honors Concert – Chenery Middle School Auditorium

2.6 Student Representative Report

There was no report from the Student Representative.

2.7 Superintendent's Report

There was no report from the Superintendent.

3. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

4. MAJOR BUSINESS

4.1 Policy Votes

Educational Opportunities for Military Children – Exhibit A

Educational opportunities for Children in Foster Care – Exhibit B

Homeless Students – Exhibit C

Susan Burgess-Cox noted the policies listed had been reviewed at the last School Committee meeting. They are all proposed model policies from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

On a motion offered by Kate Bowen and seconded by Andrea Prestwich, it was

VOTED 5-0-1 to adopt the Educational Opportunities for Military Children Policy – Exhibit A

On a motion offered by Tara Donner and seconded by Kate Bowen, it was

VOTED 5-0-1 to adopt the Educational Opportunities for Children in Foster Care Policy – Exhibit B

On a motion offered by Andrea Prestwich and seconded by Tara Donner, it was

VOTED 5-0-1 to adopt the Homeless Students Policy – Exhibit D

4.2 Vote on Disposal of Surplus Technology Items – Exhibit D

Anthony DiCologero explained the School Committee is required to vote on items the school department has deemed surplus. The items listed in Exhibit D are all technology items that have been deemed surplus.

On a motion offered by Tara Donner and seconded by Lisa Fiore, it was

VOTED unanimously to approve the disposal of surplus technology items listed in Exhibit D

4.3 Report Out on Policy (School Name)

Superintendent Phelan explained the Belmont High School Building Committee (BHSBC) would like to have a name chosen for the new high school by spring. Members of the Belmont School Department staff and BHSBC have been brainstorming over the last two years. They have also asked students to submit suggestions for names that are important to them. Once the list is narrowed down to approximately five choices, the names will be brought back to the School Committee Policy Subcommittee in April. The hope is to have a name chosen by May 1.

4.4 Report Out on Community Path

Susan Burgess-Cox invited Leslie Lee, School Committee Liaison to the Community Path Project Committee to provide an update on the work related to the community path. Three others members of the CPPC, Russell Leino, Bonnie Friedman and Vincent Stanton, were also present.

Leslie explained that members of the CPPC were working on a Request for Proposals (RFP) for a detailed design study of the path between Brighton Street and the Clark Street Bridge. The RFP covers both phase A (Alexander Ave underpass and trail to Concord Ave) and Phase B (the trail along side tracks). She explained that one of the main sources of uncertainty is whether the path between Brighton Street and Alexander Ave will be on the north or south side (i.e the school side) of the tracks. In February, the Selectmen decided on the south side subject to successful negotiations with Purecoat to demolish an exterior wall of their building to accommodate the path. These negotiations are on-going.

The Committee studied a schematic drawing of the new campus and possible trail locations. If the trail is on the south side, it might need to be on school property. There is a potential "pinch point" behind the new school buildings where space is needed for the high-school pedestrian path, the high school two-way road and the community path. This will need to be examined carefully, and may require narrowing the community path to the minimum 8-feet behind the buildings

5. **SUBCOMMITTEE/LIAISON UPDATES (as needed)**

5.1 Finance Subcommittee

5.2 Policy and Procedure Subcommittee

There was no report from the Policy and Procedure Subcommittee but they will meet on April 9 at 6:00 p.m.

5.3 Curriculum and Instruction Subcommittee

5.4 Capital Budget Committee

There was no report from the Capital Budget Committee.

5.5 Warrant Committee

The Warrant Committee is meeting tomorrow.

5.6 Belmont High School Building Committee

5.7 Community Path Update

6. **OTHER BUSINESS**

6.1 Consent Agenda

Susan Burgess-Cox explained the school district received a donation of \$700 from Target to be used for student field trips.

On a motion offered by Kate Bowen and seconded by Andrea Prestwich, it was

VOTED 5-0-1 to accept the \$700 donation from Target to help support field trips for the Butler Elementary School.

6.2 Personnel Items – none

6.3 Business Items – None

6.4 Approval of Minutes

February 26, 2019

On a motion offered by Tara Donner and seconded by Lisa Fiore, it was

VOTED 5-0-1 to approve the minutes of February 26, 2019.

On a motion offered by Tara Donner and seconded by Kate Bowen, it was

VOTED 5-0-1 to approve the minutes of March 4, 2019.

On a motion offered by Tara Donner and seconded by Lisa Fiore, it was

VOTED 5-0-1 to approve the minutes of March 12, 2019 as amended.

7. **FUTURE BUSINESS**

Upcoming Meetings:

April 1, 2019

Joint Finance Subcommittee/WC Education Subcommittee Meeting
SB Conference Room – 7:30 a.m.

April 9, 2019

Policy Subcommittee Meeting
CMS Small Community Room – 6:00 p.m.

April 9, 2019

Organizational Meeting
CMS Community Room – 7:00 p.m.

April 23, 2019

Finance Subcommittee Meeting
SAB Conference Room – 8:00 a.m.

April 23, 2019

School Committee Meeting
CMS Community Room – 7:00 p.m.

April 30, 2019

Finance Subcommittee Meeting
SAB Conference Room – 8:00 a.m.

8. **ENCLOSURES**

Strategic Plan
2018-19 School Committee Goals

9. **ADJOURN**

At 9:12 p.m. on a motion offered by Andrea Prestwich and seconded by Tara Donner, it was

VOTED 5-0-1 to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted by Andrea Prestwich
Andrea Prestwich, Secretary