



**MINUTES of the “51st District School Committee”
Special Schedule 2016 Meeting**

Membership: Mr. Francis J. Fistori, Avon; Mr. Eric C. Erskine, Braintree;
Mr. Aidan G. Maguire, Jr. Canton; Secretary Thomas R. Polito, Jr., Dedham;
Mr. Robert A. McNeil, Holbrook; Mr. Fess Joyce, Milton; Mr. Kevin L. Connolly, Norwood;
Vice Chairman Marybeth Nearen, Randolph and Chairman Charles W. Flahive, Westwood.

“Transparency, Accountability and Fiscal Discipline”

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Prior to this Special Schedule Meeting, subcommittee meeting was scheduled to be conducted. Meeting and report/recommendations will be forthcoming, resulting from its conduct. The subcommittee was:

- **6:30 p.m. : Warrant Subcommittee - Review documents relative to Warrant Approval**

(NOTE: Subcommittee Meetings are conducted in Room 402.)

The Blue Hills Regional Vocational School **Fifty-First District School Committee Special Schedule Meeting** was called to order, promptly, at **7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 9, 2016** at the Blue Hills Regional Vocational Technical School, **William T. Buckley District School Committee Board Room (#207A)**, 800 Randolph Street, Canton, Massachusetts. Chairman Charles W. Flahive presided at this meeting, as duly elected Chairman of the District School Committee.

NOTE: The listings of matters are those reasonably anticipated by the Chair which may be discussed at the meeting. Not all items listed may in fact be discussed and other items not listed may also be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law.

Chairman Charles W. Flahive, conducting this meeting as duly elected Chairman of the 51st District School Committee, announced that all business conducted at this meeting complies with the revised Open Meeting Law in effect, as of July 1, 2010. There are occasions when attendees do not sign in. This meeting’s notes were taken by Joanne Kuzborski, Recording Secretary and digital recorder.

1. ROLL CALL and PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE *

MEMBERS PRESENT: Messrs. Erskine, Flahive, Joyce, Maguire, McNeil and Polito

MEMBERS ABSENT Members Connolly, Fistori and Nearen

OTHERS PRESENT:

Mr. Charles J. Gisondi, District Treasurer
Mr. James P. Quaglia, Superintendent-Director
Mr. Steven Moore, Assistant Superintendent/Business & Personnel
Ms. Marybeth Joyce, BH Director of Admissions and Financial Aid

2. Public Comment – None.

3. Student Report: None.

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4. **Minute approval:** Past minutes were approved.

5. **DSC Chairman's Report/Comments:**

- Chairman Charles W. Flahive addressed the full committee stating that he is very much interested in the Committee receiving information on the DESE report that will be submitted on the school's evaluation.
- Chairman Flahive stated that Vice-Chairman Marybeth Nearen will be acting as Chairman for the March 1, 2016 Regular Schedule meeting.

6. **Subcommittee Reports:**

- **Warrant Subcommittee:** The Warrant Subcommittee recommended the approval of the submitted warrant after careful inspection of the submitted backup invoices and answers to questions regarding Katherine Grey and pizza purchases. Assistant-Superintendent/ Personnel & Business, as well as Superintendent-Director James P. Quaglia provided explanations for the questions. With clarifications rendered on the questionable expenses, the Warrant Subcommittee recommended the approval of the submitted warrant.

7. **Administrative Reports:**

7.1 **Treasurer, Mr. Charles J. Gisondi** was recognized by Chairman Flahive. Treasurer Gisondi stated that the District has dissolved their relationship with Bank of America successfully. Bank of Canton is now servicing the banking needs of the District wholly. Mr. Gisondi stated that there are some "outstanding checks". Surprisingly some of these involve scholarship awards. "ATM installation is also an item that Bank of Canton is willing to provide, at their cost", stated Mr.Gisondi. It was determined that a poll be provided with the staff and students to determine possible use. Secretary Thomas R. Polito, Jr. expressed his opinion stating, "It seems that just about everyone uses debit cards and this could be a good item for the school." Chairman Flahive suggested that Joanne create a poll. Superintendent-Director Quaglia stated that this poll could be done without Joanne's help.

- **Warrant Approval** – Chairman Charles W. Flahive accepted a motion, as follows:

Secretary Thomas R. Polito moved to approve FY16 Warrant #14, dated February 9, 2016, in the amount of \$109,111.55. Motion was seconded by Member Fess Joyce. Motion to approve was taken to a vote and it was **UNANIMOUSLY**

VOTED: to approve FY16 Warrant #14, dated February 9, 2016, in the amount of \$109,111.55.

Once again, the District School Committee expressed their appreciation to Treasurer Gisondi for the fine work he has done in this exceptionally important project that came upon the District quite forcefully from the Bank of America. The District was told that all business dealings with Bank of America were to be discontinued in short time. Treasurer Gisondi took the bull by the horns and accomplished a great feat and the District's resources (money) is well tended in all ways.

7.3 **Assistant Superintendent/Personnel and Business: Chairman Flahive recognized Mr. Steven M. Moore.**

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- **Intense review of the Preliminary FY2017** was provided with a comprehensive line-item review and report and a PowerPoint presentation. Mr. Moore stated that a vote on the Preliminary FY2017 Budget was necessary in order to provide District Towns with their numbers and move forward with upcoming appointments with District Town Finance Committees. Appointments with district town finance committees are already being set. There were numerous questions by the District School Committee Members present and answers provided by Mr. Moore.
- Chairman Charles W. Flahive questioned the extra assessment levied to Westwood for participation in the School-to-Careers Program. Chairman Flahive stated that Westwood does not participate in this program and the funding should be removed. Chairman Flahive stated that he will be in contact with Mr. Moore regarding this matter. Superintendent-Director Quaglia stated that the School-to-Careers Coordinator will be attending a meeting to present on this program and answer all questions. District Towns of Braintree and Westwood do not participate in the School-to-Careers Program and should not have any kind of assessment levied for this Program.
- **Individual Town Assessments:** Most prevalent with questions from members were the individual district town's assessment and the determination of those assessments. The formula used was explained to the membership.

Secretary Thomas R. Polito, Jr., stated that he can't understand why the total number of students attending the school isn't divided into the total budget and towns aren't paying per student costs on that basis. Mr. Moore and Mr. Quaglia explained exactly what the formula is being used for town responsibility assessments. The arrogate wealth of each community plays in the assessment rate and this is determined by per capita income as well as real estate assessments.

Following the presentation, questions and answers; Chairman Flahive accepted a motion from Secretary Thomas R. Polito, Jr., to approve the Preliminary FY17 Budget in the amount of \$19,069,373. Motion was seconded by Member Robert A. McNeil. Motion was taken to a vote and **UNANIMOUSLY**

VOTED: to approve the Preliminary FY17 Budget in the amount of \$19,069,373.

7.4 **Principal – Ms. Jill M. Rossetti** was not present and attending a professional development event significant to school improvement.

7.5 **Superintendent/Director:** Chairman Charles W. Flahive recognized Superintendent-Director James P. Quaglia.

- **Recent Snow Storms:** Superintendent-Director Quaglia reviewed the decisions made regarding recent snow falls this past Friday and Monday. Mr. Quaglia reviewed the situations carefully and did what was best for the students' safety at the time the decisions were made.
- **Engineering Program Accomplishment:** The students of the Engineering Program have prepared a replica of the Space Station (created by Chris Bullock, a CAD 3D model of the space station) to accompany Astronaut Scott Tingle (a 1983 Alumnus) on his planned 2017 space trip. The replica was presented at this District School Committee Meeting and has the school and the Astronaut's name. Publicist Judy Bass will be providing a news story on this unique replica production.
- **Personnel & Negotiation Subcommittee** meetings are requested to address the Superintendent-

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Director's contract which expires June 30, 2016. Along with that Evaluation Subcommittee Chairman Fran Fistori will arrange for Superintendent-Director Evaluation documents be prepared and distributed to all District School Committee Members. Member Robert A. McNeil stated that he is very much in favor of this process being expedited.

- **Terms and Goals:** Superintendent-Director Quaglia stated that he will be updating the status of his goals and will have completed and distributed by April 30, 2016.

8. **Unfinished Business and New Business –**

- **Ad hoc Legal Subcommittee:** Four finalists have been selected and will come to the Ad hoc Legal Subcommittee for interviews. Plan is to have interviews conducted in March to accommodate the attendance of ad hoc Legal Subcommittee Member Kevin L. Connolly. Member Kevin L. Connolly is participating in work responsibilities that he could not defer. Prior to the interviews, the ad hoc Legal Subcommittee will conduct a meeting to review the planned questions.
- **Shirts for Students:** There was discussion regarding previous discussion on future shirts for students.
- **General Advisory Committee Chairperson Linda Wirta:** Chairman Flahive is preparing a letter to be sent to Mrs. Linda Wirta with the thanks of the full Committee for the work she has done in behalf of the Blue Hills' Community and especially the students.

9. **Discussion or Suggestions** for the Good of the District, Including newsworthy educational items:

- Member Robert A. McNeil stated that he wishes to see the Evaluation Subcommittee and Personnel and Negotiation Subcommittee move forward quickly with the Superintendent-Director's Contract Process.

10. **Executive session:** Unnecessary at this time.

11. **Meeting Adjournment.** Chairman Flahive called for adjournment, following the conclusion of all business.

Member Rob McNeil moved to adjourn the meeting. Motion was seconded by Member Fess Joyce, taken to a vote and **UNANIMOUSLY**

VOTED: to adjourn the Regular Schedule Meeting, with all regular business concluded, at **8:58 p.m.**

The Committee's **next meeting** will be a **Regular Schedule Meeting**, conducted in the **William T. Buckley District School Committee Board Room (#207A), on Tuesday, March 1, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.**, unless otherwise posted.

Minutes approved by:

Respectfully submitted by:

Thomas R. Polito, Jr., Secretary

Joanne Kuzborski, Recording Secretary