

The Barnstable School Committee met on Wednesday, February 3, 2016, in the Town Hall Hearing Room. Present were Chair Margeaux Weber, Vice-Chair Chris Joyce, Committee members Stephanie Ellis, Mike Judge and Patrick Murphy and Student Envoys Saarah Murphy and Robert Welsh IV. Also present were Bill Butler and Kristen Harmon.

Ms. Weber called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

### **Core Values**

Ms. Weber recited the Core Values of the Barnstable School System.

### **Video or Audio Recording of the Meeting**

Ms. Weber reminded everyone that the meeting was being telecast and recorded on Channel 18. Anyone who wished to make a recording of the session must notify the Chair.

### **Highlight in Education: Challenge Day and ADL Peer Leadership Programs**

- Martha Swindler, teacher at BHS for over 20 years, introduced students Cooper Blaze and Norah Murphy.
- Cooper Blaze stated Challenge Day gave him a sense of school spirit. It helps the underclassman connect with the school through icebreakers and other group activities with themes of self-esteem, peer pressure and support.
- Norah Murphy spoke of the Peer Leadership Program where upperclassman come into freshman classes and discuss heavy topics such as discrimination, peer pressure, racism and sexism. It is an ongoing conversation from Challenge Day that delves into everyday challenges.
- Mr. Murphy asked for an activity that is done in the classroom and Ms. Murphy stated there are two students who make a statement and one is agree and one is disagree. The students in the class need to pick a side and there is a discussion on why you agree or disagree with the statement.
- Ms. Weber asked who is involved and who works on Challenge Day. Ms. Swindler stated it is part of the curriculum for freshman, but a student can opt out. Upperclassman can apply to be leaders.
- Mr. Judge asked how it was started. Ms. Swindler stated students brought it to Barnstable when they saw it on Oprah over 10 years ago.
- Ms. Weber stated adults, parents and community members are encouraged to participate.

### **Approval of the Minutes**

Motion by Ms. Ellis, seconded by Mr. Joyce, and the Committee voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the meeting on Wednesday, January 6, 2016.

### **Report of the Student Envoys**

- Mr. Welsh stated the Anti-defamation League at BHS has finished their second round of peer leadership sessions. Mid-terms are over and seniors are awaiting college decisions. The Prom Committee has decided on a theme for this year: A Tale of Two Cities: NY and Paris. Mentors in Violence Prevention are preparing a survey on misconceptions of domestic violence and sexual abuse.
- Ms. Murphy stated tickets for the senior class went on sale this week. The February Scholarship Bulletin is the largest this year and has a uniform application for all scholarships. The DECA Club will have over 20 members compete at the state competition in March in Boston. The Student Council is making Valentine's Day cards for patients at the Cape Cod Hospital. On February 11, there will be an orientation night for incoming 8<sup>th</sup> graders at BHS.

### **Public Comment**

- Patrick Clark, Principal at BHS, said he opened a letter before coming tonight from Senator Warren regarding the Southeastern Mass Regional Award for the Daughters of the American Revolution. This award is for the student in this region that demonstrates leadership, community service and patriotism and that student is Robert Welsh IV.
- Dale Forest, BUE teacher, stated that he would like to give his time to Brooke Styche, BTA President. Ms. Styche spoke of the specialist staff at BUE and the six day schedule they are on. Students no longer have a specialist once a week and have not received grades yet since the specialists haven't seen them enough to make that judgement.
- Jennifer McCartin, parent of a 5<sup>th</sup> grader and junior, stated the high school should have a 7 section schedule. This change in schedule would allow students to take more options. All other schools on Cape offer 7 sections with D-Y offering 8 sections.
- Kathy Bent, parent of four students with one receiving SPED services, stated parents of children with down syndrome were invited to meet with a specialist. The findings have not come out yet and no time has been given. SPED administrators knew there were concerns in September and there is a lack of response from the SPED administrators to address these concerns.

- Brendan Clark, BHS student, stated a new schedule is more immediate than anything he can see. With course selection every year, students have to sacrifice for things they would like to take, but can't.

### **School Committee Comments and Sub-Committee/Liaison Reports**

- Mr. Joyce stated a few weeks ago the groundbreaking at BWB was held on the coldest day of the year. They are in the final stage of demolition and removal of portable classrooms. It was a proud moment.
- Mr. Joyce attended a Cape Cod Collaborative meeting 3 weeks ago and the biggest conversation was the concern of new contracts for bussing. They have been so much higher than what is budgeted.
- Mr. Murphy stated at the MASC's request, the Committee should look at potential changes in Charter school legislation the senate is beginning to discuss. The Committee should look at the proposal and come up with position statement. Ms. Weber stated the Committee will discuss at the next meeting.
- Ms. Ellis stated that she and Mr. Joyce are having the first meeting to discuss school start time next week.
- Ms. Ellis stated this past Saturday she took her 8<sup>th</sup> grade daughter to the Cotuit library astronomy presentation by BHS teacher Mr. Gyra. It was a wonderful presentation to the community.
- Ms. Weber stated there is information on the Legislative Breakfast that the Committee is invited to in the packets. The MSBA Conference will take place in April in Boston.

### **Superintendent's Report**

- Mr. Butler stated the BWB groundbreaking took place on the coldest day this winter in January. Mr. Joyce and Mr. Judge attended along with the Town Manager and several Town Councilors. The schedule for BWB: the foundation pour to be completed the 1<sup>st</sup> week in March, 2<sup>nd</sup> week in April the modular will be set and the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of July the building will be completed. For HyWest, the foundation pour will be completed the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of March, the modular will be set 2<sup>nd</sup> week of April and the building will be completed the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of July.
- The Legislative delegation meeting at Cape Cod Collaborative will discuss the views of Charter school legislation.
- In regards to the threats received at BHS over the last month, we are following the guidance from state police bomb squad and State Fire Marshall's office. We have a protocol and engage the police immediately. State and local police will handle press and media releases.
- Paul Hilton is leading the Cape Cod Global Initiative looking to bring student from China to high schools on Cape Cod.
- Mr. Butler shared a letter from BCHMPCS Principal, Kathy Podesky, giving her intent to retire on June 30, 2016.
- Mr. Butler included the funding of school constructed playgrounds in recent years in your packets.

### **Assistant Superintendent's Report**

- Ms. Harmon stated last Friday was a half day in-service with the 2<sup>nd</sup> training of Classroom Instruction that Works for Tier I strategies. Yesterday, the school-based leadership team participated in MTSS training.
- Tomorrow night from 6-8 PM at BIS is family art night.
- A group of BHS students in AP Human Geography are traveling to the Edward M. Kennedy Institute as part of their political geography unit to participate in a senate emergence simulation. They will be debating on the senate floor about immigration reform.
- Ms. Harmon congratulated Centerville on the read-a-thon that raised \$1617 for the Cape Cod Times Needy fund. They also raised \$415 for ugly sweater and jolly socks days.
- Ms. Harmon stated this week is School Councilors Week and she wanted to acknowledge their work. She read statements from councilors as to why they love their jobs.

### **Item #020316-001 Barnstable Little League Expansion**

- Mr. Kanyock stated the Barnstable Little League has made many improvements to the fields and completed the 2<sup>nd</sup> field last year. Joe Scott and Ed Pesci have a proposal for another field.
- Mr. Scott, President of the Barnstable Little League, gave a background of the league. He introduced Mr. Pesci, the engineer for the project.
- Mr. Pesci stated Barnstable Little League has five fields and showed pictures of the newest field behind the Charter school. They are proposing another field for 6-8 year olds to attract younger kids. The Red Sox authorized the use of the name "Mini-Fenway Cape Cod". The goal is to have a fun environment, get 6-8 year olds interested and to have three fields in one location. He showed the concept plans. The Lorusso Charitable Foundation is donating his services along with a monetary donation. Mr. Scott is working on donations. Many companies donated time and equipment. The field will be maintained by Barnstable Little League, as they do the other fields. They are here tonight looking for the School Committees' endorsement.

- Mr. Butler stated the Committee would need a Facility Use Agreement with Barnstable Little League along with the Town Manager on behalf of recreation division. Committee could vote at the next school committee meeting.
- Ms. Weber asked if parking is an issue. Mr. Scott said not really. The fields are busy when the rink is not. An HYCC representative said there were no issues.
- Ms. Ellis asked if there was a field already there. Mr. Pesci said this would be a new field. They are currently using fields at WVE and Centerville. Mr. Scott said those fields would be used for practices.

**Item #020316-002 Initial Presentation of FY'17 Budget**

- Mr. Butler stated he received requests before winter break and met with principals and directors after the break. He met with Meg Mayo-Brown this afternoon and it was her first opportunity to participate in the budget process. Tonight Mr. Markwell will present a preliminary budget.
- Mr. Markwell stated the budget for FY'17 is \$66,250,000. He spoke of the budget process to get to the presentation tonight and what's to come.
- Mr. Markwell spoke of the Budget Priorities: District Values and Goals and Maintenance Budget to provide flexibility for new leadership.
- Mr. Markwell gave a Budget Summary: \$1.8 million increase or a 2.8% increase on last year's budget. He went over the appropriation, circuit breaker, school choice and transportation fees that make up the budget.
- Mr. Markwell spoke of the Budget Drivers: enrollment, target student/teacher ratios, larger elementary cohorts, increased students on IEPs, OOD placements and the ELL population increase.
  - Enrollment has gone down over the past 10 year. Going forward, the enrollment should level out. Enrollment projections are based on birthrates of residents in Barnstable.
  - Special Ed enrollment has seen increases in IEPs and OOD number are down.
  - ELL enrollment has seen significant increases since October 2011.
  - Mr. Murphy stated the requirements that the state has put on districts, with no extra money is an unfunded mandate.
  - Ms. Ellis asked about the number of projected Special Ed students. Mr. Markwell stated the 3 year growth trend is based on the last 3 years.
- Mr. Markwell spoke of the Budget Drivers: Salary and Wages and an effort to minimize new positions; Underfunded Operations including building maintenance and substitute budgets.
  - Ms. Ellis asked how substitutes are paid. Mr. Markwell stated a teacher receives a daily flat rate and support staff receives an hourly rate.
- Mr. Markwell spoke of Surplus and Deficit Generators showing the underfunding in substitutes and maintenance.
- Mr. Markwell spoke of the Budget Driver of Innovation and Enhancements. We received \$3.7 million of request from Principals and Directors. The three areas we are focusing on are the Crossroads program expansion, textbook replacement and adoption of K-5 reading program.
- Mr. Joyce asked Mr. Markwell if he could get the slide Mr. Milne used at the Town Council meeting on the ratios of net school spending so the public can see what Barnstable is spending compared to neighboring towns.

**Item #020316-003 Approve Accounts Payable Warrant FY'16 #32**

Motion by Mr. Joyce, seconded by Mr. Murphy, and the Committee voted unanimously to approve FY2016 Treasury Warrant #32 in the amount of \$433,772.24.

**Executive Session**

Motion by Ms. Ellis, seconded by Mr. Murphy, and the Committee unanimously approved in a roll call vote to go into executive session – not to reconvene in public session – to conduct a strategy session for collective bargaining negotiations with the Barnstable Teachers Association.

Adjourned 8:44 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jen Kruczek  
Executive Assistant