The Barnstable School Committee met on Tuesday, February 14, 2017, in the Town Hall Hearing Room. Present were Chair Margeaux Weber, Vice-Chair Chris Joyce, Committee members Stephanie Ellis and Mike Judge. Patrick Murphy was not present. Also present were Meg Mayo-Brown and Kristen Harmon, as well as, Student Envoys Makhai Dickerson-Pells and Sydney Crook.

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
- Kathy Duran spoke about the students’ speeches inspired by Dr. King.
- The HyWest students read their speeches.

Approval of the Minutes
- Motion by Mr. Joyce, seconded by Mr. Judge, and the Committee voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the meeting on Wednesday, January 4, 2017.
- Motion by Mr. Joyce, seconded by Mr. Judge, and the Committee voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the Executive Session on Wednesday, January 4, 2017.

Student Envoy Report
- Mr. Dickerson-Pells spoke about the impact of the highlight in education. At the high school, the 8th and 11th grade classes are selling carnations as class fundraisers. The Professional Connection program continues through February. The mid-year exams are completed.
- Ms. Crook stated the choir held their Beatlemania performance. Five students won scholastic art awards. The students are looking forward to February vacation next week.

Public Comment
- Diane Mandeville, resident of Barnstable and teacher at Hyannis West, stated that four students in her class wrote letters to the editor at the Cape Cod Times and one was printed. She read the four letters sent in honor of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.
- Caleb Solomon, BHS student and member of the Barnstable Youth Commission, stated that the schools need more people trained in CPR and First Aid. It came to his attention that at BUES, there was no one trained in CPR in the cafeteria during lunchtime. He reported that this issue has been rectified and wants to make sure there are more trained individuals at all schools.

School Committee Comments
- Ms. Ellis stated the School Start Time Committee will be having its next meeting in the beginning of March after she and Mr. Joyce meet with the Transportation Director at the end of the month.
- Ms. Ellis wished the Barnstable Swim Team good luck at states this week. Eight girls qualified for states this year.
- Mr. Joyce thanked the Cape Cod Collaborative for the legislative breakfast. It was good to see the landscape of the political world in regards to education.
- Ms. Weber thanked the elected officials for coming to the legislative breakfast and speaking with us.
- Ms. Weber congratulated the All Cape Music Festival she attended. The concert was great and well organized.
- Ms. Weber stated Senator Cyr has rescheduled his policy summit to March 4. She will be one of the facilitators for one of the panels.
- Ms. Weber stated at the January 25 School Committee Workshop, they received a sneak preview of the Superintendent’s entry plan findings. She thanked the Superintendent for the amount of work she has put forth.
• Ms. Weber stated Patrick Murphy is on the Boston Local Government Advisory Commission. He also has an article on school budget in this month’s Commonwealth Magazine.

Superintendent’s Report
• Ms. Mayo-Brown stated how proud she is of the HyWest students and their speeches.
• HyWest received the 2016 MA Accommodation status. On February 1, Principal Amato and members of her staff went to state house and received their certificate. Of the 1800 schools in the state, 51 received Accommodation status.
• Last Tuesday, Ms. Mayo-Brown and Ms. Harmon attended the Fine Arts 3 students’ partnership with the Kennedy museum’s opening night in the BHS lobby. The exhibit is currently on display.
• Ms. Mayo-Brown thanked the Hyannis Chamber of Commerce for their donation proceeds from the fall fun run to the high school to establish a food pantry.

Assistant Superintendent’s Report
• Ms. Harmon stated BHS students attended the inauguration and four student laid wreath on the grave of the Unknown Soldier.
• In January the National Geography Bee was held at BIS.
• 32 BHS students will participate in the DECA state competition in March.
• Ms. Harmon named the BHS students who won Scholastic Art Awards. Caroline Brodt won 8 awards.

Item #021417-004 Approval of The Learning Lab School
• Ms. Mayo-Brown recommended approval of the Learning Lab School. DESE indicates that private schools must obtain approval of the School Committee in the town the school is located. Ms. Mayo-Brown met and talked about the school and program with Ms. Bottcher. The program is aligned with the MA Core Curriculum.
• Ms. Weber stated this is the School Committee’s only involvement and a requirement of the state.
• Motion by Ms. Ellis, seconded by Mr. Judge, and the Committee voted unanimously to approve a private school, The Learning Lab School, in the Town of Barnstable to educate students in grades K-3, as presented to the Committee and recommended by the Superintendent.

Item #021417-001 Administering Medicines to Students Policy
• Pam Ciborowski spoke about the changes to the policy.
• Ms. Weber spoke about the protocols around this policy. She said Falmouth, Mashpee, D-Y, and Sandwich have all adopted policies. She discussed two options for the policy wording.
• Ms. Ellis asked about liability. Ms. Mayo-Brown stated she received an opinion from our lawyers and there is no liability.
• Ms. Ellis asked about the cost and shelf life of Narcan. Ms. Ciborowski stated the Narcan will be changed annually and she will be getting it through the state at $35 per school.
• Ms. Ellis stated students will not be carrying Narcan, but they will carry epipens. She felt that the policy does not need specific language for Narcan and would choose option A.
• Mr. Judge asked what other medications are in the nurse’s office. Ms. Ciborowski stated they stock epipens and over the counter medicines.
• Mr. Joyce stated he had a hard time getting his mind around Narcan in schools, but he has come around.
• Ms. Weber stated that the School Committee will proceed with the wording in option A, which includes adding permitting students to carry and administer epinephrine.
• Motion by Mr. Joyce, seconded by Mr. Judge, and the Committee voted unanimously to approve Policy JLCD entitled “Administering Medicines to Students,” as presented to the Committee and recommended by the Superintendent.

Item #021417-002 Observations of Special Education Programs Policy
• Ms. Mayo-Brown stated a more welcoming introductory paragraph was added. It clarifies for school leadership whether student is SPED or in general education a visit is a visit. This policy is for parent to observe for program placement.
• Motion by Mr. Joyce, seconded by Ms. Ellis, and the Committee voted unanimously to approve Policy KIB entitled “Observations of Special Education Programs,” as presented to the Committee and recommended by the Superintendent.

Item #021417-003 BHS Class Rank
• Mr. Clark stated he and Ms. Clark were here last meeting discussing class rank and were asked to come back with a proposal statement.
• Ms. Clark discussed the process they went through to get to this point with research starting in 2007. Their proposal is to change the way academic standing is reported from an exact number to decile in Fall of 2017 with the graduating class of 2018.
• Ms. Clark discussed the rationale for the change. They want students to be well-rounded, choose classes that they are interested in, eliminate unhealthy competition, and position students to be more competitive.
• Mr. Clark stated they want to focus on student mental health and well-being. Also, they do not want to put a limit on the number of AP courses if the students need the challenge.
• Ms. Ellis asked what happens with Valedictorian. Ms. Clark stated schools that have done what is being proposed, do not have them. Students were supportive of this change. There has not been much concern over Valedictorian.
• Mr. Joyce stated that he has not heard one negative thing from parents. Everything has been positive.
• Ms. Weber encouraged anyone with an opinion to speak with the School Committee before the next meeting when there is a vote on it. They would like to hear from students as to what they would like to do about who speaks at graduation.

Item #021417-005 BHS Program of Studies for 2017-2018
• Mr. Clark spoke about the Program of Studies. In the 2017-2018 school year, there will be semesterization of some courses to transition to the new schedule with 7 classes for the following year. Next year, the program of studies will be a longer conversation. There are a variety of offerings with career path classes remaining. He hopes to grow the internship program. He is looking at capstone projects for seniors including a senior year pre-college experience with the schedule change.
• Ms. Weber asked with the semester classes if a student would take two psychology classes or one psychology and one English class. Mr. Clark stated that a student could do either.
• Mr. Judge asked how many semester classes there are for next year. Mr. Clark stated 26-30 classes.
• Ms. Ellis asked to help her understand what 8th graders can take towards graduation requirements. Mr. Clark stated any high school courses taken in 8th grade counts towards graduation credits.
• Motion by Ms. Ellis, seconded by Mr. Judge, and the Committee voted unanimously to adopt the Program of Studies with the inclusion of semester courses, as presented to the Committee and recommended by the Superintendent.

Item #021417-006 School Committee Strategic Plan
Ms. Weber stated the School Committee’s Strategic Plan will grow out of the Superintendent’s entry plan findings. We all want to be on the same page, but what page is that? The School Committee will align their goals and priorities with the entry plan findings. This work will begin at a Workshop in April.

Item #021417-007 Initial Presentation of FY’18 Budget
• Mr. Markwell discussed the budget timeline: what has happened and what is to come, the enrollment from FY’04 – FY’17 and projected FY’18 – FY’20 enrollment.
• Mr. Markwell discussed the sources of school operating revenue: appropriations, circuit breaker, transportation fees, school choice and savings account. The total funding amount is $67,884,706.
• Mr. Markwell showed the general fund revenue growth numbers. Once fixed costs are taken out, the School receives 60% of that revenue. The circuit breaker comes from the state paying up to 75% of high cost special education students. School Choice has 134 students coming into Barnstable with 167 leaving.
• Ms. Mayo-Brown discussed the general operating budget priorities.
• Mr. Markwell discussed the budget drivers by categories.
• Mr. Markwell discusses the initial programming adjustments.
• Mr. Markwell discussed the preliminary projections.
• Mr. Joyce stated the challenge is with operational costs. We are always trying to do our best for our schools.
• Ms. Ellis stated that with School Choice in 2014, there were more students coming in than going out and now it is trending the other way. What has changed? Mr. Markwell said he does not have an answer and both numbers go up. He stated that virtual schools are now included in those going out. He also stated that difficulties in classroom sizes in elementary schools, particularly in kindergarten, has sent some parents to other schools and so then they are not in the system.
• Mr. Judge asked why the circuit breaker number went down. Mr. Markwell stated the state paid 70% instead of 75% and Barnstable did have fewer students. This might get bumped up if legislature has the money at the end.

Item #021417-007  Approval Accounts Payable Warrant FY’17 Warrant #32
Motion by Mr. Joyce, seconded by Mr. Judge, and the Committee voted unanimously to approve FY2017 Treasury Warrant #32 in the amount of $288,287.16.

Adjourned 8:45 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jen Kruczek
Executive Assistant