The Barnstable School Committee met on Wednesday, April 5, 2017, in the Town Hall Hearing Room. Present were Chair Margeaux Weber, Committee members Stephanie Ellis, Patrick Murphy and Mike Judge. Also present were Meg Mayo-Brown and Kristen Harmon along with Student Envoys Makhai Dickerson-Pells and Sydney Crook. Vice-Chair Chris Joyce was not present.

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

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

Olivia Brodt Remembrance
- Mr. Clark spoke about BHS Class of 2015 graduate Olivia Brodt who lost her year-long battle with cancer this week. She was a remarkable student athlete who served as a Student Envoy to the School Committee her senior year. Memorial services are this Friday and there will be a celebration of life on April 15 at BHS.
- Ms. Weber asked for a moment of silence.

Jim Rooney Remembrance
Ms. Mayo-Brown stated that BWB Head Custodian, Jim Rooney, passed away on March 16. He was a beloved member of the school, town and community. She asked for a moment of silence.

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.

Highlights in Education: Adapted Physical Education at BHS
- Ms. Ware, the Adapted Physical Education Teacher at BHS, explained what adapted PE is and why it is important. She spoke about autism and why the general PE environment is difficult for them. She spoke about the peer coach model.
- Leanne Guimond, BHS junior, stated she would like to be a PE teacher. This class has opened up new doors to her about understanding others. She is going to be an assistant to Ms. Ware next year. The class has allowed her to learn about herself and others in a leadership role. She spoke about her experience with the class.
- Camryn Roberts-Capak, BHS junior, stated she is interested in working with children with disabilities. In this class, she has learned techniques and modifications.
- Ms. Ware stated this class is for all students. It looks like a PE class for those with disabilities, but it also helps the regular education students as well.
- Ms. Weber stated that it is a great experience for all the students.

Approval of the Minutes
- Motion by Ms. Ellis, seconded by Mr. Judge, and the Committee voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the meeting on Wednesday, March 15, 2017.
- Motion by Ms. Ellis, seconded by Mr. Judge, and the Committee voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the Executive Session meeting on Wednesday, March 15, 2017.

Student Envoy Report
- Mr. Dickerson-Pells stated the 8th and 10th graders have MCAS and are using computers for the test for the first time. Three DECA students will be attending the international conference in CA this month. DECA is holding a fundraiser selling mattresses.
- Ms. Crook stated the fashion design classes are putting on a fashion show on April 12. ACTs will be held at BHS on Saturday. April vacation is coming up. AP exams will begin in early May.
- Ms. Weber congratulated Ms. Crook and the drama club for their production of Into the Woods.
Kathy Bent, parent of four BHS students with the youngest receiving SPED services, stated she was hoping to see improvements. There was a study done year and a half ago for students with Down Syndrome. For the past 7 months, parents of students with Down Syndrome have been meetings with Ms. May-Brown and the SPED administrators to discuss improving the quality of education for their children. They have not seen any changes or improvements. Parents had made efforts to find answers to their concerns. Some filed complaints with the state. They feel study was inadequate. She is hoping something can be done soon.

School Committee Comments
- Mr. Judge stated his parents received robo calls that go out to the schools. In the past only the first contact number received these calls. Last week, BPS made the change to call the first two contact phone numbers. If the second contact number should not receive a call, please call your school to have it removed.

Superintendent’s Report
- Last week, Ms. Mayo-Brown participated in the ceremony for National Honors Society where 116 students were inducted.
- Ms. Mayo-Brown stated BHS teacher John Watson sent out email discussing various ways to spread the word on autism throughout the month including buying blue light bulbs and wearing puzzle pieces.
- Ms. Mayo-Brown was in Worcester today as the education representative for the Cape at the Workforce Skills Initiative kickoff meeting.

Assistant Superintendent’s Report
- Ms. Harmon stated that she and Ms. Mayo-Brown spoke with Citizen’s Academy last week about schools. Mr. Clark took the group on a tour of the high school.
- Ms. Harmon stated April 13 is a half in-service day.
- Ms. Harmon stated at Centerville Elementary, students in Lynn Moen and Andrew Preston’s classes raised $200 for the Red Sox Jimmy Fund and Avery Brooke started a book donation community service project with the books being donated to Children’s Hospital in Boston.
- At West Villages Elementary, as part of a BEF funded project, the art teacher had a silk dying project with a focus on kindness where the students created scarves and donated them to Independence House.

Item #040517-001 Update Fee Policy
- Ms. Weber spoke about the small change to the policy about adding the website language.
- Motion by Ms. Ellis, seconded by Mr. Judge, and the Committee voted unanimously to approve a revised Policy JQ entitled “Student Fees, Fines, and Charges,” as presented to the Committee and recommended by the Superintendent.

Item #040517-002 Preliminary Strategic Planning
- Ms. Weber spoke about the strategic planning process.
- Ms. Mayo-Brown spoke about preparing for the strategic plan with steps including her Superintendent Entry Plan where she gathered information from over 45 interviews and had sense-making meetings of the data found in the entry plan interviews with the School Committee and BDLT. She then worked with principals to write problem statements about what is wrong that we want to set right. She went back to BDLT and vetted these statements.
- Ms. Mayo-Brown spoke about the three emerging themes and the four statements that support each of them.
- The Strategic Plan is the topic of the April 26 School Committee Workshop.

Item #040517-003 Wellness Courses for 8th and 12 Grades
- Mr. Clark spoke about a draft proposal for bookend wellness course in 8th and 12th grade.
- Ms. Pierozzi stated currently there is no wellness course requirement. The proposal would have students taking one course in 8th grade and one in the spring of junior year or fall of senior year. The 8th grade course would be an orientation to BHS, positive behavior, resources at BHS, time management, bullying prevention, and healthy and active lifestyles.
• Mr. Clark stated the 11/12th grade class would be a co-teacher model with a wellness teacher and a counselor. The course would include post-secondary planning, social emotional learning, signs of suicide, substance abuse prevention, healthy relationships, accepting loss and dealing with grief, and healthy and active lifestyles. This would be a semester class.
• Ms. Weber asked what the requirement would be for a transfer student. Mr. Clark stated there is space to have the students take the class in 9th grade.
• Ms. Ellis stated she is supportive of the wellness department at BHS and thinks this is a great idea. The BHS schedule needs to be a priority. Students want to be able to take the courses that fit their goals. She asked if this could be an online course. Mr. Clark stated that they had not thought about an online course and will need to do more homework. Ms. Pierozzi stated the course is skills and practice based and that is what makes it effective.
• Ms. Weber stated they will be looking at graduation requirements if there is a new schedule at the high school.
• Mr. Clark stated he will have a more detailed presentation at the next meeting.

Item #040517-004 Proposal for Monthly Half Day Professional Development
• Ms. Mayo-Brown stated the district needs additional time for teacher professional development. She is making a formal proposal for a monthly half-day of professional development.
• Ms. Mayo Brown discussed the four goals for teacher learning.
• She discussed the benchmarks, goals and framework for professional development.
• She is proposing a monthly early release for school-based professional development.
• Ms. Ellis stated that she disagrees with the loss learning time for students for the half days in December for parent/teacher conferences, but agrees with professional development for BPS. This would need to be structured and well thought out. She asked how this affects sports and child care.
• Mr. Judge asked how deep you have looked into the current professional development. He asked if schools are doing their own thing or are all 3rd grade teachers getting together. Ms. Mayo-Brown said it is a combination of both.
• Ms. Harmon stated the feedback from principals was curriculum mapping at grade level across all schools and school based peer modeling. What principals see happening is continuing with what they are already doing.
• Ms. Weber asked if the professional development will be designed by the principals and driven by the needs of the schools. Ms. Mayo-Brown stated the educators propose goals and the district wants to make sure we are supporting those goals.
• Mr. Murphy asked if we know if we are very good at providing these professional developments because this is an expensive proposal. Ms. Mayo-Brown stated Barnstable is not bringing in contractors. Our teachers are experts in their own right. Teachers are providing the professional development to one another.
• Mr. Murphy asked if we can document other districts that have adopted this type of professional development and have shown improvement. Ms. Mayo-Brown stated that she can. In Fall River, they moved to this model and it grew into a sophisticated professional development. The district transformed.
• Ms. Amato stated that Hyannis West has used classrooms that work, responsive classroom, FEI strategies, and reach for reading where teachers could choose which course they took. Our student demographics are changing faster than we can teach the teachers.
• Mr. Gibbons stated there needs to be ongoing opportunities for teachers to learn and grow from each other. Finding the time is difficult.
• Mr. Murphy stated that this could be transformative, but we need to do a good job selling it to the community. We need to show what is going to be done with the time, why it is so important and more important than having the kids in front of the teacher.
• Ms. Weber stated that she looks forward to hearing more on this proposal.
• Mr. Ellis asked when this calendar change would take place. Ms. Mayo-Brown stated the 2017-2018 school year.

Item #040517-005 School Committee Meeting Schedule 2017-2018
• Motion by Ms. Ellis, seconded by Mr. Judge, and the Committee voted unanimously to approve the School Committee meeting schedule for 2017-2018, as presented to the Committee and recommended by the Chair.

Item #040517-006 School Choice Adoption for 2017-2018
Mr. Markwell explained that the School Committee needs to vote if electing to withdraw from school choice, but Barnstable annually confirms having school choice.

Ms. Ellis asked if this was for families outside of Barnstable. Mr. Markwell said this is correct. Families in Barnstable make a request to the Superintendent to change schools.

Motion by Ms. Ellis, seconded by Mr. Judge, and the Committee voted unanimously to affirm the School Committee’s intent to offer inter-district school choice for the 2017-2018 school year, subject to Committee’s policy on school choice.

**Item #040517-007 Approval for FY’18 School Paper Contract**

- Mr. Markwell spoke about the bid process for the school paper contract.
- Motion by Ms. Ellis, seconded by Mr. Judge, and the Committee voted unanimously to approve a contract for supplying school copy paper in FY2018 to W.B. Mason Company and to authorize the Superintendent to sign the contract, as recommended by the Town Purchasing Agent.

**Item #040517-008 Adoption of FY’18 Fee Schedule**

- Mr. Markwell discussed the fees and explained that according to the School Committee policy, fees need to be adopted annually. There will be a $25 bus pass increase, a $.15 lunch increase at elementary schools, and a 2% increase of facilities building rental.
- Motion by Ms. Ellis, seconded by Mr. Judge, and the Committee voted unanimously to adopt the FY’18 fee schedule, as presented to the School Committee and recommended by the Superintendent and Deputy Director of Finance.

**Item #040517-009 FY’18 Budget Adoption**

- Mr. Markwell discussed the budget timeline, budget priorities, budget drivers, budget requests categories, programming adjustments, preliminary projections, spending by category, spending by function, school operating revenue, and the next steps in the budget timeline.
- Ms. Ellis thanked Mr. Markwell for all the work he puts into the budget.
- Ms. Weber explained that Mr. Murphy will recuse himself from the first vote.
- Mr. Murphy recused himself on the first motion. Motion by Ms. Ellis, seconded by Mr. Judge, and the Committee voted unanimously to adopt a budget of $3,690,863 for the cost center entitled “West Villages Elementary School” for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2017.
- Motion by Ms. Ellis, seconded by Mr. Judge, and the Committee voted unanimously to adopt a budget of $67,884,706 for the School Department for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2017, to be funded by an appropriation of $65,216,084 subject to change depending on the final state aid received by the town, an expenditure not to exceed $1,609,666 from the Circuit Breaker revolving fund, an expenditure not to exceed $225,000 from the Transportation Fees revolving fund, and an expenditure not to exceed $833,956 from the School Choice Tuition revolving fund.

**Item #040517-010 Approval Accounts Payable Warrant FY’17 Warrant #40**

Motion by Ms. Ellis, seconded by Mr. Judge, and the Committee voted unanimously to approve FY2017 Treasury Warrant #40 in the amount of $104,748.84.

**Executive Session**

Motion by Ms. Ellis and the Committee unanimously approved in a roll call vote to go into executive session – not to reconvene in public session – to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining with the Barnstable Teachers Association pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(3).

Adjourned 8:58 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jen Kruczek
Executive Assistant