

BURGESS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Meeting of Thursday, March 3, 2016

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Katherine Alexander, Chair
Mary Bellezza, Vice Chair
Megan Panek, Tantasqua Representative
Jeannine Johnson, Secretary
Kristen Tuohey, Committee Member

ALSO PRESENT:

Erin Nosek, Superintendent; Deborah Boyd, Associate Superintendent; Kathleen Pelley, Principal; Karen Miarecki, Recording Secretary; teachers and members of the community

Mrs. Alexander opened the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

MINUTES

Motion 15-28

Mrs. Tuohey moved, seconded by Mrs. Bellezza, to approve the minutes of February 4, 2016 Regular Session.

Discussion:

VOTE: Unanimous

Motion 15-29

Mrs. Tuohey moved, seconded by Mrs. Bellezza, to approve the minutes of February 4, 2016 Executive Session.

Discussion:

VOTE: Unanimous

COMMUNICATIONS

Letter of Appreciation from the Sturbridge Little League to M. Wood - FYI provided in packet.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Kathleen Pelley reviewed the Principal's Report, which was included in the packet, below were a few highlights discussed (the full report can be viewed upon request):

Enrollment Data: Total 963 as of February

Student/Staff Recognition:

- Thank you to Dan Minchoff for preparing the students for the All Region Band; wonderful performance by all!
- Grade 5 students donated items and made Valentine's Day cards for the veterans at Veterans Inc., a homeless shelter in Worcester

Curriculum Instruction and Assessment:

- Read to Succeed - 409 Burgess students participated; tremendous event
- Read Across America - Celebrated on Wednesday, March 2nd
- PARCC planning committee has created a draft testing schedule which will be presented to teachers on Monday, March 7th
- We have registered 94 students for kindergarten for the 2016-2017 school year.
- All grade levels continue to work a wide variety of interesting topics. Grade 6 students continue to explore ancient Egypt. Grade 5 students are creating Revolutionary War booklets. Grade 4 will continue their study of the United States with a focus on the Southeast. Grade 3 classrooms are developing a love of literature through read-alouds, book clubs, and literature

study. Grade 2 is studying states of matter and working on biography book reports. Grade 1 recently completed a unit on the continents. Kindergarten students will be starting a unit on Antarctica with a focus on penguins.

Staff Development:

- Eight staff members participated in ANV (Applied Non-Violence Restraint) training this month.
- The focus for the professional development early release day on Friday, April 1st will be on PARCC Administration Training.

Health Office:

- State required BMI reporting for grades 1 and 4 has been completed
- Epinephrine administration review for staff will take place on March 6th

Facilities:

Over February break the custodial staff worked on a number of maintenance items. The emergency generator was tested in collaboration with the Town Building Inspector and Fire Inspector.

Food Service:

Monthly lunch participation continues to increase as well as participation in the breakfast program. A more diverse menu including daily vegetarian and gluten free offerings are well received.

School Improvement Council:

- The Council will meet on Monday, March 14th. Agenda items will include FY17 budget, safety plan, STEM opportunities, spring calendar.
- Upcoming events can be found on the Burgess Elementary School website.

Enrichment - Discussion on ways to identify enrichment. Grades 1-4 - STEM education; grades 5-6 - SIP. Providing opportunity to all levels. The Enrichment Program will not be cut.

The Chair opened Public Access regarding Enrichment: SIP vs extra help; needs for enrichment for students.

Standard Based Report Cards - Providing average letter grade to each group ELA and Math; (numbers to letters average for grades 4,5 and 6). Subcommittee will meet regarding appointing a school committee member, Mary Bellezza and a parent representative.

The Committee recessed the meeting at 7:00 p.m. for the Public Hearing on the Proposed FY 16-17 Budget.

PUBLIC HEARING ON FY 16-17 PROPOSED BUDGET

The Public Hearing opened at 7:00 p.m. Mrs. Boyd reviewed the proposed FY 16-17 Budget in detail.

The Public Hearing was closed at 8:15 p.m. and the Regular School Committee meeting resumed.

Motion 15-30

Mrs. Tuohey moved, seconded by Mrs. Bellezza, to present the amount of \$10,747,188 to Town Meeting.

Discussion:

VOTE: Unanimous

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

2014-2015 - Educator Evaluation Data - FYI provided in packet
Residency Policy - FYI provided in packet; discussed requirements

Motion 15-31

Mrs. Panek moved, seconded by Mrs. Johnson, to approve the FY16-17 Draft of the School Calendar.

Discussion:

VOTE: Unanimous

PUBLIC ACCESS I

None

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Building Committee Meeting - None

TANTASQUA REPRESENTATIVE - Reviewed the following:

Turf Discussion - Ongoing

OLD BUSINESS

JKAA Restraint Policy - Second Reading and Request for Vote of Adoption

Motion 15-32

Mrs. Panek moved, seconded by Mrs. Bellezza, to accept Policy JKAA on Second Reading.

Discussion:

VOTE: Unanimous

NEW BUSINESS

None

PUBLIC ACCESS II

None

Motion 15-33

At 9:05 p.m. Mrs. Panek moved, seconded by Mrs. Bellezza, to adjourn the meeting.

Discussion:

VOTE: Unanimous

Respectfully submitted,

Jeannine Johnson
Secretary

JJ/km