Bourne Public Schools

BOURNE SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Regular Meeting Minutes

DATE: Wednesday, November 18, 2020
TIME: 6:30 PM
PLACE: Remote Access Meeting

ATTENDANCE

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Emily Berry; Paul McMaster; Erin Perry; Steven Strojny; Chris Hyldburg; Maureen Fuller; Ryan Bagdonas

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

OTHER ATTENDEES PRESENT: Dr. Kerri Anne Quinlan-Zhou, Superintendent; Melissa Ryan, Assistant Superintendent of Learning and Teaching; Jordan Geist, Director of Business Services

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Emily Berry calls the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

All stand for the Pledge of Allegiance

3. PUBLIC INPUT

No public statements

4. REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS

a. Superintendent's Report, Kerri Anne Quinlan-Zhou, Superintendent of Schools

- BIS Scheduling Redesign - Dr. Zhou begins by talking about the Bourne Intermediate School's schedule redesign. She explains the challenges this school had with staffing, classroom sizes and enrollment. She asks Ms. Norton to tell us more.
    - Principal Jane Norton starts with a thank you to the families for their patience with the scheduling obstacles and implementation. She explains the specifics of the remote classroom updates that were needed and how the team was able to resolve them. Jane notes the increase in student attendance and the work being done to assist families that are having attendance or remote connection difficulties.

- FY21 State Funding – Jordan Geist, Director of Business Services – Mr. Geist gives a brief update on the budget status. He states that the State Budget is moving through the various committees for review and discussions. He says that this budget reflects the same numbers as last year and that it looks like we would have a level-funded budget this year.
- Capital projects – Jordan talks about the specific project requests and thanks the Town for their support of the schools. Dr. Zhou states that she attended Town Meeting and talks about the approval of the budget requests.

B. Chairperson's Report

- Invitation to BOS meeting December 8th – Chair Berry announces that the School Committee received an invitation to join the Board of Selectman's meeting scheduled for December 8th. At the meeting the Bourne School District's budget will be presented. This will be posted publicly the same as regular SC meetings.
- Bourne Education Foundation Announcement – Kerrie Scofield, board member of BEF, talks about the Foundation and what they are able to do for the schools with their grants. She states that to date, they have 3 applications from teachers or teacher groups. Kerrie says they don't normally give grants for technology requests, but asks anyone that is looking for funds for tech to contact her and they can talk about it.
- Ms. Scofield announced the fundraiser the Holiday Countdown Raffle which is in place of their annual Gala. Tickets are $25.00 each and there will only be a limited number sold. Kerrie give additional information on this fundraiser. This is a volunteer organization and says they are always looking for members to join their board.

C. School Spotlight – Bourne High School

- Civic Engagement Projects—Teacher Anne Marie Strode introduces Kelly Cook, Curriculum Director, and co-planner of this project. She talks about the work they have done and shares her screen in order to share their Civic Actions presentation. Mrs. Strode stresses that this project is all about the work done by the students, that she was a very small part of it.
- Mrs. Cook talks about the inspiration received from State Representative David Vieira and how he was instrumental in getting this off the ground.
    - Eric Ierardi, Michael Carrara, Jeff Ellis – Group 1
        - Eric tells the Committee that their Civic Project is to get students on the School Committee to share their thoughts and ideas on how to help the schools.
        - Michael, having attended previous SC meetings, notes that students would attend the meeting to present but would leave after. They would like to change that and have a student on the Board. They would also have a sub-committee which would elect a representative to attend monthly SC meetings to represent students.
        - Jeff says he got a lot out of this project. He talks about student's having a voice and opportunity to present to the SC and administration. Their goal is to be able to change the law that does not allow students to be on the SC Board.
    - Audrey Caron, Ana Fenton, Mark Smith – Group 2
        - Audrey tells the Committee their project is about how to support mental health of students and staff at Bourne HS. After doing some research they thought about bringing in therapy animals which was shown to be beneficial and to help them not focus on their personal problems.
        - Ava talks about the research they did to find statistics of how extensive these issues are. It was found that 1 in 5 children have a diagnosable behavioral or mental health disorder and 1 in 10 people have a mental health challenge. Research finds that therapy animals can help reduce stress.
    - Ethan Dunn, Lucas Koosa, Colby Lindner, Zachary Pike – Group 3

- Ethan and Colby talk about their project which is to reduce the carbon footprint from the schools and community. Their ideas include starting a conversation with local government about implementing solar power and more renewable energy into the town buildings in Bourne. As climate change becomes more apparent, switching to solar now not only benefits the environment, as there is less CO2, but also helps "future proof" our town itself that way we don't have to deal with the shortage once it comes. He states that in the long run it would help the town save money as we would recoup our losses in the investment.

- Mrs. Strode talks more about the student's projects and wishes she could have had other groups showcase their work. In closing, she says that they call it "Civic Engagement in Action" but feels it should be called "Civic Empowerment in Action".

  - Emily states that she is so impressed with these projects, especially with the students' engagement.
  - Maureen Fuller asks how many students were involved in the projects. Mrs. Strode says there are 50 students that participated. They are working on expanding it. Maureen asks if this is a club or a class? Anne Marie states that they scheduled one extended block a week and if there is other times they would devote it to the civics projects.
  - Maureen asks, in a perfect world, would the project be completed by the end of this school year. Students were ready to put their actions in motion when the schools closed down. Mrs. Cook talks about how the state is requiring students grades 8-12 to complete a civics project. Kelly talks about how the 8th graders, separately from HS students, participated in community action projects. Maureen asks if they know how many contacts the students have made. Mrs. Strode says there were many, many contacts and that there will be more coming.
  - Chris Hyldburg asks some questions of the students. He asks Colby if this is a relay type of project, is this something that you would pass along to the next group of students. Colby thinks this is a great idea. Chris asks the groups if these projects will continue in their future education.
  - Chris then asks Audrey and Ana about their project and states that he is thinking about other aspects such as who takes care of the dogs in the evenings, vacations etc. He thinks this idea is cutting edge and very important. He asks for more information and wonders if this is a career path for you. Ann states that she is looking at veterinarian which this could complement. Audrey is planning to go into health and welfare which could also tie in.
  - Chris asks Michael, Jeff and Michael about wanting to change the law. . . He thinks that their insight was proven tonight and suggests that they should follow through. He congratulates them and knows which direction they are heading into.

- Chair Berry is very happy that School Spotlight has been brought back to the School Committee as there is so much to celebrate in the schools.

- AP Scholars Announcement – Principa Amy Center touts the success of the HS students. Students fared well on the previous year's tests. Mrs. Cetner presents graphics with information on students, the tests and a 5 year look at the scores. She hightlights specifics on each slide and gives more information on each. Amy talks about the AP Scholars awards. The slide shows the names of the students that were awarded in several categories.
- Mrs. Cetner announces that we made the AP District Honor Roll last year and we should hear soon about this year. She thanks the teachers for all their hard work working with the students.

- Winter Sports Season – Mrs. Cetner talks about how we could not have fall season due to COVID restrictions. We are now in the winter season and have a comprehensive plan in place.
- Mr. Scott Ashworth, Athletic Director, talks about the support for and impact for students. Scott states that this plan was developed with many organizations and that it is specific to our district. He highlights some of the specifics of the plan including principles and protocols for participation in school sports. He stresses that

locker room use will be at a minimum ensuring that students will have a gym bag to keep their belongings in. He has created a google form for students to completed a screening before being allowed to participate.

- They are hoping to start winter sports beginning on December 14. They will only play league opponents and there will be a conference tournament at the end of each sport season.

  - Maureen Fuller asks about bus transportation to games. Mr. Ashworth states that roster sizes, 12 students, allow for one team to ride the bus. The only sport that may have an issue is the hockey team which has 20 students. She asks if he is comfortable with the amount of oversite that will be provided. He doesn't think there will be an issue. Dr. Zhou adds that the conference is allowing students to play and we feel that our student athletes will want to stay active and we want to engage them. We feel we can provide the safety for our students.
  - Chris Hylburg requests of the Chair and the School Committee to allow Mr. Ashworth to attend a meetings at least once a month to update the SC.
  - Chris asks what we should do about competitors and families. Scott states that they have limited it two spectators per athlete. Mr. Ashworth states that as a parent of athletes his biggest concern is to get our students playing. There are other plans that will be put in place to keep the gym under 50% capacity.
  - Dr. Zhou stresses that we will begin games without spectators.
  - Chair Berry is grateful that so much work has been done to get the students back into athletics as this is so important to their mental health and wellbeing. She states that it is a very thorough Plan.
  - Paul McMaster asks about spectators. Mr. Ashworth states that the only fans allowed at a home game would be Bourne parents or caregivers. On away games, it depends on the size of their gym and how many people are allowed is based on the 50% capacity limit. It looks like the Division is only allowing two tickets per player.

5. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

a. Updates on School Improvement Plans

b. Continued discussion on re-opening

- Chair Berry announces that they will possibly meet in the HS Media Center, the public should attend via zoom.
- Chris Hylburg would like to add the Budget Sub-Committee Report to a future Agenda
- Dr. Zhou notes that the School Improvement Plans are presented to the Curriculum Sub-Committee first before bringing it to the SC.
- Dr. Zhou also talks about scheduling a presentation from _____ Corporation and that we could invite Town leaders to attend either during an evening or an afternoon meeting.
- Next Meeting – December 2, 2020 in the HS Library but will continue via zoom.

6. PAUL MCMASTER MOTIONS TO ADJOURN; SECONDED BY CHRIS HYLDBURG; ROLL CALL VOTE 7-0-0

Meeting ended at 8:08 PM

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

Teresa Vicente
Recording Secretary

Bourne Public Schools

List of documents and exhibits used (GL c.30A, sect 22(a))

Agenda Item	Document
	School Committee Meeting Agenda
	2020 AP Flash Cards
	Bourne High School Athletics