

**ROCHESTER SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
ROCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Rochester, Massachusetts
16 Pine Street - Rochester, MA 02770**

**MEETING MINUTES
February 3, 2022
Meeting Held in Hybrid Format**

Regular meeting of the Rochester School Committee was held on Thursday – February 3, 2022 at 6:30pm.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Sharon Hartley– Chairperson, Anne Fernandes – Vice-Chairperson, Robin Rounseville, Jason Chisholm and Katherine Duggan (all participating in-person)

Also present in the meeting was Selectmen Brad Morse.

OTHERS PRESENT: Michael S. Nelson (in-person), Superintendent of Schools; Howard Barber (in-person), Assistant Superintendent of Finance & Operations; Dr. Jannell Pearson-Campbell (in-person), Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning, Craig Davidson (in-person), Director of Student Services, Derek Medeiros (in-person), Principal; Charles West (in-person), Assistant Principal; Diana Russo, Administrative Assistant to Supt.; teachers, parents and members of the press and public. (remote)

Meeting was called to order at 6:38 pm., by Chairperson Hartley. Ms. Hartley introduced the Rochester School Committee members and stated in accordance with Massachusetts Open Meeting Law, the Agenda has been set, the meeting is being video-taped. Chairperson Hartley stated that this meeting is being conducted in a hybrid format and the School Committee and Administrators have the option of participating via zoom or in person. Chairperson Hartley explained that the School Committee would need to go into executive session at the beginning of the meeting and would then return to public session to continue the regular meeting.

Mr. Nelson requested that Mr. Howard Barber, Asst Supt. of Finance and Operations and Mr. Brad Morse, member of the Rochester Selectboard also join the school committee in executive session. Chairperson Hartley agreed with the request.

MOTION: by Ms. Fernandes at 6:32 p.m. to enter executive session for the purpose of exception #3 and exception #7

SECOND: by Ms. Rounseville

ROLL CALL: Chisholm: yes, Duggan: yes, Fernandes: yes, Rounseville: yes, Hartley: yes

MOTION: by Ms. Rounseville to go come out of Executive Session at 6:53 pm and to return to the regular meeting.

SECOND: by Ms. Fernandes

ROLL CALL: Chisholm: yes, Duggan: yes, Fernandes: yes, Rounseville: yes, Hartley: yes

I. Approval of Minutes:

A. Approval of Minutes – Regular Session: January 18, 2022

Approval of Minutes – Regular Session: January 18, 2022

MOTION: by Ms. Rounseville to approve the January 18, 2022 minutes as presented
SECOND: by Ms. Fernandes
ROLL CALL: Chisholm: yes, Duggan: yes, Fernandes: yes, Rounseville: yes, Hartley: yes

IV. General

A. Approval of Memorandum of Agreement

Chairperson Hartley requested a motion to approve the MOA approved as presented with a caveat that it would will go into effect once it's been executed by the Rochester Memorial Teachers Association.

MOTION: by Ms. Fernandes to approve the Memorandum of Agreement between the Rochester School Committee and the Rochester Memorial School Teachers Association as presented by Chairperson Hartley

SECOND: by Mr. Chisholm

ROLL CALL: Chisholm: yes, Duggan: yes, Fernandes: yes, Rounseville: yes, Hartley: yes, Morse: yes

B. Tiered Focused Monitoring Audit (English Language Learners)

Superintendent Nelson made the following statement:

Tonight I am recommending that the School Committee hear a tiered focused monitoring audit update. Specifically, our six schools recently received our report for the Tiered Focused Monitoring Audit that looks at our schools' implementation of English Language Education or English Language Learner regulations. The Department of Education – looks at relevant documentation, student records, interviews staff members and solicits parent and guardian feedback. I want to thank Assistant Superintendent Pearson-Campbell for their leadership on working through this process and recognize the affirmative feedback we received. Dr. Pearson-Campbell could you share the results with the committee at this time.

Dr. Pearson-Campbell made the following statement:

The District's English Language Learner department received feedback from DESE regarding a recent audit. The Tiered Focused Monitoring report evaluates 12 criteria. Eight out of twelve criteria were fully implemented. Four criteria were partially implemented based on a review of documents and interviews with parents/guardians, educators, and staff that support English Language Learners. The results of the ELL audit places our district in Tier 1 under the Continuous Improvement Plan. The District's Corrective Action Plan is due to be sent to DESE by February 14th. The Office of Teaching and Learning is working with Ms. Erin Bednarczyk, the District Website Coordinator, to create a Family Engagement webpage. The webpage will provide parents and guardians with translated steps when enrolling or transferring into the District. The school district's data is now in a Google Datasheet to ensure parents receive translation or written documents in their native language.

School Committee Feedback:

Ms. Fernandes inquired if there were similarities between the last audit and this audit. Dr. Pearson- Campbell expressed that because of the pandemic there was more focus on academic achievement and family engagement. Dr. Pearson-Campbell also explained that some of the forms were actually updated during the audit process and they are now updating the district forms in four different languages.

Mr. Chisholm inquired how the number of children being serviced compare from audit to audit or year to year. Mr. Nelson reported that the number is always changing depending on student

process, move ins as well as students withdrawing. Mr. Nelson reported that while he's worked for the district the highest he's seen is has been 18-20 students districtwide, however he explained that some of them are receiving direct services and others are just being monitored.

Mr. Nelson expressed that the audits as a whole, including the Special Education, Civil Rights and ELL regulations, not one of the regulations was found in full non-compliance in any area, which doesn't necessarily meet our expectation but it is nice to see that feedback from an outside lense. He also expressed that when you look at the number of regulations that are reported in addition to the student record reviews, parent surveys and all the other pieces, he expressed that at the end of the day to have some minor adjustments with our translation options and updating our forms, he's confident that we are providing the services to the students and families in our communities. Mr. Nelson expressed that they take the feedback seriously and they plan to submit the corrective action plan and move forward.

C. Approval of Donations

Superintendent Nelson made the following statement:

I am recommending that the School Committee review for approval two donations:

- 1. A \$500 donation from the Rochester Cultural Council – Our very own Ms. Forns applied and received a grant to support our grade 6 students' participation in the Lunabotics Junior contest.*

Mr. Medeiros reported that the Lunabotics Junior Contest is sponsored by NASA and it is geared toward grade 6 students where they are planning, designing and creating a Lunar Robot that can move soil on the moon from point A to point B which is a designated distance apart in feet.

MOTION: by Ms. Rounseville to approve the donation of \$500 Rochester Cultural Council for Lunabotics Junior Contest.

SECOND: by Mr. Chisholm

ROLL CALL: Chisholm: yes, Duggan: recused herself as she is a member of the Rochester Cultural Council, Fernandes: yes, Rounseville: yes, Hartley: yes

- 2. A \$500 donation from the Rochester Cultural Council – this time Mrs. Bosma applied and received a grant to support a Money Wise Kids Financial Literacy Fair.*

Mr. Medeiros reported that Money Wise Financial Literacy Fair is a fair that will take place here at RMS where grade 5 students would run the fair and present what they have learned similar to that of a science fair model. They would collaborate with local financial institutions as well as other community agencies/companies to come in and present to the student body and help with the components or elements of the fair.

MOTION: by Ms. Rounseville to approve the donation of \$500 Rochester Cultural Council for Money Wise Kids Financial Literacy Fair.

SECOND: by Mr. Chisholm

ROLL CALL: Chisholm: yes, Duggan: recused herself as she is a member of the Rochester Cultural Council, Fernandes: yes, Rounseville: yes, Hartley: yes

These donations are more examples of our very strong school community and their support for our students, families, and staff members. Thank you very much, Rochester Cultural Council.

D. Social Emotional Learning

Superintendent Nelson made the following statement:

Tonight Principal Medeiros will briefly talk to the social emotional efforts here at Rochester Memorial School as related to our school system's strategic plan and the Rochester Memorial's School Improvement Plan. As I am sure the School Committee can imagine – having strong social emotional supports in place is needed more than ever knowing the impact of the pandemic on our school community. Having such supports allows our educators to support the whole child and meet students and families where they are at. Derek and Charley – the floor is yours....

Mr. Medeiros expressed that he's very excited to talk about social emotional learning, he expressed it's pretty much the whole component of goal two in the school's improvement plan and also a big part of our Vision 2023 Strategic Plan. Mr. Medeiros expressed that himself and Mr. West feel that Social Emotional Learning is a key strength for them at RMS for a couple of different reasons, 1. Our belief and continued approach around Responsive Classroom, he expressed that they are very proud of the district buying into Responsive Classroom and providing us with the avenue to train all our new staff members, he expressed that on February 9th and March 9th staff members will be participating in the last two days of a four day training for new staff members, so we are showing our staff that we believe fully in that evidence based approach. He expressed that the complete buy into Responsive Classroom not just from our staff but also from our students, he expressed that you see a lot of work being done through our student Ambassadors. Mr. Medeiros reported that the other piece is the staffing, he reported that we are very fortunate to have an Asst. Principal who is also a Social Worker and has a great background in Social Emotional Learning and also our SEL Team, he referred to a Social Emotional Letter that goes out to parents, he expressed that the team does a great job supporting our staff, students and families. Mr. Medeiros reported that a few years ago the district brought in CASEL competencies and realized how well it molded so well with Responsive Classroom, Mr. Medeiros expressed that he refers to that relation in his Medeiros Minutes every month and shares a theme each time. Mr. Medeiros expressed that as they look at the School Improvement Plan the main focus is to have 100% of their staff trained on Responsive Classroom, which is a four-day course for all our licensed educators, Mr. Medeiros expressed that the goal is on track. Mr. Medeiros expressed that the next pillar is really looking at the student sense of belonging which really goes nicely with the Acceleration Roadmap. He expressed that our SEL Team is being very creative in these last couple of years in working with the students in different ways, he gave examples of a presentations on "kindness" and on "empathy" they have done with students. Mr. Medeiros expressed that feels that our students feel a great sense of belonging, he referred to the panorama survey data and the results from that survey have always been positive. He expressed that this is a result of the total staff buy in into the Responsive Classroom model, such as having those talks at morning meetings, making part of their class rules, and reiterate it as a whole school any chance we get.

School Committee Feedback:

Ms. Fernandes asked how does this all meld with the five Social Emotional competencies and also how do you monitor the Social Emotional Learning, are you getting qualitative data?

Mr. Medeiros referred to a form that the staff uses, he explained that the 5 competencies are built right into the CARES model. Mr. Medeiros also explained that the district's standard based report card shifted from a more behavioral/conduct type of marking to a social emotional marking and those competencies are listed on the report card. Mr. Medeiros expressed that this is all measured by the classroom teacher, he expressed that these are measured through interactions in the classroom, there are times that they might ask for support from their Special Education Liaison, the

SEL Team or Administration. Mr. Medeiros reported that SEL competencies are measured 1 through 4, explaining that no one really masters social emotional learning. Ms. Fernandes asked if there are criteria attached to the ratings of 1 through 4. Mr. Medeiros reported that the scale is as follows 1 = requires on-going intervention to develop skill, 2 = demonstrates this skill some of the time, 3 = demonstrates this skill most of the time, 4 = consistently demonstrates this skill.

Mr. Nelson expressed that when the CASEL Framework came out we asked those same questions, “what does this mean and how does it correlate to what we are already doing?” He expressed the we weren’t a district that was just starting the idea of Social Emotional Learning, our district was already doing a lot of that work, so when we looked at those five competencies we asked some of the same questions, how can these be measured, what do they mean to us and our Strategic Plan and what do we need in terms of training our teachers. Mr. Nelson expressed that the pandemic slowed us down a little bit in terms of monitoring success of Social Emotional Learning, Mr. Nelson reported that we had been using a different panorama tool where administrators were supporting the classroom teachers around implementation of Responsive Classroom, he expressed that is still in our plans, he expressed that we are finally in a place that we are starting to do learning walks and have those conversations about monitoring which is exciting and making sure that Responsive Classroom is being used with fidelity, not only are we training our teachers but making we are using it and collaborating it in the way that it should be used.

Ms. Fernandes asked if panorama and kaleiscope is used for Responsive Classroom. Mr. Nelson reported that yes, Kaleiscope helps administrators monitor the implementation of Responsive Classroom. Mr. Nelson explained that you have the kaleiscope data which is used by administrators, then you have the classroom data from the individual students and their report cards and then you also have panorama where you can survey students and parents. Mr. Nelson reported that information stays in the building. Mr. Medeiros explained that the data gets shared on two different levels, it gets reported at staff meeting as a whole, it’s then looked at grade level PLC meetings, and then from there our SEL team takes a closer look at individual responses and the team will meet to consider different concerns.

Ms. Rounseville expressed that she knows that Responsive Classroom has been part of Rochester Memorial for a long time. She would like administration to spoke to the social emotional anxiety of children since they have been back full time and how the staff and the administrators have been handling that increase in services needed.

Mr. Medeiros expressed they have been very fortunate because we were able to get most of students back to full in person learning last year, therefore we have been working on making sure that they really know that yes things do look a little differently but that we are here to help them every step of the way. Mr. Medeiros reported that early on they were seeing some students struggle, however he believes that this approach, where teachers are making their classroom a community, and students are getting to be part of the planning for what goes on in the classroom and how their peers interact, he expressed it really allows students to grow at much more normal pace. He expressed they have seen that some students are little more help in learning to how interact, he expressed that interacting modeling is very important, especially with our younger learners who have had a lot of experience in the school setting. He expressed those first six to eight weeks of school are crucial.

Mr. West expressed that our capacity to differentiate our social emotional support at RMS is immense, he expressed that they have the ability with the SEL team as well as with the teachers we have who have been using Responsive Classroom and they know they can come to our social

workers and administrators and trouble shoot any issue that comes up and get the kids engaged and included.

Mr. Chisholm expressed that he thinks it's great that the focus is around the students, but he asked if there are aspects of this that support the teachers and staff and what does that look like?

Mr. Medeiros expressed that teachers don't buy into and do that great work around Responsive Classroom and the classroom community example if they don't believe it themselves, he expressed that they try to promote that through PLC meetings, he expressed that they are also changing the shift of the staff meetings to almost model them like the all school meetings but just with staff. He expressed that colleagues really work together to share ideas and help each other through different scenarios.

Mr. Chisholm expressed that while he thinks this is all wonderful, his thought is he's always worried that the teachers are the caregivers and this is an unprecedented time and we are all dealing with a lot of stress, and the emotional well-being of our teachers is important because they are the ones that are helping with the students. So we can have all of this for the children but if the adults are feeling stressed and have anxiety and they don't have the benefit of some of these benefits with each other, then we might be missing something, he expressed that he would love to hear your thoughts in some future meetings.

Mr. West explained that Ms. Pacheco and Ms. Cruz put together a week of relaxation for staff, where they setup a room that staff members could go in and had massage chairs, he explained there was aromatherapy and different activities to help everyone decompress. He expressed it was great for self-care.

Ms. Hartley expressed that this was a great conversation, very thoughtful. She expressed that she was very excited when Mr. Medeiros mentioned "sense of belonging", she expressed that it's so important for everyone especially during this very difficult time,

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Chairperson Hartley reported that they have been working hard on negotiations and trying to move us forward to an agreement. She reported that she also attended the Joint School Committee on January 20th and that it went well and they approved the school calendar for the upcoming school year.

CENTRAL OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Superintendent Nelson made the following statement:

From a Covid-19 standpoint – after the recent COVID-19 surge – our positive case numbers are moving downward – the direction we want – at the close of today we have four active cases in isolation. Rochester Memorial School continues to implement the mask mandate issued by the Department of Education. The mandate is in place until at least February 28th. Additionally, our schools are adhering to the most recent Covid-19 response protocols that guide isolation and quarantine responses. All of this information has been shared with our school community and is posted on our COVID-19 response webpage.

Additionally, we are in the process of shifting our testing program to the newest model that will continue to offer symptomatic testing in school and also home testing kits to those students and staff members that opt in. With this update – contact tracing in school will discontinue and we will focus monitoring efforts on symptomatic individuals. This decision was made based on community

survey data, input from our school nurses and in consultation with our town health departments. Our official shift will occur this coming Monday – the 7th. We will continue to share information with our school community regarding all things COVID-19

Also – we are exciting to be finalizing our February Vacation Math Acceleration Opportunity for any interested student. We will be offering five days of math learning opportunities – four hours a week to interested students as part of our Acceleration Roadmap work...students who participate will receive grade level instruction with in the moment scaffolding based on collected academic data. This was part of a grant award we received...30,000 for each elementary school district and 80,000 for Old Rochester to support learning acceleration work...

Last – but certainly not least – I am very proud to announce tonight that we found out this week that our very own is the first ever recipient of the MASC/COSCAP – Administrative Assistant of the Year 2021. I was honored to submit a nomination – with the help of many school committee members including those here tonight on the behalf of Ms. Diana Russo. Diana has been serving our schools for over 24 years...this includes the work of the four school districts, five school committees, and five thousand sub-committees. In her career – she has supported two Asst. Superintendents and three different Superintendents – in addition to everyone else in our school community. To be blunt – Diana is the ultimate professional – she’s trustworthy and you will never find anyone with more integrity than her. Congratulations – Diana – we are all so proud of you and feel lucky you are on our team.

Mr. Davidson reported that the Old Rochester Regional School District MA Superintendency Union #55 and the Southeastern Massachusetts Educational Collaborative (SMEC) have created a new partnership to offer free online family workshops for Tri-Town and SMEC families focusing on Social-Emotional Learning, 21st Century Learning Skills and Global Citizenship.

The “Community Talks” series will provide families the opportunity to participate in workshops that will assist parents/guardians/caregivers in building their tool kits to support their children in and outside of the school setting. Community Talks will be a 10 Part series running from now until the end of June 2023. The first workshop in the series, “Community Talks: Part 1,” We had 62 Tri-Town and SMEC Families participate. Community Talks: Part 2 and 3 will welcome Jon Mattleman, a mental health counselor will present on “The Secret Lives of Teens & Tweens” his **dynamic and fun presentation for parents and caregivers** will take place over two nights on Thursday February 10 and Thursday March 10th at 6:00 p.m.

Dr. Pearson-Campbell reported on:

The Office of Teaching and Learning led an IXL webinar for parents and guardians in December. During the webinar important information such as students’ username and password information was provided along with information on how parents and guardians can assist students with the use of ixl.com. Parents and guardians learned how to create reports that monitor student progress and also use ixl.com on multi-media platforms. Provided below is the PowerPoint that was presented and is now on each of the school’s websites. The IXL webinar will assist in building learning capacity for families and guardians. Virtual Informational Meeting www.ixl.com 12 13 21

On Tuesday, January 18th a full day of professional development for educators took place. We continued to focus on the following 3 key areas: Global Citizenship, 21st Century Learning, and Social Emotional Learning. Keynote speaker, Loretta LaRoche, started off the morning speaking to all educators from 8:45 - 9:45 am via Zoom. Loretta LoRoche is an international stress management expert who helped pioneer the use of humor as a coping mechanism. She has authored eight best-selling books and has been the star of seven PBS TV shows aired on over

eighty stations nationwide. She was an adjunct faculty member at the Mind/Body Medical Institute, an affiliate of Harvard Medical School for fifteen years. Her signature humor is her ability to observe the absurdities that are so much a part of the human condition and the culture which often leads to stress and to help find the AHA in the HA HA!

Also, www.ixl.com representatives visited each school; educators were able to ask questions regarding accelerated learning with IXL. In addition, Ms. Diane Lizotte offered AIMSWEB support for progress monitoring for any educators wishing to ask questions. Educators had an opportunity to examine and create student centered plans for Phase 3 of the Accelerated Roadmap. We are committed to the 3 key areas of the Accelerated Learning Roadmap: sense of belonging, grade level material and progress monitoring.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT:

Mr. Medeiros reported on the following items:

- The RMS School Council met on Tuesday January 18 via zoom to discuss the draft 2022-2023 school calendar, Capital Planning and FY23 Budget Process.
- As we continue to work to improve our instructional practices in reading/literacy as well as continuing to unpack the new DESE Literacy guidance, we are excited about our next steps in this journey. We have been in contact with three agencies that we are hoping to collaborate with over the next few years around literacy instruction and professional development here at RMS.
- On January 18th our staff participated in professional development workshops that included keynote speaker Loretta Laroche, specialist area professional learning communities, IXL Interactive, Aimsweb, Responsive Classroom and grade level standards/MCAS data analysis sessions.
- We are pleased to announce that the Rochester Memorial Student Ambassadors have been selected for the 2021-2022 school year. The 5th and 6th grade students who have been chosen to represent the student body as ambassadors have begun to meet with their staff advisors Mrs. Cruz and Mr. Huckabee.
- Grade levels teams are in the process of administering middle of year Aimsweb assessments in both ELA and math with their students. Teams will also conduct the MOY F & P BAS for those students identified by each team in addition to the Shaywitz screener in grades 1 and 2.
- I would like to thank Mrs. Bosma and Mrs. Forns for their efforts in securing 2 grants that will support of students learning. Mrs. Bosma received a Rochester Cultural Committee grant to support a Money Wise Kids Financial Literacy Fair and Mrs. Forns also secured a RCC grant to support our grade 6 students' participation in the Lunabotics Junior contest.

VIII. School Committee

B. Committee Reports -

1. Budget Subcommittee- Ms. Hartley reported that they have been working hard to develop the budget and the next step would be to meet with FinCom and the Town Administrator.
2. ORR District School Committee – Mr. Chisholm reported that the ORR committee had similar items, the ELL Audit and Budget for FY23.
3. SMEC- Ms. Fernandes reported that they met and approved minutes, looked at staff appointments and reductions, reviewed and approved substitute nursing rates, FY22 budgets were reviewed and

discussed, reviewed audit results from DESE (full compliance), heard a report on COVID-19 testing protocols, executive director's evaluation was discussed and next meeting is March 29th.

4. READS- Mr. Nelson noted, as an informational item, he provided SMEC's Annual Report to the school

committee in the shared folder.

Mr. Nelson reported READS met on December 16th and January 27th and reported as follows:

- The main focus was on the FY22 Budget – the amendments and the current status
- Reviewed and Approved the FY23 Draft Budget
- Discussions took place regarding their plan on their old property
- Heard recommendations from the Executive Director around the approval of new staff and accepted resignations

5. Tri-town Foundation- NONE

6. Early Childhood Council- Ms. Duggan reported that the council last met 1/19/22. Updates from that meeting include news about a planned Tri Town Book Walk for Black History Month in partnership with TTAR. They are also looking for additional possible sites to host if anyone is able and interested. Planning is also underway for the 2022 Week of the Young Child (April 2 - 8, 2022). The ECE office is looking for ideas to go along with national themes (one theme per day).

They probably won't go with large scale events but want to put together a calendar of offerings.

We also were reminded of resources that are always available on the Early Childhood website, and these include the Ages and Stages questionnaire and the [People in Your Neighborhood Resource](#).

Next Preschool Screening Date is March 10th at Sippican School, and Preschool registration is open through 2/25/2022 for Project Grow; TriTown program registration will open soon. Finally, on the topic of Kindergarten Transition, registration Information will be given via Zoom at each elementary school on February 9th and the online registration will open that night as well.

Kindergarten School Readiness Screening will take place June 1st and 2nd. The next Early Childhood Council Meeting will be March 22, 2022.

7. Policy Sub-Committee- Ms. Duggan reported that the committee last met 1/13/22 and we discussed 2 policies.

KHB – Advertising in the Schools --discussion of whether to initiate a policy to allow advertising in school buildings and on school property under certain conditions. The administration drafted the 1st draft and we reviewed it, and recommend that the joint school committee review this for its' first read.

BEDH – Public Comment Policy-- This policy has been updated to clarify the purpose and guidelines relative to public comment at school committee meetings and was approved by the Joint Committee at their January 20 meeting.

DJE – Procurement Requirements – This policy is one of twenty-five in Section D – Fiscal Policies that was reviewed and revised by MASC. The policy sub-committee is in the process of reviewing these policies, however this particular policy needed to be reviewed right away to fulfill our audit findings from last year. This policy was also reviewed and endorsed by our Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations. The policy is going to the Joint School Committee for final approval.

Revised Policies with Gender Neutral Terms: The Policy Sub-Committee reviewed 29 policies on January 13, 2022 to ensure they include neutral gender terms. No other changes were made to these policies and they were approved by the Joint School Committee on January 20.

8. Anti-Racism Sub-Committee: Ms. Duggan reported that the committee last met 1/25/22. We heard from each school regarding recent Cultural Proficiency plan updates, discussed the Black History Month Educational Calendar and events for this year, and continued our discussion around Building Equitable Supports for all students. We also participated in brainstorming around "What are the core values that should drive the work of our subcommittee" in a Core Values Padlet (a

virtual white board that allows anyone to add an anonymous note or comment). The subcommittee leaders also provided a space where members can make recommendations for a potential name change for the committee, which might replace the Anti-Racism Sub-Committee name. Recommendations will be collected until Friday, February 11, 2022. The next meeting of the Anti-Racism Subcommittee will be March 24, 2022.

Ms. Fernandes expressed that she wanted to make a comment about the Gender Neutral Term revisions. She expressed that she doesn't know if she had a misunderstanding during the Joint School Committee meeting and missed out on the discussion and she wanted to state her negation towards changing any of the pronouns to gender neutral terms, she expressed that she would have preferred to us common nouns instead of taking the pronoun they, she expressed that it's grammatically correct. She wanted to go on record to let people know that she voted no for that.

IX. Future Business

A. Timeline

Chairperson Hartley reported:

The next meeting of the Rochester School Committee is Thursday – March 3, 2022 @ 6:30pm.

The next meeting of the Joint School Committee is Thursday – April 28, 2022 @ 6:30pm; held remote through Zoom.

X. Open Comments: NONE

MOTION to adjourn at 8:11 p.m. by Ms. Fernandes

SECOND: by Ms. Rounseville

ROLL CALL: Chisholm: yes, Duggan: yes, Fernandes: yes, Rounseville: yes, Hartley: yes

Submitted,

Diana Russo, Recording Secretary