

## BERLIN-BOYLSTON REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Tuesday, January 10, 2023

6:30 p.m.

Tahanto Regional Middle/High School Multi-Purpose Room

1001 Main Street, Boylston, MA 01505

***This meeting may be recorded, and your image or voice may be broadcast.***

- I. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
- III. Mrs. Degliaberti made a motion to amend the agenda to add DISCUSSION (and read) the CDC recommendations given the update on Thursday, January 5th to the CDC's Community COVID level for Worcester County to high and current indoor mask recommendations to allow staff and parents to make an educated decision regarding their own health or their children's. There were no seconds to the amendment and, therefore, no vote was taken.
- IV. There were no public comments.
- V. Communications
- V. **Consent Agenda-Vote**
  - Mrs. Grill made a motion to approve the agenda. Mrs. Lee seconded the motion. Vote 5-0. Motion passes.
- VI. **Reports**
  1. Student Report-*Miss Caroline MacKenzie*
    - Miss MacKenzie noted that Tahanto will be performing their first musical in six, *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*. 20-30 students auditioned.
    - There will also be a winter ball.
    - The Ace Club will be providing tutoring for students.
  2. Chair's Report-*Mr. Michael Totman*
    - a. School Committee Meeting Calendar Discussion
      1. Mr. Totman began the discussion. He noted that it would be difficult to change the dates of the remaining meetings. However, he will welcome discussing changing the night and/or times of meetings for the next school year.
  3. Subcommittee Reports
    - a. Budget, Facilities, and Safety – *Mrs. Meagan Grill*

1. Mrs. Grill reported that she needs school committee members to be present at local organization's meetings as well as town government meetings to gain support for the school budget.
  2. The Budget, Facilities, and Safety Subcommittee is also continuing to work on getting cell service within Tahanto. They are looking into the possibility of getting a cell tower nearby.
  3. Mrs. Degliaberti mentioned the safety of cell towers.
  - b. Student Success and Technology – *Mr. Michael Totman*
    1. The subcommittee has not met recently but is working on their availability to schedule a meeting in the near future.
4. Superintendent's Report-*Ms. Carol Costello*
- a. Hiring Timeline: Ms. Costello reviewed the timeline for hiring Principals, Assistant Principals, and Curriculum directors and who will serve on the hiring committees.
  - b. Job Descriptions: She also reviewed the updated job descriptions. Principals will be hired as full-year positions and Mr. Campbell will have his job description updated to include his extra responsibilities as Elementary Literacy Coordinator.
5. Director of Finance and Operations - *Mrs. Nancy Konisky*
- a. Surplus Items: Mrs. Konisky informed the Committee that she has submitted a disposal request for textbooks that are obsolete and out-of-date. She asked for a vote from the School Committee during Business Items. The School Committee asked the Administration to look into other options as well.
  - b. FY2024 Budget Timeline and Updates: Mrs. Konisky updated the FY2024 timeline and presented it to the Committee, where she noted upcoming meetings with the respective Town committees. Additionally, she presented an FY2023 update, noting we are in good financial standing, at this point, for the remainder of the year.
  - c. AED: Mrs. Konisky noted that she confirmed with Athletic Director Matt Porcaro that we have 5 AEDs at Tahanto and AEDs are provided by the home schools for Tahanto away games. The district will be considering hiring an athletic trainer in the near future to help respond should an emergency arise.
  - d. Boylston Facilities Update: Due to a change in the regulations Mr. Ayala, Facilities Manager, will be able to request three bids in hopes of speeding up the process of completing the BES Facility Assessment.
  - e. Discussion Regarding Adding an Additional .5FTE Pre-School Teacher at BMS: Mrs. Konisky, in conjunction with Mrs. Fitzpatrick discussed changing the BMS Preschool job to full-time. In addition, due to projections, it appears that an increase in interest will require an increase in staffing. Mrs. Fitzpatrick answered Committee questions regarding preschool.

## 6. MCAS Report

- A. Tahanto Department Heads-Ms. Lisa Sequeira and Ms. Francene Gleason
  - a. Math: 83% of Tahanto grade 10 students met or exceeded expectations with 2022 MCAS Scores.
  - b. Tahanto is ranked 4th in the state in high school mathematics scores.
  - c. 56% of grade 8, 52% of grade 7, and 63% of grade 6 students met or exceed expectations in math.
  - d. Ms. Sequeira also presented what the math department is doing to help students succeed, including an MCAS prep class that has been offered with the help of a grant.
  - e. Science, Technology & Engineering: 71% of 8th grade students are meeting or exceeding state expectations.
  - f. 81% of students in grade 10 met or exceeded expectations on the grade 10 biology test.
  - g. Ms. Sequeira also presented what the science department is doing to help students succeed, including an biology prep class and an 8th grade review sessions that has been offered with the help of a grant.
  - h. Tahanto is in the top 5 in the state in STE.
  - i. ELA: 82% of grade are meeting or exceeding expectations in grade 10 ELA.
  - j. 49% of students in grade 6 are meeting or exceeding expectations, 53% of students in grade 7 are meeting or exceeding expectations, and 66% of students in grade 8 are meeting or exceeding expectations.
  - k. Tahanto is in the top 10% of schools in Massachusetts in ELA growth and achievement.
  - l. Ms. Sequeira also presented what the ELA department is doing to help students succeed.
- B. Elementary MCAS Results-*Mr. John Campbell and Mrs. Dawn-Marie Ayles*
  - a. ELA: Mr. Campbell presented the ELA scores for both schools. 63% of BMS students and 46% of students in BES meet or exceed the expectations in ELA.
  - b. Mr. Campbell and Mrs. Ayles addressed Mrs. Grill's concern for the gap in performance percentage between the two schools.
  - c. Mr. Campbell showed reading scores across both schools.
  - d. Math: Mrs. Ayles presented the math scores for both elementary schools.
  - e. 64% of BMS students and 58% of BES students met or exceeded expectations in math performance in 2022.

- f. Mrs. Ayles described tactics and analysis used to determine areas needing improvement to see how BBRSD can improve.
- g. Science: Mr. Campbell provided the Committee with the 5th-grade science results. 45% of BMS and 53% of BES students met or exceed expectations, which was lower than in 2021.
- h. Mr. Campbell and Mrs. Ayles answered questions from the Committee about the data.

VII. **Business Items**

- A. Mrs. Lee made a motion to Approve Elementary School Principal/Elementary Curriculum Coordinator Job Description. Mrs. Grill seconded. Vote 5-0. Motion Passes.
- B. Mrs. Lee made a motion to Approve School Principal Job Description. Mrs. Degliaberti seconded. Vote 5-0. Motion passes.
- C. Mrs. Grill made a motion to Approve the Middle/High School Assistant Principal Job Description. Mrs. Lee seconded. Vote 5-0. Motion passes.
- D. Mr. Holmes made a motion to Approve the Director of Curriculum and Grants Job Description. Mrs. Lee seconded. Vote 5-0. Motion passes.
- E. Mrs. Lee made a motion to Accept a Donation of \$159.83 from Clinton Savings Bank to the BES Library. Mr. Holmes seconded. Vote 5-0. Motion passes.
- F. Mrs. Grill made a motion to Approve the School Committee Annual Report to the Towns. Mrs. Lee seconded. Discussion: Mr. Holmes requested the report come back as he had some concerns with the language around Dr. Henry's departure. Mr. Holmes also requested a piece be added regarding the three-year plan. Some spelling changes were also requested by Mrs. Degliaberti. Mrs. Grill made a motion to amend the verbiage from "abruptly quit" to "resign," remove the word "quit" to "resign" in the attendance page under Mrs. Henry, and to revise Mr. Holmes attendance record. Mrs. Lee seconded. Vote 5-0. Motion as amended passes.
- G. Mr. Holmes made a motion to Approve a Request to Dispose of Obsolete Surplus Items. Mrs. Grill seconded. Vote 5-0. Motion passes.
- H. Mrs. Lee made a motion to Approve Overnight Field Trip for Tahanto Student Council to Cape Cod in March 2023. Mrs. Grill seconded. Ms. Stukuls read a summary of the trip. Vote 5-0. Motion passes.
- I. Mrs. Lee made a motion to Approve One Additional .5FTE Pre-School Teacher at BMS. Mr. Holmes seconded. Vote 5-0. Motion passes.
- J. Mrs. Grill made a motion to accept a donation for the BMS scoreboard in the amount of \$7,500 from Berlin LINK Inc. pending the coordination and approval of various town permits Mrs. Lee seconded. Vote 5-0. Motion passes.

VIII. Committee Members' Future Agenda Requests:

Mrs. Degliaberti requested:

- The committee discuss the feasibility to restart the COVID dashboards;
- Review the possibility to remind parents of CDC protocols in Friday newsletters

- Look into the feasibility of tutoring for students home sick with COVID;
- Better sound for live streaming during school committee meetings;
- Promote remote participation during live meetings due to illness.

## IX. Adjournment

- Mrs. Grill made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Holmes seconded. Vote 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 9:31 p.m.

***Mission Statement: To support and challenge all students to achieve personal and academic excellence in a student-centered environment.***

*The listing of items is those reasonably anticipated by the Chair which may be discussed at the meeting. Not all items listed may, in fact, be discussed and other items not listed may also be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law.*

*The Berlin-Boylston Regional Public Schools do not discriminate on the basis of age, race, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, creed, disability, veteran status, genetic information, homelessness, or any other class protected by state or federal law.*

### Documents

Payroll and Payable Warrants

December 13, 2022, Open Meeting Minutes

December 22, 2022, Open Meeting Minutes

January 6, 2023, Budget, Facilities, and Safety Subcommittee Minutes

Student Report (MacKenzie)

Hiring Proces Timeline

Assistant Principal Job Description

Principal Job Description

Principal/Literacy Coordinator Job Description

Curriculum Director Job Description

MCAS Score Report (Middle & High School)

MCAS Score Report (Elementary)

A donation Check \$159.83 from CSB to BES

BBRSD SC Annual Report 2022

Surplus Item Report

Field Trip Paperwork Student Council to Cape Cod

BMS .5 Preschool Teacher Need Report

BMS LINK Inc. Letter for Scoreboard Donation

Respectfully Submitted,

Kristi Turgeon