Bourne Public Schools

BOURNE SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Regular Meeting Minutes

DATE: Wednesday, March 6, 2024
TIME: 6:30PM Regular Session
PLACE: Bourne High School Auditorium, 75 Waterhouse Rd., Bourne, MA

ATTENDANCE

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Emily Berry; Donel Beals; Maureen Fuller; Kari MacRae; Paul McMaster; Kerrie Scofield; Student Representative MacKenzie McMaster

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: Kendellynn Gagne

OTHER ATTENDEES PRESENT: Dr. Kerri Anne Quinlan-Zhou, Superintendent; Dr. Barbara Starkie, Assistant Superintendent of Learning and Teaching; Jordan Geist, Director of Business Services; Kristin Donahue, Director of Special Education and Student Services; Chris Oliver, Director of Technology

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

In recognition of Music in Our Schools Month, Lisa Fornier introduces music students from Grade 2-12 to sing “The Star-Spangled Banner” and “America the Beautiful”

2. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

All stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. PUBLIC INPUT

No public comments are made.

4. REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS

- **STUDENT ADVISORY REPORT,** *Anna Conlon and Sophia Sheehy, School Committee Student Representatives*
  - **Presentation/Report:** Student Spotlight: Bourne MIddle School presentation-Anna Conlon and Sophia Sheehy introduce Grade 8 students to share their experiences participating in the climate change documentary project and Civic Action Project. Students explained that they created documentaries to educate others about global climate issues and also based their Civic Action Projects on climate issues in order to create change in their local community. They walk through the process of the climate change documentary project including research, group roles, planning, script-writing, location scouting, filming, editing, and advertising their documentaries. The students shared clips of their documentaries. Next, the group shared the steps of their Civic Action Projects including examining themselves and their community, conducting research, interviewing community members, surveying and interviewing classmates, pitching ideas, research, developing action plans, and showcasing their work to the community.
- **CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT,** *Emily Berry, School Committee Chair*
  - Chair Berry makes the following announcements:
    - There will be 1-2 school committee seats available in the May election and anyone interested in learning more can join an informational zoom meeting next Thursday night, the link to the meeting will be emailed to all families.
    - Dr. Zhou has signed a contract to continue with the district for 5 more years.
    - Navigators Award nominations will open after April vacation. This year staff members can be nominated as well as students.
- **OPEN FY25 Budget Hearing per MGL Chapter 71, Section 38N**

Paul McMaster motions to close regular session and open FY25 Budget Hearing; Seconded by Maureen Fuller; Roll call vote passes 7-0-0

- **FY25 BUDGET HEARING,** *Dr. Kerri Anne Quinlan-Zhou, Superintendent of Schools*
  - Dr. Zhou introduces the FY25 proposed budget presentation noting that it will include information on Budget Development, Assumptions & Scenarios, Priorities, School/Program Specifics, Budget Summary & Snapshots, and Overall Recommendation.
  - Building principals present snapshots of what the budget will fund at each of their schools. Liz Carpenito, Lisa Dix and Melissa Cieto present the specifics of the site-based budget of $4,934,627 for Bournedale Elementary School. Jane Norton, Lisa Dix, and Amanda Kolby present the $4,407,153 site-based budget for Bourne Intermediate School. Christine Borning, Jessee Clements, and Kate Hartley present the $5,631,813 budget for Bourne Middle School. Lisa Maguire, Jessee Clements, and Kate Hartley present highlights of Bourne High School's $5,193,482 site-based budget.

- Dr. Zhou explains that proposed changes include net-neutral reallocations of staff based on student needs and eliminating activity and transportation fees.
- Dr. Starkie presents teaching and learning budget highlights.
- Chris Oliver walks through the $475,021 technology budget which supports infrastructure, equipment, and salaries.
- Kristin Donohue shares the key points of the special education budget.
- Jordan Geist presents a pie chart breakdown of the total FY25 BPS operating budget of $26,652,537 as well as $4,525,292 in offsets.
- Mr. Geist shares a summary of the entire FY25 budget.
    - Chair Berry asks why there is such an increase in fall sports. Mr. Geist says athletics are being planned with no user fees so the sports revolving fund is being spent down in order to take it over in a few years.
- Mr. Geist notes the $26,652,537 recommended operating budget represents a 2.83% ($734,174) increase over FY 2024 and shares the next steps in finalizing the budget.
- Maureen Fuller says she's proud this budget will continue strong programming without ESSER funds or activity and transportation fees and thanks administration for the work they put into it.

Paul McMaster motions to recommend the FY25 Budget; Seconded by Kerrie Scofield; Roll call vote passes 7-0-0

Paul McMaster motions to close the FY25 Budget Hearing and open regular session meeting; Seconded by Maureen Fuller; Roll call vote passes 7-0-0

- **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**, *Dr. Kerri Anne Quinlan-Zhou, Superintendent of Schools*
    - Announcements & Correspondence
        - Past and Upcoming Events Preview
            - BES-Dr. Zhou shares the final draft of the BES Vision. Liz Carpenito highlights events happening at BES including Read Across America Week, National School Breakfast Week, PTA Bournedale Boardwalk Evening, Science Guy assembly, STEAMposium, 2nd Grade Career Fair, and kindergarten registration.
            - BIS-Lisa Dix presents events taking place at BIS including Music in Our Schools Month, Read Across America Week, National School Breakfast Week, Mashpee Wampanoag presentation to Grade 3, BIS Friendship Club, Parenting Workshop series, PTA Candyland Dance, pickleball, BEF fundraiser event on March 16th, MCAS infrastructure trial, and STEAMposium.
            - BMS-Christine Borning says events taking place at BMS include a Read Across America spirit week (thanks to Sara Riggle for planning), a B2B challenge, Ruth Bluestone visit, METG Jr. auditions, Sewing Club, Yearbook Club, Art Club, Select Choir, Courtyard Club, PTA March Madness for Grade 6 and 7, and STEAMposium

- BHS-Mrs. Borning presents events at BHS including winter sports playoffs, METG Festival, All-State Music Festival, MCAS infrastructure trial, and state final DECA competition.
- District-wide - Month of the Military Child-Dr. Zhou says the governor's proclamation will be presented at Bourne Intermediate School. Date is TBD.

- Special topics:
  - BHS Costa Rica Trip-Dr. Maguire and Rand Pugh share details on the BHS Costa Rica trip including itinerary, safety protocols, and chaperones. MacKenzie McMaster thanks Mr. Pugh for all the hard work he put into organizing the trip.

Paul McMaster motions to approve BHS Costa Rica trip; Seconded by Kerrie Scofield; Voice vote passes 7-0-0

  - Dr. Zhou recognizes Music in Our Schools Month, Youth Art Month, Youth Theater Month, and National Reading Month. She shares the Bourne Celebrates Youth Art Month student art gallery new to the BPS website and highlights past and upcoming theater productions.
  - Dr. Zhou says the Strategic Planning Survey deadline will be extended one week to March 15th.
- Teaching and Learning Update
  - Student Opportunities Act Submission-Dr. Starkie explains that the Student Opportunities Act was created in 2019 and requires that schools fund particular programs for high needs students through an allocation of money out of the Chapter 70 money they already receive. She says they are seeking school committee permission to allocate SOA funds to retain a 3rd ELL teacher and shares data on the benefits of a 3rd ELL teacher.
    - Maureen Fuller asks if we have qualified substitutes in the event an ELL teacher is absent. Dr. Starkie says there are plans that a substitute could implement but it's difficult to find substitutes in general right now and it's also difficult to find EL-certified teachers.
    - Kerrie Scofield asks how many ELL students are in the district. Dr. Starkie answers there are 22 plus additional FEL students so currently 39 students are being serviced and tracked across the district.

Maureen Fuller motions to approve the submission of the Student Opportunities Act; Seconded by Paul McMaster; Roll call vote passes 7-0-0

  - Summer Enrichment-Dr. Starkie shares an informational flier on summer enrichment opportunities. She notes that those interested should sign up early as programs have caps. She says a credit recovery program will also be offered at BHS in the summer
- Technology Update
  - Chris Oliver says the Technology Committee met yesterday and discussed MASC policy recommendations including updates to current policies as well as new policies and agreed to move all policies forward to the Policy Subcommittee. The committee also continued discussions on technology integration and the best ways to support classroom teachers with technology.
- Student Services and Special Education Update

- Kristin Donahue reports that elements of the new IEP continue to be rolled out. She says they continue to work on SEPAC and the Federation for Children and there will be a presentation on the new IEP specific to families on March 20th and again in the summer. Mrs. Donahue thanks the Bourne Police Department for their donation of four to-go backpacks for nurses.

- **SCHOOL COMMITTEE SUB COMMITTEE & DISTRICT COMMITTEE REPORTS**
  - Curriculum Subcommittee
    - Chair Berry says topics have already been covered by Dr. Starkie
  - Policy Subcommittee
    - Chair Berry says the subcommittee met and discussed changes to Policy EFC regarding universal free school meals and they recommend approval by the full committee. She notes that they did not remove language on households needing to apply although BPS is not a district that collects household applications.

Maureen Fuller motions to approve Policy EFC-Universal Free School Meals; Seconded by Paul McMaster; Voice vote passes 7-0-0

    - Policy EFD regarding school lunch accounts was discussed but will need to be reviewed at the building level before being approved.
    - Policy KF-RKG-E regarding fees for field use is still being discussed with the town as they will be maintaining the baseball fields but soccer fields on school property will still need to be maintained. The district is looking into a fee schedule to charge for field use by town recreational groups.
  - Budget and Facilities Subcommittee
    - Paul McMaster says the subcommittee discussed the BMS roof and what needs to be done to remove the solar panels and replace the roof. He says they're looking at a budget item that could reach over 3 million dollars. He explains that there are a lot of variables and many routes they could go depending on what the town and MSBA will do to support the project. He says they will meet with FinCom this week to discuss it further and notes that it is going to be a major issue that everyone needs to be aware of.
  - SEPAC
    - Kristin Donahue says SEPAC met today and continued planning for the March 20th event.
  - Cape Cod Collaborative
    - Maureen Fuller says the Collaborative met on February 14th and planning is underway for the summer Advanced Student Leadership Program at MMA and applications are out to qualified students across the Cape. She says the Collaborative has facilitated some educator development opportunities, the first is for paraprofessionals with an associate's degree. She explains that Bridgewater State University is offering the opportunity for them to bring their coursework and transcripts to them and they will help determine what they still need to get certified. The other opportunity is for recent graduates or those in the workforce thinking about teaching to go to

Cape Cod Community College for a 2 year associates degree and, through the program, seamlessly transfer to BSU to get their teaching degree.

- District Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging Committee
  - Donel Beals says the DEIB Committee met on Monday and will have one group that will begin planning for the Bourne Celebrates Everyone event tentatively taking place on June 5th and another group will meet as a book club to read and discuss *Unconscious Bias in Schools.*
- District Technology Committee
  - Chris Oliver reports that since the last meeting they have gotten 300 new chromebooks out to students.

5. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- n/a

6. ACTION ITEMS

a. Vote to approve Warrants and Payroll

Paul McMaster motions to approve Warrants and Payroll; Seconded by Kerrie Scofield; Roll call vote passes 6-0-0 (MacKenzie McMaster not eligible to vote)

b. Vote to approve regular session minutes of: February 7, 2024

Kerrie Scofield motions to approve regular session minutes of February 7, 2024; Seconded by Maureen Fuller; Voice vote passes 7-0-0

c. Vote to approve Superintendent's contract through June 30, 2029

- Paul McMaster comments that approving a contract through 2029 shows that they see a vision, consistent leadership, investment in staff, and enrollment growing. He says this vote, and the vote to approve the FY25 budget, are about the growth and direction and leadership shown since Dr. Zhou has been at BPS. He speaks for the entire committee saying they're happy with the direction the district is moving in and congratulates and thanks Dr. Zhou for committing a large part of her career to the students and families of the district.

Paul McMaster motions to approve the Superintendent's contract through June 30, 2029 ; Seconded by Kerrie Scofield; Roll call vote passes 7-0-0

7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

a. Student Spotlight: BIS (April)
b. Final approval of BMS out of state/overnight field trips
c. Navigator Awards (May)
d. Student Spotlight: BES (June)

8. ADJOURN-*PAUL McMASTER MOTIONS TO ADJOURN; MAUREEN FULLER SECONDS; ROLL CALL VOTE PASSES 7-0-0*

Meeting ended at 8:30PM

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

Agenda Item	Document
0	School Committee Agenda

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

Jessica Moerman
Recording Secretary