



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

BERLIN-BOYLSTON REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Student Success and Technology Subcommittee

Tuesday, June 24th, 2025 2:00pm

Zoom Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81692989511>

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

Due to technical issues this meeting may not always stream live, but we will make every attempt to do so and to record the meeting for future posting.

The items listed on the agenda may be discussed out of order as the Chair decides due to potential scheduling and timing requirements.

Meeting Called to Order 2:01pm

Attendees: Elizabeth Mancini, Jessica Degliaberti, Al Ganem, Joseph Sposato, community attendee:
Jason Paquette

Meeting Minutes generated by J.Degliaberti on June 24, 2025

I. Call to Order

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Business Items

- **Joseph Sposato - Technology update- safety monitoring, parents' emailing, at home protections**

Joseph Sposato- Technology Update

Safety Monitoring/At Home Protections:

Looked at different options and services like Hapara, GoGuardian, Securly to see which offered current features of Blocksei/Free Version of Bark and desired additional services.

-Matched function parameters >>Securly (Same service + parental home options + classroom monitor teacher tools)

-User based, not device based. Different levels of control/access for different organizational units (Admin central, admin buildings, teachers, paras, students), has Penalty Box limiting access to Google Classroom, AI controllers and additional time constraints for attached parent accounts

-Estimate of cost Grade 3-12 # licenses, discounted overlap as Blocksei contract expires (Oct 2025)

-? Sept 26th, First Full PD for staff, ? soft-opening beginning of school year/?August 1st as background admin set-up allows, access for parents and staff to learn with asynchronous access to videos and also offer synchronous session with Joe after Staff PD day Sept 26th.

Parent Emailing:

-Outside district emails were blocked from 8th grade and down this spring due to safety concern

-Also, parent and students misusing email and circumventing school nurse, etc during school hours

-Concern that middle school grades 6-8 do not have ability to communicate about after school activities, etc with parents (currently blocked K-8th grade in urgent situation).

-Blocked avenue for parent communication with needed collaboration for school projects with students but also sharing projects completed with parents

-Student email access for parents is only selling point to delaying cell phone buying in middle school with after school sports

-Concern no blocked/error message to notify sender of bounced back email.

-Ability to created 'approval list of other emails via Power School' but depends on updated emails in PowerSchool and also issues of custodian parent, etc.

-Need for FULL School Committee Discussion about their desires of taking down block to K-5 (Dismissal Appt in placed at BES, etc) or other suggested range, or desire to allow parents only on "Approved list" from PowerSchool (not time consumer per Joe) >Aug 12 or Aug 26 School Committee Meeting

-Consideration for updating Technology Agreement to "Responsible Use Agreement" and consider making policy more required reading during parent sign offs and also hold student assemblies to go over technology use and sign it again in school; also possibly to include appropriate uses of student email communications (Not illness/school nurse related events- encourage to go to school nurse, etc).

- **Cell Phone Policy Exploration- Current Cell phone MA legislation, further steps in Community Norms, outreach to other schools, MA Attorney General Cell Phone Policy Handbook and possible video for Community Forum**

CELL PHONE Policy Exploration:

Current Cell Phone MA

legislation- <https://malegislature.gov/Bills/194/H720/BillHistory> and <https://malegislature.gov/Bills/194/S381>

Push to pass them before school starts and currently Bell to Bell policies

Outreach to other schools- so far no response to emails Jessica sent

Action Items:

Beth and Jessica to put together a Draft- Parent Survey for Full Committee Approval (812 or 8/26 meeting) to be sent out to parents with Start of the School emails [*Part of Strategic Plan/Superintendent Search, duplicate work*]

Reach out to MA Attorney General Office for possible video or powerpoint presentation with data regarding harm to children and importance of bill

Community Forum for Community Norms/Wait Until 8th/?Anxious Generation book discussion event at Elementary level and also middle school level

Agenda item for next FULL Committee Meeting- Parent Emails/Approval List/grades blocked and Securly Feature Discussion from Joe

Technology Agreement review/process by Admin

IV. Upcoming Meeting

• TBD

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.