

**BROOKLINE SCHOOL BOARD
JUNE 12, 2019
MEETING MINUTES**

A meeting of the Brookline School Board was conducted on Wednesday, June 12, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. at the Captain Samuel Douglass Academy.

Matthew Maguire, Chairman, presided:

Members of the Board Present: Kenneth Haag, Vice Chairman
 Rebecca Howie, Secretary
 Alison Marsano
 Erin Sarris

Members of the Board Absent:

Also in Attendance: Andrew Corey, Superintendent
 Gina Bergskaug, Assistant Superintendent
 Kristen Maher, Assistant Business Administrator
 Dennis Dobe, Principal, Captain Samuel Douglass Academy
 Daniel Molinari, Principal, Richard Maghakian Memorial School

AGENDA ADJUSTMENTS

Superintendent Corey requested flexibility with regard to the publicized times for agenda items noting the Board would hear from State Representatives and will visit the Science Fair.

CORRESPONDENCE/RESIGNATIONS/NOMINATIONS

Superintendent Corey informed the Board of a letter received from Dennis Dobe. In his letter, he states "It has been an honor and privilege to serve in your school district over the past five (5) years as the Principal of the Captain Samuel Douglass Academy (CSDA). During my tenure in the school our learning community has enjoyed many achievements and successes of which I am both proud and humbled. I will soon be entering the last year of my contract with the Brookline School District, and am writing to inform you that I will not seek an additional contract as the Principal of CSDA." He goes on to say "I intend to finish my educational career in the Upper Connecticut River Valley where my wife and I plan to retire." "I will always remember my time in Brookline as some of the very most rewarding and enjoyable in my career."

Superintendent Corey extended his gratitude to Principal Dobe for his service to the Brookline School District.

**MOTION BY MEMBER MARSANO TO ACCEPT, WITH REGRET, THE RESIGNATION OF DANIEL DOBE FROM THE POSITION OF PRINCIPAL AT THE CAPTAIN SAMUEL DOUGLASS ACADEMY, WITH AN EFFECTIVE DATE OF JUNE 30, 2020
MOTION SECONDED BY MEMBER SARRIS**

ON THE QUESTION

Chairman Maguire expressed his gratitude commenting on the significant progress that has been made over the past several years. He remarked the positive atmosphere in the building has been apparent, and he is sad to see him leave.

Principal Dobe thanked the Board for the support he has received over the years. He remarked the school and District has changed immeasurably over the past five years, and it has absolutely been the effort of a team that he has been proud to have been on.

MOTION CARRIED

5-0-0

Superintendent Corey noted the installation of the new security window. He thanked Kelly Seeley, Business Administrator, for her efforts to make that happen, and reminded the Board the cost was 80% funded through the State grant program.

Superintendent Corey introduced Senator Melanie Levesque and Representative Brett Hall.

PUBLIC INPUT

Becky Kellner, 7 Yankee Way

Spoke of the NH Statewide Assessment System (SAS) testing administered this spring to the 5th grade. Sadly, two of the four 5th grade classes were given the wrong exam for the entire week. They were asked to retake the exam resulting in lost hours of classroom curriculum and were unhappy with having to sit for the test again.

She spoke of the desire to engage in a discussion of procedures being put in place to ensure this does not occur in the future, and stated her appreciation of the time Principal Dobe took to respond to all of her questions, via email.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

Senator Melanie Levesque provided the Board with a handout (copy attached) containing information on the State budget as well as proposed legislation. The Senate has prepared its budget. The next step is for the House and Senate to collaborate in creating a budget to be presented to the Governor.

Highlights of the budget include an increased allocation towards education funding. In 2020, Brookline will receive \$121,364 in additional funds, and in 2021 Brookline will receive \$627,444. Full-day kindergarten is included in K-12 Average Daily Membership. Stabilization grants would be restored (some towns will receive an increase in funding. No town will receive less). Fiscal Capacity Disparity Aid has been included, which is separate from Adequacy and is allocated to municipalities with the lowest capacity to raise property tax revenue as long as the municipality's Median Family Income (from the most recent U.S. Bureau of the Census) is less than the state average.

A commission is looked for to study school funding.

Senator Levesque spoke of revenue sharing, which was done previously, but stopped several years ago. The idea is to allow for revenue sharing for a period of two years as a means of providing tax relief. Brookline would receive \$49,605 in each of the two years. Total funding to the Town of Brookline is \$848,000 for the two years.

Representative Brett Hall indicated the House version included \$160 million in additional public education funding for the State.

Senator Levesque remarked the Senate's budget appropriates less to education funding having the desire to also address many other areas requiring funding, e.g., mental health, DCYF.

Vice Chairman Haag questioned if stabilization grants are driving the increase in the allocation to Brookline. Senator Levesque indicated that information would be provided.

Ms. Marsano noted the figures cited were by town not the SAU.

Asked about the timeline for budget completion, Senator Levesque responded, ideally it would be the end of June. It should not go beyond July 30th. She spoke of the need for support of the budget.

Representative Hall noted the House version included a lot of the callouts from the Governor and his proposed budget as a means of reconciling and gaining support.

Asked how the recent court case regarding adequate education grant funding plays into the budget, Senator Levesque stated her intention to meet with Greenville, one of the communities involved in that lawsuit. Vice Chairman Haag noted the Court did not provide a mechanism for doing it, but indicated the need to address the issue. He questioned if the proposed budget is an attempt to address that. Senator Levesque responded with her belief this is not the answer. There is a commission that will be studying school funding, and the need to address it holistically.

Asked if he had any input on the budget, Representative Jack Flanagan stated he did not, and commented the House Committee of Conference doesn't include any Republicans. It is the first time that he can remember that being the case.

Senator Levesque stated the Committee of Conference is comprised of people that support the Bill. It was passed in both houses, and now they need to iron out the differences. Were there someone on the committee that did not work towards that goal, they could end up with no budget.

Representative Flanagan responded those statements are truthful. However, there is the House position and the Senate position, and if you don't uphold the Senate or House position, the Speaker or Senate President can simply remove you. Over time, they will flip the people who will vote in the affirmative. There is the assumption they won't get any Republican votes. It may or may not be true. He believes everyone is planning on a continuing resolution, which means the existing budget will continue based on the fact they cannot come to an agreement.

Representative Flanagan stated House Bill 709 (HB 709) deals with the Sustainability Grants. It was retained in Committee, which means it did not pass or fail. Through HB 709, Brookline is supposed to receive, over the next two years, approximately \$600,000 in additional funding.

Ms. Marsano noted HB 709 reads in part: “ Provides stabilization grants to municipalities in fiscal year 2020 and repeals the grants in fiscal year 2021 and thereafter.”, which indicates the grant is for a single year. Representative Flanagan stated his understanding it covers a two-year period. He agreed with the numbers Senator Levesque cited.

Chairman Maguire requested clarification on HB 564, which prohibits the carrying of a firearm in a safe school zone. He specifically noted that would conflict with Federal law. Senator Levesque stated the way it was amended would allow school boards to have meetings with constituents, including students, and determine, as a body, who can and who cannot carry a firearm on school property. She cautioned that will probably not make it through Committee of Conference. The will is really to go back to the way it was initially proposed, which is on a state-wide basis, that all schools would be considered gun free school zones that would also allow some people, designated by the school board, to carry.

Chairman Maguire commented there would likely still be districts that address the situation differently. He spoke of the likelihood a district policy could go against Federal laws. Senator Levesque spoke of a bill that was put in place that would get rid of the gun free zones in the State.

Ms. Sarris remarked for a State that prides itself on local control, this is an area where we have been explicitly told we do not have local control over the issue. Regardless of how people feel about the Federal Gun Free School Zone Act, it would be nice to have the ability to have that discussion without being concerned with breaking the law.

Representative Flanagan remarked a lot of times, in Concord, there is sort of that mentality of we know better. He stated agreement school districts may want Resource Officers and/or teachers to be armed.

A number of years ago, he co-sponsored a bill dealing with foster children; that they cannot be moved from the school district, even with a Court Order, until the schools are involved in a transition plan. A lot of districts were outside of urban areas, and there was no funding for transportation, e.g., if the school felt the student would be better off in the city school for the remainder of the year, they didn't have the money to transport them from the new foster home to the school. That bill was retained. Included in the bill was \$300,000 for districts to draw from when appropriate.

The law changed to include children in crisis and perhaps juvenile delinquents to where the schools are more involved in the educational plans for those students. He stated his hope that bill will pass to allow the school districts to free up some funds to be able to make those education decisions not just based on the needs of the child, but also any financial issues that may come from it.

Senator Levesque responded to the comment of “we know better” noting one of the things she has found is that being in the Senate she has an opportunity to listen to a lot of advocates for particular issues. There is the opportunity to hear from both sides. There are times when bills are tweaked to address the feedback provided. Feedback received from advocates of HB 564 was that they were not happy with the changes in the bill.

Senator Levesque spoke of SB 104, which deals with the postponement of an election. It addresses the issue the district encountered a few years ago due to inclement weather. She spoke of SB 82, which is relative to food & nutritional programs, and requires schools to make at least one free or reduced lunch meal available to children who meet Federal eligibility guidelines and increases the reimbursement to schools offering breakfast.

Representative Flanagan spoke of changes in minimum wage, increases in Worker's Compensation premiums (5-20%), and changing energy bills, which may increase energy costs (net metering). A bill just passed the House last week dealing with mandatory coverage for fertilization. Debate on the floor indicated it would result in premiums going up another 5%.

Chairman Maguire spoke of the Board's concern over the growing retirement costs that have to be contributed to at the Town level, e.g., HB 616 relative to a cost of living adjustment for retirees in the state retirement system. Senator Levesque stated that passed; an increase of 1.5% for anyone retired for more than 5 years and receiving \$50,000 or less. She supported this, and would like to understand how it impacts the towns. She has requested the Legislative Budget Analyst provide a breakdown.

Representative Flanagan spoke of a debate on the House floor dealing with requirements of school districts to provide female hygiene products. There is the constitutional argument that if the State is going to provide a mandate they have to pay for it. Senator Levesque stated her position those products can be provided and included in the budget under toiletry supplies. She spoke of the bill having been brought by a young high school student who experienced this and was aware of others as well. Representative Flanagan commented the testimony heard on the House floor was that some young girls might not go to school because it was a problem. He believes the process was faulted by not providing the funding.

VISIT TO SCIENCE FAIR

The Board attended the Science Fair.

RECESS

MOTION BY MEMBER HAAG THAT THE BOARD RECESS UNTIL THE CONCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC HEARING ON THE SCHOOL BUILDING MAINTENANCE EXPENDABLE TRUST FUND

MOTION SECONDED BY MEMBER MARSANO

MOTION CARRIED

4-0-0

Ms. Sarris was not in the room at the time the vote was taken.

The Board recessed at 7:03 p.m.

The Board reconvened at 7:13 p.m.

PRINCIPALS' REPORT

There being no objection, the Board went out of the regular order of business to take up the matter of the Food Pantry Project.

- Food Pantry Project

Principal Molinari welcomed four of the 3rd grade math students from the Richard Maghakian Memorial School (RMMS) and the Math Specialist, Lisa Winters.

Last year the students began a project where they tracked how much water is saved by the new water fountains in the school. Their findings can be viewed along the Learning Commons. Having the desire to see how they could help support the community they set out to determine what some of the needs were.

Lisa Winters, Math Specialist, stated this year she proposed to the group the idea of the food pantry. The students embraced the project. It has been a great learning opportunity and resulted in a great deal of good for the Brookline and Hollis communities as recipients of the food pantry.

The students provided a presentation (can be viewed [here](#); tape counter 1:17:25). The presentation addressed where the food was collected from, e.g., Halloween parade, Ice Cream Social. They spoke of the calculations involved; 1) sort the food into categories, 2) list number of items per category, 3) identify # of ounces/category donated, 4) convert into pounds, and 5) convert into meals (each meal is 1.2 pounds).

The students conducted a field trip to the Food Pantry in November. They were provided a tour of the pantry and were impressed with how organized it was, the fact there was more than just food, and the amount of food inside. In May, they conducted another field trip to the Food Pantry, where they took inventory and discovered there was more stock than was the case in their previous tour. They did some shopping, accompanied by their teacher, Lisa Talcott. The students filled two orders for those who go to the Food Pantry.

Provided was a detailed/monthly list of the amount of food donated, its weight, the number of meals it equated to, etc.

Vice Chairman Haag asked for their thoughts on why April was the biggest month. The response was because of the Great Day Friendly Competition; prize was an extra recess. They finished out with 462 items.

Principal Molinari recognized Mrs. Winters for not only being the VFW Teacher of the Year, but also one of the 23 finalists for the State Teacher of the Year.

The Board returned to the regular order of business.

- Eagle Scout Project

Principal Dobe spoke of the school-wide STEM project, which entails an improvement of the trail system in Captain's Wood; rerouting trails, creating new trails, and water crossings. He introduced Life Scout Matthew Frye whose Eagle Scout project will complement the school's work. Life Scout Fry provided a presentation on his proposed Eagle Scout project. The project consists of the construction of a 15' bridge having 3' ramps on each side. During the project, he will oversee approx. 18 volunteers. When complete, the bridge will help facilitate classes or after-school activities in the area.

A professional opinion was sought as to whether the design of the bridge will support the intended use(s). That professional has volunteered to provide guidance during the construction project. All materials and labor for the project will be donated.

Vice Chairman Haag questioned the timeline for the project stating his assumption it is best to wait until the area is a little less wet. Life Scout Fry noted his Eagle Board Review on the 2nd Tuesday in July. It is at that meeting where he will seek approval for his project. It is likely the project will take place around the middle to end of July.

Chairman Maguire questioned and was informed of the various trail uses, e.g., bicycles, walking, used for an evacuation trail, if needed.

Asked if it would be handicap accessible, Life Scout Fry stated it would.

End-of-Year Presentation

Principal Molinari spoke of the presentation provided in September, which identified the goals for the school year. The current presentation (copy provided with the [agenda](#)) was intended as a year in review; an opportunity to walk the Board and viewing audience through the school year.

The theme this year and going forward is HB1 Community. Principal Molinari spoke of the District-wide writing committee intended to align the practices between Hollis and Brookline. Safety practices have also been aligned. He noted the four areas of focus; infrastructure, being future ready, essential standards, and habits of learning noting they are working towards the continuation of alignment across the District Pre-K-12.

Goals

Infrastructure

Partner and collaborate with emergency services to further the continuity of emergency response procedures and best practices for school safety.

- Emergency Operation Plan (EOP) district alignment

The State required all schools to provide an EOP by September 1st.

- Building Security Grant Projects

Principal Molinari went over some of the security upgrades incorporated over the past year, e.g., door annunciation security panel, laminate film placed on all windows and doors (both schools). At RMMS, they were able to get classroom walkie talkies for each teacher. On all phones at RMMS, they put a page system. Any time there is the need for an all call announcement over the intercom, any teacher can press a button and speak over the intercom.

- Safety Committee
- JLMC Safety Security audit & action plan

- BFD & NHDOE Inspections
- PD, Preparation, and Practice Continues with Staff – Homeland Security, FEMA Training
- Collaborate with emergency services

At RMMS, they conducted 7 emergency response safety drills, practiced 2 evacuation drills, completed 9 fire drills, and 1 lockdown. They assessed the 59 school safety preparedness response recommendations (from the State), completed a fire drill without the use of walkie talkies, held 9 Emergency Management Safety Committee meetings, 100% of professional staff completed the ICS 100 training and each grade level had 2 opportunities to have lunch on Fridays with the Hometown Heroes.

Principal Dobe commented on the similarities with the work conducted over the year. He spoke of work done to update the Emergency Operation Plan, in addition to work on the Reunification Plan. That was the part of the whole emergency preparedness formula that really needed work; if ever needing to leave the campus, get on the buses and go over to the safety complex, then what? How would we manage that incredibly complex and difficult situation? They were able to bring the safety team out to the fire station and safety complex to get the lay of the land, obtain maps, and illustrate to them such that they know what their routes will be, what each area will be used for, what function of the reunification process, etc. They know what they will be working on next year, which will have a great deal to do with parent education and conducting a mock reunification process at the fire station. It will be done in the fall in connection with an offsite evacuation drill.

Principal Molinari echoed the remarks that along with the reunification plan, one of the things the District needs to do is educate the community on how the District will respond to that. Different options will be considered, e.g., communicate through a brochure or a presentation at an Open House.

Academic

Academic Program Development for Reading, Writing, and Social Studies; Adoption of Instructional and Assessment Best Practices for these Curriculum Areas.

- Develop/Refine Trajectories, Units of Study, Scope/Sequence
- Increased Achievement
- Professional Development - (TLA, Writing Units of Study)
- Develop/Select Universal Screening Tool

Principal Dobe noted the goals are multi-year goals, and the desire is to share some of the objectives that have been met. As an example, he noted mathematics is not listed under the academic goal; however, the District continues to refine the implementation of the math program and study assessment data related to math and make adjustments to the program. This year the focus was on reading, writing, and social studies. Some work was done at the local level on reading and social studies, however, there remains a long way to go. The District will be partnering with its sister schools within SAU 41 on curriculum projects in those areas next year under the leadership of the Assistant Superintendent.

What was worked on this year, primarily, was writing. CSDA utilized the support of a literacy consultant and brought teachers together from all four elementary schools in the SAU to work on refining the writing standards, implementation practices, and resources.

Presented was a chart depicting the results of the NH SAS testing. A review is underway to determine why there was a dip in the results. It is believed there is a high possibility that is a result of the testing process this year.

Ms. Marsano commented on her recollection that each year she has reviewed these results it appears that 5th grade experiences a reduction. She questioned whether there is simply a natural dip in that age group. They seem to bounce right back in 6th grade.

Principal Molinari commented in past presentations where the State average has been included, it showed a reduction in the 5th grade category as well. Assistant Superintendent Bergskaug commented on her belief another contributing factor is looking at the standards at every grade level and whether they are allocated in the best possible way for grade 5. There is perhaps just too much of a jump for that grade. The test is adaptive, but tests within the grade level standards, which makes you question those standards given consistently across the State, 5th grade takes a bit of a dip.

Ms. Sarris spoke of the different tests that have been administered over the past several years, and asked if the standards of what is proficient is similar for the Smarter Balanced Assessment (SBA) and the NH SAS. Assistant Superintendent Bergskaug responded they would argue they are comparable. Prior to that was the NECAP, which was not comparable at all. However, within the years of taking the SBA, the District went from the paper and pencil test to one year of the computer adaptive test, and then switching over to NH SAS. SBA was a consortium where the averages were across multiple states across the country, and now we are looking at an average just in New Hampshire. Just with that, it is not 100% comparable despite the fact that the scales are supposed to be comparable. With the NH SAS the questions were not normed ahead of time; they were given to the students last year for the first time and reported out on. Typically questions are tested ahead of time.

Vice Chairman Haag noted the downward trend on the ELA scores, and questioned if there is concern in that area. Principal Dobe commented it is a relative dip. Students are still performing at high levels; not as high as they had on this test last year. They are concerned any time there is not seen a steady trajectory of improvement.

Assistant Superintendent Bergskaug remarked in terms of program implementation, as was mentioned earlier, the bulk of this year was spent working diligently on revamping writing K-6. The ELA is a two-hour test on reading and then a two-hour writing prompt. The new writing program is being implemented beginning in September. She stated her hope after they are all on the same page with the same rubrics and really moving forward with a more robust program, that the results in ELA scores will show that work.

Principal Dobe spoke of programs being interdisciplinary. What was not included was the recent results in the science portion of the test that the 5th grade students took. Last year the students did really well, and this year gained 8 points. Seventy-five percent of the students are proficient or above in science. The State average is 39%. Some of this is where you put your energy because there is only so much time. In the last few years there has been a heavy investment in STEM.

Chairman Maguire questioned if the tests are given at the same time of the year, and was informed they are.

Assistant Superintendent Bergskaug commented at CSDA they do math first. Because the question is after a whole lot of reading are we burnt out for math. Over the years, CSDA has chosen to select the math test first where RMMS does it last. The testing window is from March to June.

Ms. Sarris spoke of the 5th grade cohort and questioned if there were any students that opted out this year; were there any factors noticed that might have contributed. Principal Dobe remarked unfortunately, there was an error made in the test administration process for a few of the 5th grade classes. It was not realized until too late. Part of that was because of the delay in the uploading of the results. They were unable to access those results as early as desired and some were missing, which made them question. The prior week they had the same experience with 4th grade and they appeared. They had not realized there were a couple of classes taking the wrong test until it was much too late. The students had not taken the required test; the summative assessment. They had taken an interim assessment; a benchmark assessment like the NWEA. There were two classes that essentially completed two sections and were then asked to take it again a few weeks later.

There were some opt outs on the second round that were not in place in the first round. He heard from a colleague that knows the system quite well, that when people opt out it counts as a zero against your average. That might have played into this. There were more opt outs this year than in the past, and particularly in those two classes in the 5th grade. Test fatigue certainly could have contributed although there was no indication of that when the students took the test.

Personalized Learning

Principal Molinari commented on how well the District has done with trying to meet students where they are and moving them forward. Also exposing them to new opportunities. Some of the examples are:

- Develop and Implement a STEM Continuum Based on National & State Standards
- Continued Implementation of performance tasks for STEM, Project Based Learning, and Problem-Based Learning.
- STEM – District Curriculum Continuum
- Innovation Centers (i.e. - Learning Commons)
- Family STEM Fair Videos/Photos
- Increased partnership with Coop students
- Workshop model and center sharing
- Continue Community Events (Family Night / STEM Expo)

They are still working on some of the areas. This year the focus was on writing. In the area of District Curriculum Continuum for example, the desire is to ensure common standards throughout the STEM curriculum.

Whole Child Education

Expansion of Whole Child Education Model to Include Development and Implementation of a Socio-Emotional Learning Program.

- School & District SEL Committees

- SEL Program Study
- Research survey instruments and other data tools
- Communication Systems Across District – School Counselors/ Health rubrics, RTI flow chart, SST Action Plans
- Student and Staff Wellness Programs
- Refine Student Activities Programming
- Attendance Team

Addressing 2019 upgrades to facilities and security, Principal Dobe identified the following items: At CSDA, gym floor resurfacing, exterior door maintenance, painting projects, security grant projects (thumb locks, gate extension bollards), pruning/landscaping, trail enhancements, and bottle filling stations.

At RMMS, the needs were identified as the gym bathroom floors, playground, painting, and the outdoor classroom. Principal Molinari spoke of the ability to do a playground over the summer. It will be a community build (Pettinelli & Associates, Vermont, will send three supervisors to be on hand to help with the build). The robotics club has volunteered to assist as well.

In terms of budgetary objectives, Principal Molinari spoke of the need to keep on the radar, roof replacement at RMMS. At CSDA, site/erosion work, replacement of tile ramp flooring, and continued exterior door maintenance/replacement.

District-wide budgetary objectives include full-day kindergarten and the addition of a 0.8 Curriculum Administrator.

A list was provided of the policies reviewed and adopted in the current school year. Principals Dobe and Molinari met with the nurses in Brookline and discussed the procedures around the policy on life threatening food allergies. There has been discussion of coffee in the school and coconut that was on the list this year. They looked to align practices with the nurses throughout the District, and have come to agreement they will allow commercial coffee in the school and will be able to take coconut off the ingredient list. They looked to stay in line with the Hollis School District as well. They have talked to local pediatricians. Nobody has a coconut allergy right now. If there is a situation that comes up, that will be revisited.

A chart was displayed of the class size goal. Great progress has been made in trying to keep the numbers down.

Photos were shown of the different aspects of the outdoor classroom.

DISCUSSION

- Revenue and Expense Report / Review of Special Education Trust Fund

Kristen Maher, Assistant Business Administrator, noted the report provided with the agenda is a snapshot in time (as of 6-5-19). She noted changes since last reported, e.g., in the area of special education, the department has released encumbrances they now know will not be needed. A lot of that is related to outside transportation. As of 6-5-19, the amount available to be returned to the tax base is \$106,745 (when last reported was a negative number).

Superintendent Corey commented because of where the numbers are at this point, there is no need to expend from the Special Education Trust Fund.

DELIBERATIONS

There being no objection, the Board went out of the regular order of business to take up deliberation on the Data Governance Plan.

- To see what action the Board will take regarding the approval of the Data Governance Plan required by HB 1612

Assistant Superintendent Bergskaug spoke of the presentation provided during the last meeting. She noted Policy EHAB, which is before the Board for a first reading, and is viewed as a summary of the Data Governance Plan. The Governance Plan is required by law to be approved by June 30th. It is a draft, and can be amended as necessary. In such an event, it would be brought before the Board for approval. RFPs are being worked on for the network and security audits.

MOTION BY MEMBER MARSANO TO APPROVE THE DATA GOVERNANCE PLAN FOR HB 1612, AS PRESENTED

MOTION SECONDED BY MEMBER HOWIE

MOTION CARRIED

5-0-0

The Board returned to the regular order of business.

- To see what action the Board will take regarding granting the Superintendent the ability to hire, accept resignations, and terminate staff during the summer months

Superintendent Corey remarked, as the Board typically does not meet in the month of July, there is traditionally a motion made to authorize the Superintendent to hire, accept resignations, and terminate staff during the summer months. The Board is kept apprised of any such actions.

MOTION BY MEMBER HAAG TO AUTHORIZE THE SUPERINTENDENT TO HIRE, ACCEPT RESIGNATIONS, AND TERMINATE STAFF DURING THE SUMMER MONTHS BEGINNING AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE SCHOOL BOARD'S JUNE MEETING, AND REQUIRE NOTIFICATION TO THE BOARD OF SUCH ACTIONS

MOTION SECONDED BY MEMBER SARRIS

MOTION CARRIED

5-0-0

- To see what action the Board will take regarding the Business Administrator's recommendation regarding the School Building Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund

CSDA	Replace Building Wireless	\$20,000
	Playground Study	5,000 (to develop an improvement plan)
	Exterior Doors	5,000
	Cameras - 20% of Grant	9,236 (still on the PSIF waiting list)
	Server	<u>7,500</u>
		\$46,736

RMMS	Playground – Phase 2	\$ 10,000
	Gym Bathroom Flooring	9,000
	Boiler Replacement	8,500
	Cameras - 20% of Grant	8,553 (still on the PSIF waiting list)
	Server	<u>7,500</u>
		\$ 43,553

Total \$ 90,289

Current Balance:	\$94,543
To be add in FY20:	50,000
FY20 Expenditures:	<u>90,289</u>
Resulting Balance:	\$54,254

MOTION BY MEMBER HOWIE TO AUTHORIZE THE EXPENDITURE OF AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED NINETY THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED EIGHTY-NINE DOLLARS (\$90,289) FROM THE SCHOOL BUILDING MAINTENANCE EXPENDABLE TRUST FUND FOR THE PURCHASE OF THE MAINTENANCE ITEMS IDENTIFIED DURING THE PUBLIC HEARING

MOTION SECONDED BY MEMBER MARSANO

MOTION CARRIED

5-0-0

- To see what action the Board will take regarding the Business Administrator's recommendation regarding the Special Education Trust Fund

As was noted by the Superintendent, there is no longer a need for Board action on this item.

- To see what action the Board will take regarding Policy JH - Attendance, Absenteeism and Truancy

1st Reading: 3/27/19

2nd Reading 4-17-19 (as amended)

Given its third reading;

Principal Dobe noted the elimination of language relative to requiring a note from a medical provider when a student is out for 5 or more consecutive days due to illness. Also removed is language relative to excusing up to 6 days of vacation or educational opportunity each year.

Ms. Marsano questioned the rationale for eliminating language that was previously presented as being encouraged. Principal Dobe stated the desire to align the policy with that of the Hollis School District and the desire to follow through with the excused absences identified at the beginning of the policy. Ms. Sarris commented by including the language it could provide the impression 6 excused days is an allowance rather than at the discretion of the Principal. There is other wording that allows for such instances without identifying a specific number of days.

Ms. Sarris questioned deleting the NHSBA Note.

The Board agreed with removal of that “Note”.

MOTION BY MEMBER SARRIS TO AMEND POLICY JH - ATTENDANCE, ABSENTEEISM AND TRUANCY, IN ITS ENTIRETY, BY REPLACING IT WITH THE COPY PROVIDED WITH THE AGENDA, FURTHER AMEND BY REMOVING THE “NHSBA NOTE” AT THE END OF THE POLICY, AND ACCEPT THE THIRD READING, AS AMENDED

MOTION SECONDED BY MEMBER HAAG

MOTION CARRIED

5-0-0

- To see what action the Board will take regarding Policy IMG –Animals in the Classroom
Given its first reading;

Principal Molinari noted the policy was before the Board for a first reading. The policy was last adopted in 2012. Language is proposed to be added relative to service dogs.

Ms. Marsano questioned the language regarding unauthorized animals not being permitted in school buildings or on school grounds. She was uncertain where the Town stands on this issue.

Superintendent Corey stated the problem faced is that the District is responsible for the school grounds. Were an animal to cause harm to an individual on school grounds, the Board could be named in a suit.

Ms. Marsano spoke of her recollection there is signage regarding requiring a lease. Superintendent Corey remarked one of the reasons for bringing the policy back before the Board is the understanding it is an adopted policy that does not align. If the Board was of the desire to require animals to be leashed, that could be decided or referred back to the Policy Committee for a recommendation.

MOTION BY MEMBER MARSANO TO ACCEPT THE FIRST READING OF POLICY IMG –ANIMALS IN THE CLASSROOM, AS PRESENTED

MOTION SECONDED BY MEMBER HOWIE

MOTION CARRIED

5-0-0

- To see what action the Board will take regarding Policy EHAB – Data Governance and Security
Given its first reading;

Superintendent Corey noted it was the first reading of a policy that represents a summary of the Data Governance Plan. As the draft continues to be revised, the policy will have to be flexible. He believes the policy covers all of the requirements and provides them in a format that can be easily understood.

The following amendment was offered:

Page 2, last sentence of the third paragraph; delete “will” following “procedures”

Page 2, first sentence in the fourth paragraph “Officer” should be plural

Page 3, 2nd paragraph; insert a period at the end

MOTION BY MEMBER HAAG TO ACCEPT THE FIRST READING OF POLICY EHAB – DATA GOVERNANCE AND SECURITY, AS AMENDED

MOTION SECONDED BY MEMBER MARSANO

MOTION CARRIED

5-0-0

- To see what action the Board will take regarding Policy JICL - School District Internet Access for Students

Given its first reading;

Principal Dobe stated there to be no changes proposed.

MOTION BY MEMBER MARSANO TO ACCEPT THE FIRST READING OF POLICY JICL - SCHOOL DISTRICT INTERNET ACCESS FOR STUDENTS, AS PRESENTED

MOTION SECONDED BY MEMBER HAAG

MOTION CARRIED

5-0-0

- To see what action the Board will take regarding Policy DJB – Purchasing Procedures

Given its first reading;

Superintendent Corey stated the policy to be new and puts in writing the policy that has been used when purchasing for Federal grants, etc. In line with the requirements of the Federal Assurances, the State is requesting the District have policies around purchasing procedures.

MOTION BY MEMBER HOWIE TO ACCEPT THE FIRST READING OF POLICY DJB – PURCHASING PROCEDURES, AS PRESENTED

MOTION SECONDED BY MEMBER MARSANO

MOTION CARRIED

5-0-0

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**MOTION BY MEMBER MARSANO TO ACCEPT, AS PRESENTED
MOTION SECONDED BY MEMBER SARRIS
MOTION CARRIED**

4-0-1

Member Haag Abstained

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**MOTION BY MEMBER SARRIS TO ACCEPT, AS PRESENTED
MOTION SECONDED BY MEMBER MARSANO
MOTION CARRIED**

4-0-1

Member Haag Abstained

Ms. Sarris stated a desire to receive more specifications around the change of procedure for the standardized test. Principal Dobe stated the District will continue to participate in all training that is available. They spend time on team level Professional Learning Community (PLC) meetings getting ready, discuss the issue in correspondence to staff and online training prepared by the publishers of the test. They administered the test last year flawlessly. In the future, there will be no chances taken/no assumptions made. He stated he would go around and look at the students’ and teachers’ computers.

There are 5 different options of tests you can choose that are available during the testing window. Principal Molinari stated the interim test, on the home screen, with the way it is formatted, looks very similar to the summative. The online training shows users how to administer the interim.

Asked if feedback has been provided to the supplier of the test. Principal Dobe indicated he notified the State.

Ms. Sarris commented there is a great deal at stake, and it starts to replant that seed about testing among parents. There could be a ripple effect of opt-outs, etc. The Board needs to be prepared for that and realize there can be a long-term repercussion of this unfortunate situation.

Superintendent Corey stated agreement over the testing component and the anxiety it creates for students. He commented he struggles because it is one data point, and the Board saw in two different presentations what is more important. When he walks around the Science Fair he views the students’ soft skills. To have to stand up and present will never be captured there. Some of the students who do poorly on the tests and very well in the other forum may be more successful in life. For the four young students who presented their project, community service was incorporated into education as well as public speaking.

There is a cost associated with the testing, and he questions if that funding could be better used elsewhere.

NON-PUBLIC SESSION

MOTION BY MEMBER MARSANO THAT THE BOARD, BY ROLL CALL, GO INTO NON-PUBLIC SESSION PURSUANT TO RSA 91-A:3 II (a) THE DISMISSAL, PROMOTION OR COMPENSATION OF ANY PUBLIC EMPLOYEE AND RSA 91-A:3, II (c) TO DISCUSS A MATTER, WHICH IF DISCUSSED IN PUBLIC, WOULD LIKELY AFFECT ADVERSELY THE REPUTATION OF A PERSON, OTHER THAN A MEMBER OF THE BODY OR AGENCY ITSELF

MOTION SECONDED BY MEMBER SARRIS

A Viva Voce Roll Call was conducted, which resulted as follows:

Yea: Kenneth Haag, Rebecca Howie, Alison Marsano, Erin Sarris, Matthew Maguire

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Nay:

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MOTION CARRIED

The Board went into non-public session at 8:48 p.m.

The Board came out of non-public session at 8:54 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION BY MEMBER MARSANO TO ADJOURN

SECONDED BY MEMBER SARRIS

MOTION CARRIED

5-0-0

The June 12, 2019 meeting of the Brookline School Board was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Date _____ Signed _____