

## **BEDFORD SCHOOL COMMITTEE**

**October 27, 2020**

### **Live Virtual Online Meeting using ZOOM Audio/Video Conference Software**

***\*\* Due to the COVID-19 Crisis, this meeting was live-streamed over the internet using ZOOM video/audio conferencing software in order to adhere with social distancing measures put in place by Governor Baker. This meeting was open to the public for live chat during Public Comment.***

#### **1. Call to Order**

At 7:01 pm, Mr. Brosgol called to order the meeting of the Bedford School Committee. Other members present included Mr. Morrison, Ms. Guay, Ms. Kirrane and Ms. Joann Santiago. Ms. Scoville, Dr. Clifford arrived at 7:04 PM

#### **2. Comments from Public**

*Public comment is available through the webinar feature of Zoom™.*

*Participants are instructed to use the "raise hand" function in the software and add their name using the "chat" function. Mr. Conrad will invite the panelist into the webinar and each person is allowed three minutes to comment.*

Erica Callahan  
Whitmor Drive

Ms. Callahan voiced concern about too many students assigned to a classroom on remote learning days and support for students with IEP's. Asked if Cohort C could be opened up to allow more students to attend school in person to receive more support.

Carey Sclafani  
Carlisle Road

Ms. Sclafani asked if more students can be allowed to attend school more than two days. Asked that the hybrid model be re-evaluated. Social emotional concerns for younger students

Holly Munsie  
Lexington Circle

Ms. Munsie voiced that safety needs to be top priority when thinking about getting students back into school. All grades don't need to be back in full time as that would cause many to choose the all remote option. However, she understands that need for those struggling to get more in person time if it is safe to do so.

Rebecca Lee & Daniel Lin  
Shire Lane

Ms. Lee stated that her older student is adjusting to remote learning, her younger student is struggling. One size fits all remote model isn't working, Asked for reevaluation of the model to offer young learners other options.

Jessica landiorio  
Balsam Drive

Ms. landiorio voiced concern for younger learners. She stated that they have issues navigating devices because they can't read then they become frustrated and can't focus when working alone. Parents are juggling their own work and having to help to keep children on task. Not a positive learning environment.

Mark Bailey  
Woodland Rd

Mr. Bailey is grateful for all that is being done. Awaiting a safe option to have children return in person.

Corrine Garrett  
Reid Lane

Ms. Garrett thanked all the teachers for what they are doing but voiced concern for the younger students and those students with IEP's. They need more support than they are getting especially on remote learning days. Parents are having difficulties keeping children on task because they don't want to do the work, not that they can't do the work.

Christina Miller  
Temple terrace

Ms. Miller voiced concern about how much time parents are having to spend to help their child/children with their work when they themselves have work to do. Younger students are struggling with asynchronous learning. Creates stress and frustration for everyone in the household. SPED students need more support.

Erin & Jeremy Kaznocha  
Dunster Road

Mr. Kaznocha stated that he is happier with the work that is being turned out compared to the spring when things were first shut down. Happy with the progress his child is making and the content of the material that is being covered.

### 3. Superintendent's Report

Mr. Conrad reported COVID increase, town is now in the yellow zone. BHS did contact tracing all weekend after new cases were identified at Bedford High School, to determine if a shift to the remote learning model is necessary. Praised teachers for all the hard work they doing. Spoke about opening and candidate search for a Human Resources Coordinator. Also spoke about Davis conducting a mock school election, Lane trying to work on reducing students screen time. BHS trip to Amazon postponed until 2022. Still awaiting 173 chrome books to arrive and introduced student representative Ryan Doucette to the School Committee. Ryan will join all meetings starting Tuesday, November 10, 2020.

### 4. Personnel Report

Mr. Conrad reviewed the Personnel report with the members of the School Committee, which included the following:

#### Resignations:

Robin Davidian	1.0 Human Resources Specialist	Central Office
Michael Powderly	1.0 COVID Coverage Teaching Assistant	BHS
Casey Thomas	1.0 Special education Teaching Assistant/Beh. Tech	Lane

#### Transfers:

#### Retirements:

#### Appointments:

Pamela Baldrate	0.75 Educational Assistant	Davis
Annie Gerrard	0.5 Interim Special Education Teaching Asst. (1 Year)	BHS
Sara MacDonald	1.0 Special Education Teaching Assistant	JGMS
Elizabeth McCarthy	0.5 COVID Adjustment Counselor (1 Year)	BHS/JGMS
Karen Siddiqui	0.8 Academic Achievement Ctr. Teaching Asst.	BHS

### 5. Surplus of Tangible Goods

Ms. Kirrane stated that although the topic was on the agenda she had nothing to report and asked that the item be passed over and the next agenda item be introduced.

### 6. Capital Budget Presentation

Ms. Kirrane and Mr. Taissir Alani presented the Capital Budget Presentation to the School Committee. They spoke about all the upgrades that have taken place at all schools, along with IT needs and plans for current and future budgetary needs in the district

## **7. BPS Literacy Plan**

Dr. Clifford presented the BPS Literacy Plan to the School Committee. She gave a brief description of the literacy plan and touched on track my progress and DIBELS data. This same data and information will be shared with families in the coming day/weeks.

## **8. Phased Re-Opening Discussion**

All the committee members engaged in a discussion about reevaluating the current hybrid model and make improvements where appropriate. Also all Principals, Director of Special Education and the Superintendent's office are discussing all the possible options to get more students in person. One option identified is creating a specialized sub separate group Cohort E to get more students in on a Wednesday. The following were also some of the topics discussed by the committee:

- Teacher burnout
- Increasing Cohort C enrollment
- Student Transportation
- Classroom space
- Adjust arrival/dismissal times
- Staff levels
- Furniture

## **9. Minutes**

Mr. Brosgol and the committee reviewed five sets of meeting minutes. Minor changes were indicated by Mr. Brosgol and Mr. Morrison then the committee votes on all the minutes presented.

Mr. Brosgol made the following motion:

**MOVED: That the School Committee votes to approve the minutes from the June 11, 2020 School Committee meeting.**

**MOTION SECONDED by Mr. Morrison**

<b>Ms. Santiago</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Ms. Scoville</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Ms. Guay</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Mr. Morrison</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Mr. Brosgol</b>	<b>Yes</b>

Mr. Brosgol made the following motion:

**MOVED: That the School Committee votes to approve the minutes from the June 30, 2020 School Committee meeting as amended.**

**MOTION SECONDED by Ms. Scoville**

**MOTION APPROVED 5-0-0**

<b>Ms. Santiago</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Ms. Scoville</b>	<b>Yes</b>

Ms. Guay	Yes
Mr. Morrison	Yes
Mr. Brosgol	Yes

Mr. Brosgol made the following motion:

**MOVED: That the School Committee votes to approve the minutes from the August 05, 2020 School Committee meeting.**

**MOTION SECONDED by Ms. Scoville**

**MOTION APPROVED 5-0-0**

Ms. Santiago	Yes
Ms. Scoville	Yes
Ms. Guay	Yes
Mr. Morrison	Yes
Mr. Brosgol	Yes

Mr. Brosgol made the following motion:

**MOVED: That the School Committee votes to approve the minutes from the August 31, 2020 School Committee meeting as amended.**

**MOTION SECONDED by Ms. Santiago**

**MOTION APPROVED 5-0-0**

Ms. Santiago	Yes
Ms. Scoville	Yes
Ms. Guay	Yes
Mr. Morrison	Yes
Mr. Brosgol	Yes

Mr. Brosgol made the following motion:

**MOVED: That the School Committee votes to approve the minutes from the September 08, 2020 School Committee meeting.**

**MOTION SECONDED by Ms. Santiago**

**MOTION APPROVED 5-0-0**

Ms. Santiago	Yes
Ms. Scoville	Yes
Ms. Guay	Yes
Mr. Morrison	Yes
Mr. Brosgol	Yes

## **10. Adjournment**

Mr. Brosgol made the following motion:

**MOVED: Motion to adjourn at 10:34 p.m., not to reopen.**

**MOTION SECONDED by Mr. Morrison**

**MOTION APPROVED 5-0-0**

<b>Ms. Santiago</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Ms. Guay</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Mr. Morrison</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Ms. Scoville</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Mr. Brosgol</b>	<b>Yes</b>

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**October 27, 2020**

**Exhibits/Documents**

- **Superintendent's Report**
- **Personnel Report**
- **Capital Budget Presentation**
- **BPS Literacy Plan**
- **Minutes**



12/11/2020