

## **BEDFORD SCHOOL COMMITTEE**

**May 10, 2022**

**Meeting location:**

**BHS LGI Room**

**and Telecast remotely via ZOOM**

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

At 7:04 PM, Ms. Scoville called to order the meeting of the Bedford School Committee. Other members present included Ms. Guay, Ms. Mehta-Green, Mr. Brosgol, Mr. Morrison, Student Representative Prakar Guta, and METCO Representative Madeline Sanabria

### **2. Public Comment**

**No Comments**

### **3. History Fair Presentation**

Mr. Culhane presented the background of the History Fair Project and students from BHS presented their projects to the School Committee. Mr. Culhane stated that Mr. Jim Sunderland created the History Fair Project Competition, in 2005. Since its inception, a team representing Bedford has been present at the National Competition each year. Students spoke of the highlight of being able to interview Wally Funk and Yale, Law Professor Reva Siegel for their projects this year.

- 1<sup>st</sup> semester High Honors History students create a project
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> semester students given option to create a project for competition
- Students are allowed to choose History topics from
  - World
  - US
  - Ancient
  - Medieval
  - Modern
- Students can work as an individual or small group
  - Project type can be a documentary, website, exhibit, live performance or traditional research paper
- 3 Stages of competition
  - States
  - Regionals
  - Nationals
  - Project must relate back to theme of the competition

### **4. Field trip Review:**

- **Costa Rica (JGMS): February 2023 Update**
- **BHS Canobie Lake, June 2022**
- **Greece & Sicily, February 2023**

- **Costa Rica (BHS), February 2024**
- **BPS Staff Trip: Pegasus Springs Education Summit, Florida, June 26-29, 2022 (METCO): Philip Conrad & Akil Mondesir**

Mr. Conrad gave a brief update on the JGMS Costa Rica field trip for 2023. The trip will be open to all current 7th grade students entering 8th grade. The change is due to the BHS Costa Rica Trip planned for February 2024. No revote was necessary by the School Committee.

Ms. Galante, BHS Principal gave a brief presentation to the School Committee asking for permission to take 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade students to Canobie Lake Park on June 10, 2022. This trip is a reward for students that have lost so much, including a Physics Field Trip that should have taken place last year. Students in the Junior class will have their own special day before the end of the year.

Mr. Brosgol made the following motion:

**MOVED: Motion to approve the BHS Canobie Lake Park Field Trip, June 2023 at no cost to school/district.**

**MOTION SECONDED by Mr. Morrison**

**MOTION APPROVED 5-0-0**

<b>Ms. Guay</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Ms. Scoville</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Mr. Brosgol</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Mr. Morrison</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Ms. Mehta-Green</b>	<b>Yes</b>

Ms. Arena presented the trip overview to the School Committee. Due to COVID-19, this trip did not take place. Unfortunately, Greece will not be part of the trip due to COVID restrictions. Students will fly to Rome and the move on to Sicily. Students will also travel to Capri, Naples and Pompeii. Students will get to experience a multitude of culturally diverse food, visit local farms.

Mr. Brosgol made the following motion:

**MOVED: Motion to approve the field trip to Rome & Sicily, February 2023 at no cost to the district**

**MOTION SECONDED by Mr. Morrison**

**MOTION APPROVED 5-0-0**

<b>Ms. Guay</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Ms. Scoville</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Mr. Brosgol</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Mr. Morrison</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Ms. Mehta-Green</b>	<b>Yes</b>

Ms. Leshay presented the School Committee with the following details about the proposed trip to Costa Rica for BHS students. Ms. Lashay shared that they students asked to go on this trip. This trip will be very similar to the Costa Rica trip that JGMS students will be attending in February 2023. Students will experience culturally diverse adventure, storytelling, dancing, and get to use their Spanish skills.

Mr. Brosgol made the following motion:

**MOVED: Motion to approve the BHS Costa Rica Field Trip, February 15-24, 2022 at no cost to the district.**

**MOTION SECONDED by Mr. Morrison**

**MOTION APPROVED 5-0-0**

<b>Ms. Guay</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Ms. Scoville</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Mr. Brosgol</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Mr. Morrison</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Ms. Mehta-Green</b>	<b>Yes</b>

**BPS Staff Trip: Pegasus Springs Education Summit, Florida- June 26-29, 2022 (METCO), Philip Conrad & Akil Mondesir**

Mr. Conrad presented to the School Committee that the METCO Program offered an opportunity for Mr. Conrad and Mr. Mondesir to participate in the Pegasus Springs Education Summit as representatives from Bedford. The event would be a tool to help Bedford expand on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion.

Mr. Morrison made the following motion:

**MOVED: Motion to approve the Pegasus Springs Education Summit Trip to Florida, June 26-29, 2022 at the cost of \$1,198.00 to the district.**

**MOTION SECONDED by Ms. Mehta-Green**

**MOTION APPROVED 5-0-0**

<b>Ms. Guay</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Ms. Scoville</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Mr. Brosgol</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Mr. Morrison</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Ms. Mehta-Green</b>	<b>Yes</b>

## **5. School Improvement Plan Updates**

- **Davis Elementary**
- **Lane Elementary**
- **JGMS**
- **BHS**

Ms. Benoit, Principal at Davis Mr. Ackerman, Principal at Lane, Mr. Hartunian, Principal at JGMS and Ms. Galante, Principal at BHS all gave brief updates on their school Improvement Plans to date. Each of the School Improvement Plan for 2021-2024 is based on the Districts School Improvement Plan.

- **Davis Update**
  - Student Progress Data Sheets shared with families at Teacher Conferences
    - Opened dialog between Teachers and Families
  - Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
    - Forum held with families
      - Anti-Bias Curriculum
      - Social Emotional Learning
  - SEL Pilot Fly 5 will begin K-5 in the Fall of 2022

- Counseling Department worked to find the appropriate program
  - CARES
- Lane Update
  - Tier One Instruction for all students
  - Bridges program for all 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students
    - 4<sup>th</sup> grade students will use Bridges next year
  - ELA/Math Assessments
  - Data meetings
  - Library and ELA working together on windows and mirrors
    - Audit of library
  - Students exhibiting high levels of anxiety this year
  - Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
- JGMS Update
  - HEART Shootouts displayed in trophy case
    - Students and staff can nominate anyone showing HEART
  - Scheduling Task Force
  - Diversifying staff
    - Asking students to be involved in interview
    - Common assessments
- BHS Update
  - Areas of focus
    - DEI
      - Dr. Mohammad, spoke with staff at the onset of the school year
      - Dr. Lopes, spoke with staff during a PD in March
      - Poet Jamele Adams, spoke with staff and students
        - Agent of change
        - Students shared original works with Mr. Adams
    - Student Centered Learning
      - Common template developed and used to assist teachers with unit and lesson planning. Hope to have all teachers' district wide use the template.
    - Social Emotional/Wellness
      - Youth Risk Behavior Survey used for grades 9-12
        - Hope to gain insight into, mental, physical health and wellness in the school community
        - Data to be shared soon
    - Literacy
      - Screenings to be done in Math, ELA and Reading
        - Supports will be put in place for those students in need
        - Data used to guide curriculum changes when needed

## 6. 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Math Presentation

Ms. Pumphrey, Mr. Morrissey and Mr. Hartunian gave a presentation the School Committee members regarding proposed changes to un-level 6<sup>th</sup> grade Math courses. During the presentation, it was disclosed that the discussion around Math changes began during department meetings at JGMS with regard to course offerings. During those discussions, information was shared that all

current 5th grade students are part of heterogeneous Math groups. After this presentation, a lengthy discussion was had to discuss the impact of removing this particular Math level and the impact on implementation and schedule changes should this course change move forward.

**Why move away from Academically Advanced Math**

- Too early to label 11 year old students as not being advanced in Math
- 2020-2021 Lane ended leveled Math courses
- Transition to Middle School will improve
- All students to receive differentiated Math class. Which allows students more access to advanced level Math
- No change for Academically Advanced Math in 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade

**7. 403B Changes- 2<sup>nd</sup> Read & Vote**

Mr. Brosgol made the following motion: To approve the 403b Retirement Savings Plan Design Change with added loan option.

**MOTION SECONDED by Mr. Morrison**

**MOTION APPROVED 5-0-0**

<b>Ms. Guay</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Ms. Scoville</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Mr. Brosgol</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Mr. Morrison</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Ms. Mehta-Green</b>	<b>Yes</b>

**8. Superintendent's Report**

Mr. Conrad presented to the School Committee the following during his Superintendent Report. A big thank you all parent organizations for last week's Teacher Appreciation treats. School Nurse Appreciation day is tomorrow. Thank you to the school nurses for all they do to keep use healthy. COVID numbers are increasing across Middlesex County. Please continue to be vigilant adhering to COVID protocols. Masks are available in all building for those they want or need them. Pool Testing will continue through the end of the year. Dollars for Scholars is ongoing. Speaker Series taking place at JGMS. Congratulations to all the teams that participated in the Tenacity Challenge.

**9. Draft Minutes**

Mr. Brosgol made the following motion: To approve the minutes of April 26, 2022

**MOTION SECONDED by Mr. Morrison**

**MOTION APPROVED 5-0-0**

<b>Ms. Guay</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Ms. Scoville</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Mr. Brosgol</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Mr. Morrison</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Ms. Mehta-Green</b>	<b>Yes</b>

**10. Adjournment**

Mr. Morrison made the following motion: **10:30 PM to adjournment into Executive Session for purpose to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining not to re-open in Open Session.**

**MOTION SECONDED by Mr. Brosgol**

**MOTION APPROVED 5-0-0**

Ms. Guay	Yes
Ms. Scoville	Yes
Mr. Brosgol	Yes
Mr. Morrison	Yes
Ms. Mehta-Green	Yes

#### **Exhibits/Documents**

**Field Trips: Costa Rica (JGMS)-update; BHS Canobie Lake-June 2022; Rome & Sicily- February 2024;**

**Costa Rica (BHS) - February 2024**

**BPS Staff Trip: Pegasus Springs Education Summit - June 26-29, 2022**

**Draft Minutes for 4-26-2022**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**School Committee Secretary**

6/28/22  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**