

**BEDFORD SCHOOL COMMITTEE**  
**April 10, 2018**  
**Bedford High School – Large Group Instruction Room**

**1. Call to Order**

At 7:35 p.m., Mr. Brosgol called to order the meeting of the Bedford School Committee. Other members present included Ms. Santiago, Ms. Scoville, Ms. Guay and Student Representative Leslie Yan. Mr. McAllister was absent.

**2. Comments from Public**

None

**3. Mothers Out Front Presentation**

Ms. Carolyn Weaver and Ms. Kristina Philipson, Bedford residents, addressed the Committee about a donation from “Mothers Out Front”, a grassroots organization which is helping Bedford move towards using clean and renewable energy and to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Ms. Weaver and Ms. Philipson explained that they are involved in a program that is promoting home energy audits. As a motivator, Revise Energy, Inc. will donate \$35 to the Bedford Public Schools for every home energy audit performed. Mr. Dan Carroll is a Bedford resident and is instituting this program. The goal is to have more than 300 audits completed in Bedford this year.

Mr. Weaver and Ms. Philipson said that they would like to donate these funds to the school’s solar energy fund.

Mr. Sills thanked the presenters and said that the schools would happily accept money to put in this fund.

Ms. Santiago thanked the presenters as well. She asked Mr. Sills about the status of installing solar energy panels at the schools. Mr. Sills said that this project has been put on the back burner since many of the tax incentives and state programs have ceased. But he would happily accept funds for doing this project in the future. He also suggested that the project be discussed with the Environmental Club at the high school since a club like this could figure out ways to promote the home energy audit program.

Ms. Scoville said that she recently went through a home energy audit and that it was very helpful and she saved a lot of money on her energy bills.

The School Committee thanked Ms. Weaver and Ms. Philipson for presenting such a generous offer.

**4. Personnel Report**

Mr. Sills asked the School Committee to approve some field trip requests.

The first field trip is for teachers of the STEP and BRIDGE Special Education programs to take the students to Hampton Beach in New Hampshire for a day to celebrate their success. The trip is planned for June 8<sup>th</sup> and will cost the schools approximately \$1500. The trip is to help further community building and to celebrate the successes of the year.

Ms. Scoville made the following motion:

1.

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**MOVED: That the School Committee approve the field trip request for students of the Bridge and Step Programs to travel to Hampton Beach in New Hampshire on June 8, 2018 at a cost not to exceed \$1500.**

**MOTION SECONDED by Ms. Santiago**

**MOTION APPROVED: 4-0**

The second field trip request is from Ms. Flora who is proposing to take a group of students to the Netherlands and Paris in the summer of 2019. The trip will be for approximately 12-30 students and will be organized and sponsored by EF Tours. The cost will be \$4,130 per student.

Ms. Santiago made the following motion:

**MOVED: That the School Committee approve the trip to the Netherlands and Paris on June 28 – July 9, 2019 for 12 to 30 high school students at a cost of \$4,130 per student and no cost to the schools.**

**MOTION SECONDED by Ms. Scoville**

**MOTION APPROVED: 4-0**

Ms. Guay noted that this trip is very expensive and therefore many students may not be able to participate. However, she is happy to hear that it is being announced now so that families and students have time to earn money for the trip.

Ms. Santiago said she would like to know about any other possible trips so students and families can plan. She thinks it is good to announce this trip before the summer so students can try to earn the money over summer break. Mr. Sills said he would check to see if there are any other trips being considered.

Mr. Sills announced the following personnel items:

*Resignation:*

Dawn Kelly                      High School Building Administrative Assistant

*Retirement:*

Ellen Tate                      Davis School Principal Administrative Assistant  
Cynn timer Vatter              Special Education Department Administrative Assistant

*Leave of Absence:*

Diane Dinitto                  Special Education Administrative Assistant Bedford High School

*Appointments:*

Nicholas Bacigalupi          Assistant Principal at JGMS  
Jessica Niland                  Grade 5 teacher at Lane  
Brandon Baez                  METCO Aid at Davis and Lane Schools

Mr. Sills asked the School Committee to vote on approving job descriptions which were presented at an earlier School Committee meeting.

Ms. Santiago made the following motion:

**MOVED: That the School Committee approve the Library Media Specialist for grades 6-12 job description.**

**MOTION SECONDED by Ms. Scoville**  
**MOTION APPROVED: 4-0**

Mr. Sills noted that the Library Media Specialist position is a little different at the elementary schools and needs to be written and reviewed

Ms. Santiago made the following motion:  
**MOVED: That the School Committee approve the High School Assistant Principal position.**  
**MOTION SECONDED by Ms. Scoville**  
**MOTION APPROVED: 4-0**

Ms. Santiago made the following motion:  
**MOVED: That the School Committee approve the job description for Administrative Assistant to Director of Special Education as amended.**  
**MOTION SECONDED by Ms. Scoville**  
**MOTION APPROVED: 4-0**

Ms. Santiago made the following motion:  
**MOVED: That the School Committee approve the job description for a K-12 ESL position.**  
**MOTION SECONDED by Ms. Scoville**  
**MOTION APPROVED: 4-0**

## **5. Technology and Library Media Presentation**

Postponed

## **6. Superintendent's Report**

Mr. Sills reported that MCAS exams are being administered in three schools. A few technical issues arose but were resolved. There is a lot of student stress.

Mr. Sills reminded the Committee that MCAS 2.0 is being given at the Lane and middle schools. He said the test is more complicated and challenging but believes it is assessing good skills. The original MCAS exam was an effective means to learn where achievement gaps exist. However, the new version of the MCAS exam is a more complex test and it is likely a vast majority of our students will be challenged.

Mr. Sills announced that the Challenge Success Program will be rolled out at the high school. This program will dive into the culture of the school to help identify the unhealthy stresses of our students. It is a research based program and has been looked at in the past. Mr. Sills is pleased to be able to roll it out this year.

Ms. Guay thanked Sue Baldauf for being instrumental with this project.

Mr. Sills announced that he would like to add a Therapeutic Interventionist at the Davis School to help ensure the right staff is in-house to help our special education students. The hope is that this person will also work with training the Teaching Assistant staff.

## **7. Approval of School Committee Meeting Minutes**

Ms. Guay made the following motion:

**MOVED: That the School Committee approve the minutes of the February 13, 2018 School Committee meeting.**

**MOTION SECONDED by Ms. Scoville**

**MOTION APPROVED: 4-0**

Ms. Scoville made the following motion:

**MOVED: That the School Committee approve the minutes of the March 6, 2018 School Committee meeting as amended.**

**MOTION SECONDED by Ms. Guay**

**MOTION APPROVED: 4-0**

#### **7. Adjournment**

Ms. Santiago made the following motion:

**MOVED: Motion to adjourn to Executive Session at 8:15 for purposes of contract negotiation, not to reopen.**

**MOTION SECONDED by Ms. Scoville**

**MOTION APPROVED: 4-0**

#### **Roll Call Vote:**


**Mr. McAllister                      Absent**

**Mr. Brosgol                        Yes**

**Ms. Santiago                      Yes**

**Ms. Scoville                        Yes**

**Ms. Guay                          Yes**

 6/5/2018  
School Committee Secretary      Date

**BEDFORD SCHOOL COMMITTEE**

**April 10, 2018**

**Exhibits/Documents**

- Draft of the minutes from the February 13, 2018 School Committee meeting.
- Draft of the minutes from the March 6, 2018 School Committee meeting.