

BEDFORD SCHOOL COMMITTEE
Sept. 4, 2018
Bedford High School – Large Group Instruction Room

1. Call to Order

At 7:30 p.m., Mr. Brosgol called to order the meeting of the Bedford School Committee. Other members present included Ms. Scoville and Mr. McAllister. Ms. Guay was absent. Ms. Santiago was expected to be late.

2. Comments from Public

None

3. Personnel Report

Mr. Sills reported the following informational items:

Resignations

Juanita Campana	Admin. Assistant Special Education Director
Jessica Baker	Davis teacher
Vera Corbett	Davis Kindergarten teacher
Samantha Dembitzky	SAIL Teaching Assistant at Davis
Kristin Murray	Reading Specialist at Davis
Lynne Sheth	Teaching Assistant/Behavioral Specialist at Davis
Heather Smiles	Teaching Assistant at Davis
Ken Yanofsky	Physical Education Teacher at Davis
Megan Armstrong	Teaching Assistant at Lane
Yrenes Despradel	.5 Educational Assistant at Lane
Jennifer Gentry	Teaching Assistant/Behavioral Specialist at Lane
Julia Herman	Teacher at Lane
Caitlin Worthen	Teaching Assistant/Behavioral Specialist at Lane
Matthew Mehler	Assistant Principal at JGMS
Michelle Najarian	Teaching Assistant at JGMS
Manjula Karamcheti	Guidance Director at BHS
James Parker	Special Education Program Administrator at BHS
Kara Rosenberg	Special Education Teacher at BHS
Cynthia Slemaker	ESL Teacher at BHS
Alyssa Raso	Teaching Assistant at Preschool

Retirements

Cynnie Vatter	Administrative Assistant in Special Education
Ellen Tate	Administrative Assistant at Davis School
Vankatesh Chittur	Mathematics teacher at BHS
Sandra Mazko	Long Term Substitute teacher at BHS
Deborah Savarino	Special Education teacher at BHS
Jeanne Smyth	Librarian at BHS

Leave of Absence

Josefine Erickson	Davis School
Allie Salk	Lane School

Return from Leave of Absence

Christina Avis	Reading Specialist at Davis
Angela Venezia	Physical Education teacher at Davis
Carly Harary	Teacher at Davis
Kelsey Little	English teacher at JGMS

Transfers

Lisa Brecher	School Psychologist from Davis to BHS
Kimberly Limoli	Teaching Assistant to .6 Learning Strategies teacher at JGMS
Stephanie Callahan	.4 Administrative Assistant to .5 Teaching Assistant at JGMS
Neeti Bharatan	Substitute teacher to Teaching Assistant at JGMS
Christine Lenox	Assistant Principal to Math teacher at BHS
Jillian Butler	.8 to 1.0 English teacher at BHS
Victoria Wolk	Academic Achievement Teaching Assistant to English teacher at BHS
Christine Walker Magoon	English teacher to Librarian at BHS
Kelly Anderson	.6 to .8 Administrative Assistant Special Education at BHS

Appointments

Cynthia Larsen	Administrative Assistant Special Education
Kerri Diggins	Administrative Assistant to Principal at Davis
Jessica Dussi	Teaching Assistant at Davis
Mary Kate Ricciardi	Teaching Assistant/Behavioral Specialist at Davis
Paige Clarke	Teaching Assistant/Behavioral Specialist at Davis
Michael Fahy	Teaching Assistant at Lane
Katie Lulsdorf	Teaching Assistant at Lane
Marlena Simoneau	Teaching Assistant/Behavioral Specialist at Lane
Natalie Lopez	Teaching Assistant at JGMS
Daniel Caples	Campus Aide at BHS
Lauren Josephs	Academic Achievement Teaching Assistant at BHS
Kristen Rennie	Academic Achievement Teaching Assistant at BHS
Deborah Barnes	.6 Administrative Assistant Special Education Central
Katharine Lindeheim	.4 Teaching Assistant at Preschool
Lillian Younger	.5 Administrative Assistant at Preschool
Meagan Doherty	Speech and Language Pathologist at Davis
Jaime Doucette	.8 School Psychologist at Davis
Lauren Kaye	Special Education/Liaison teacher at Davis
John Espejo	Grade 5 teacher at Lane
Jessica Niland	Grade 5 teacher at Lane
Nicholas Bacigalupi	Assistant Principal at JGMS
Ann Breckenridge	Special Education teacher at BHS
Matthew Brennan	.5 ESL teacher at BHS
Alicia Linsey	K-12 Director of Guidance
Kenneth Mierz	ROTC teacher at BHS

Mr. Sills presented a job description for the stipend position of a PreK to Grade 5 Guidance & Counseling Coordinator. Mr. Sills explained that the new K-12 Director of Guidance needs to

initially focus on the middle and high school. This new stipend position will assess and develop the Pre K – Grade 5 counseling curriculum and practices under the guidance of the K-12 Director.

The School Committee reviewed the description and agreed to vote on approving the position at the next School Committee meeting.

Mr. Sills also presented a field trip request by Ms. Galante, Principal of the high school. The field trip is for Ms. Galante, three teachers, two students and a parent to attend the Challenge Success conference at Stanford University in California. The group will leave on Thursday, September 13 and will return on Sunday, September 16th. The group will attend the Challenge Success conference. Challenge Success is a new program being rolled out at the high school and is part of the 2018-19 School Improvement Plan. This program helps schools and communities prepare students for a balanced, healthy approach to life. Ms. Galante has received a grant to cover the costs of this conference and to bring Challenge Success to BHS.

Mr. McAllister made the following motion:

MOVED: That the School Committee approve the field trip to the Challenge Success Conference to be held on September 13 through 16, 2018 at Stanford University in Palo Alto, California for two students, three BHS teachers, one parent chaperone and Ms. Galante at no cost to the school department.

MOTION SECONDED by Ms. Scoville

MOTION APPROVED: 4-0-0

4. Appointments and Approvals

Mr. Sills asked the School Committee to make the annual appointments for School Attendance Officers.

Mr. McAllister made the following motion:

MOVED: That the School Committee approve the following people to serve as School Attendance Officers for the 2018-19 school year:

4 Principals

All Assistant Principals

Officer Jeff Wardwell

Officer Steve Waite

MOTION SECONDED by Ms. Scoville

MOTION APPROVED: 4-0-0

Mr. Sills asked the School Committee to consider several other appointments for the year and to take the annual vote on student account maximums.

Mr. McAllister made the following motion:

MOVED: That the School Committee appoint Mr. Sills to be voting member of the CASE and LABBB collaboratives for the 2018-19 school year.

MOTION SECONDED by Ms. Santiago

MOTION APPROVED: 4-0-0

Mr. McAllister made the following motion:

MOVED: That the School Committee appoint Ms. Guay to be the School Committee member who serves on the EDCO Executive Board.

MOTION SECONDED by Ms. Scoville

MOTION APPROVED: 4-0-0

Mr. McAllister made the following motion:

MOVED: That the School Committee approve, per state mandate, the following student account maximums for the fiscal year 2019:

High School	\$50,000 maximum
JGMS	\$15,000 maximum
Lane	\$ 7,500 maximum
Davis	\$ 7,500 maximum

MOTION SECONDED by Ms. Scoville

MOTION APPROVED: 4-0-0

5. JGMS/BHS Building Committee Presentation

Mr. Justin Humphries of TBA presented information from the JGMS and BHS Building Renovation Committee meeting held on August 27, 2018. At this meeting, options for both buildings, including a possible future expansion to include space for Bedford TV, were considered. The committee voted unanimously to bring forward "Option 3" for the middle school and "Option 2" for the high school. These options do not include extra space for Bedford TV due to additional costs.

Mr. Humphries summarized these options as follows:

JGMS Option 3

- 7440 square feet of new space
- 3060 square feet will be renovated
- There will be 7.5 new classrooms (or equivalents)
- A two story addition will be added to the southeast end of JGMS and will include classrooms, teacher work space, and space for speech and OT services.
- Art and SAIL classrooms will be in 2 new rooms at the end of A Wing which will extend into the Facilities parking area.
- SPED, Learning Lab, and Bridge spaces will be renovated

Mr. Humphries presented an Option 3A which showed where potential further expansion could be completed.

The cost is estimated at \$5.1 million.

BHS Option 2

All renovations will occur within the existing walls. No additions.

- Renovate 9,379 square feet of existing space.
- As of June, another 7,447 square feet of space will also be renovated (CASE will be moving to Davis School)
- The former Preschool space will house the Academic Achievement Center, an ELL room, the METCO office, and ROTC.

- The former ROTC space on the second floor will be renovated to accommodate the SAIL classroom and the Learning Center
- Minor updates to occur in the OT/Speech room, the Adjustment Counselor office, the SRO space and class room spaces on first floor near the auditorium.

Mr. Humphries showed Option 2A which illustrated where potential expansion area could be built if the need arises.

Cost is estimated to be \$1.7 million (about \$440,000 more than the June presentation)

School Committee members had the chance to ask questions.

Mr. McAllister asked why Bedford TV wants to move out of their space at Old Town Hall. Mr. Brosgol said that the town's Museum Committee is looking for space in town and is considering Old Town Hall which is where Bedford TV is currently located. Mr. Sills added that Bedford TV does not want to move because they are satisfied in their current location and that it is expensive to move. However, they may have to if the desire to create a Bedford museum in Old Town Hall becomes a reality. Mr. Sills said that he does not want to delay the school building projects because Bedford TV may or may not be forced to move from their current building.

Mr. McAllister said he is pleased to see that the community can still easily access the gym at JGMS for voting and weekend morning basketball without having to go through the school.

Ms. Santiago asked if the JGMS option could meet the needs of possibly adding another Team if the need arises in the future. Mr. Sills said that Principal Tracey believes that the current Team structure could handle up to 700 students. Enrollment projections do not exceed 660 students for JGMS.

Ms. Santiago asked if we had to do future expansions at JGMS, would the Facilities Dept. have to leave their current space in the building. Mr. Humphries said no that the school may only end up losing a few parking spaces near the Facilities location.

Ms. Santiago and Mr. McAllister both thanked Mr. Humphries and TBA for their flexibility and hard work on updating designs for our buildings as more options are considered.

Ms. Santiago asked if any of the plans include adding air conditioning to the newly renovated areas. Mr. Sills said no, it was too expensive but ceiling fans are being considered.

Mr. Brosgol asked for the vision on the execution of these projects. Mr. Sills explained that at fall Town Meeting, the schools will ask for design funds. At spring Town Meeting, he hopes to have bids and to ask for construction funds. He estimates that the projects will take about 15 months for construction.

Ms. Scoville noted that the Plateau field at JGMS is very popular and may have to come off line with future construction. Mr. McAllister agreed that it is important to keep the Recreation Dept. updated on construction at JGMS.

Ms. Santiago said that the Summer Adventures Camp which is held at the high school, may need to know of the renovation plans too so they can plan building usage accordingly.

Mr. Brosgol asked about the condition of the roofs at the two schools. Mr. Sills said that Facilities will share information with the School Committee next week. He thinks that the middle school will need some roof work completed.

All in all, Mr. Sills thinks that the options selected by the Building Committee are the right ones to move forward.

Mr. Sills thanked Mr. Alani for his hard work in making sure the Davis School opened today. The project was off to a slow start this summer and Mr. Alani was prepared with a backup plan to ensure Davis would open on time and it did.

6. District Strategic Improvement Plan

Mr. Sills presented the 2018-19 Strategic Improvement plan for the entire district. He noted that the focus areas and many initiatives are a continuation from last year. However, he did want to highlight a few key areas.

- The primary focus for K-12 will be improving students' literacy skills as laid out last year.
- Work at all schools continues with developing students' abilities to comprehend complex texts.
- Nonfiction text is key.
- Trying to systematically improve cultural proficiency
- Will provide information to parents and families so they can partner in developing learners who think critically.
- Provide a vision paper to all teachers and staff to promote teacher reflection on key components of students becoming leaders of their own learning.

Mr. Sills also commented that he is happy that Boston Magazine appointed Bedford High School #11 in the state.

Mr. McAllister said he is pleased to see that social-emotional learning is in the district strategic plan since this is something our students need to be ready to engage. It is the essential first step.

Ms. Scoville is pleased to learn that deliberate planning is emphasized. She would also like to view some of the growth in electronic portfolio use.

Ms. Santiago would like to see what will be shared with families. She said it will be challenging to learn the best means to reach all of our families.

Mr. Brosgol commented that our buildings need to allow our students to have the space to become leaders of their own learning. He is happy to hear that we are making changes to our buildings to meet this objective.

Mr. Sills said that this objective is truly a change in attitude and perspective. "All learning is personal."

Mr. Sills said another important initiative is to ask ourselves what does it mean to be a METCO district? He believes the District needs to be more deliberate around this identification and that we all need to make efforts to truly get to know one another.

Ms. Santiago made the following motion:

MOVED: That the School Committee approve the District Goals for the 2018-19 as presented tonight.

MOTION SECONDED by Mr. McAllister

MOTION APPROVED: 4-0-0

7. Superintendent's Evaluation Goals

Mr. Sills presented his three Evaluation Goals as follows:

1. Effectively launch and co-lead the design and implementation of year two of the District's multi-year focus on strengthening literacy and student ownership of their own learning.
2. Ensure the Davis project meets deadlines and shepherd the JGMS/BHS Building projects through to and including the general contractor bidding process following Town Meeting and the breaking of ground in June.
3. Work with faculty and families to shift the district's identity from one that educates METCO students to one that embraces in belief and deed the full mission of the METCO program; particularly the development of genuine understanding and positive relationships between Boston, Bedford, and Hanscom AFB students. Continue to improve racial diversity of the faculty and staff.

Mr. Sills provided the following Student Learning Goal:

1. Over the next two years, bring MCAS 2.0 ELA scores/growth to Level 1, with a particular focus on 6th grade as well as our subgroups.

Mr. McAllister complimented Mr. Sills on having straightforward and reachable goals. He particularly likes the clarity of the Student Learning Goal.

Ms. Scoville agrees.

Ms. Santiago said that recruitment is imperative to Goal 3 but Mr. Sills needs to keep an eye on retention too.

Mr. Brosgol asked if any districts achieved the goal we have set out for METCO. Mr. Sills said no, that we are one of the top METCO districts and we will promote our efforts and success with other districts.

Mr. Sills ended the discussion by applauding our talented faculty.

Ms. Scoville made the following motion:

MOVED: That the School Committee approve the Superintendent's Evaluation Goals for the 2018-19 school year.

MOTION SECONDED by Mr. McAllister

MOTION APPROVED: 4-0-0

8. School Committee Meeting Minutes

Ms. Santiago made the following motion:

MOVED: That the School Committee approve the minutes from the June 5, 2018

School Committee meeting as amended.

MOTION SECONDED by Ms. Scoville

MOTION APPROVED: 3-0-1 (Ms. Guay was absent and Mr. McAllister abstained)

9. Adjournment

Ms. Santiago made the following motion:

MOVED: Motion to adjourn at 9:15 p.m. not to re-open.

MOTION SECONDED by Mr. McAllister

MOTION APPROVED 4-0-0

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. McAllister	Yes
Mr. Brosgol	Yes
Ms. Santiago	Yes
Ms. Scoville	Yes
Ms. Guay	Absent


School Committee Secretary


Date

BEDFORD SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Sept. 4, 2018

Exhibits/Documents

- Draft of Pre K-5 Guidance & Counseling Coordinator (Stipend Position) job description
- JGMS/BHS Building Committee Presentations
- Strategic Goals 2018-19 Presentation
- Superintendent's Evaluation Goals Presentation
- Draft of June 5, 2018 School Committee meeting minutes