



LOWELL SCHOOL COMMITTEE

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Date: November 7, 2018
Time: 6:30PM
Location: City Council Chamber, 375 Merrimack Street, 2nd Floor, Lowell, MA 01852

1. SALUTE TO FLAG

2. ROLL CALL

On a roll call at 6:35 p.m., all members were present, namely: Mr. Hoey, Mr. Lay, Ms. Martin, Mr. Nutter, Mayor Samaras, Mr. Descoteaux and Ms. Doherty.

3. SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

3.I. STEM Academy @ The Rogers School MassCUE Presentation

The STEM Academy @ the Rogers School MassCUE Presentation was deferred to the next regularly scheduled School Committee meeting.

4. MINUTES

4.I. Approval of the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Lowell School Committee Meeting of Monday, October 15, 2018.

Ms. Doherty made a motion to accept the minutes of the October 15, 2018, October 17, 2018 and the October 30, 2018 School Committee meetings and to place them on file; seconded by Ms. Martin. 7 yeas APPROVED

4.II. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular School Committee Meeting of Wednesday, October 17, 2018.

Ms. Doherty made a motion to accept the minutes of the October 15, 2018, October 17, 2018 and the October 30, 2018 School Committee meetings and to place them on file; seconded by Ms. Martin. 7 yeas APPROVED

4.III. Approval of the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Lowell School Committee Meeting of Tuesday, October 30, 2018.

Ms. Doherty made a motion to accept the minutes of the October 15, 2018, October 17, 2018 and the October 30, 2018 School Committee meetings and to place them on file; seconded by Ms. Martin. 7 yeas APPROVED



5. PERMISSION TO ENTER

5.I. Permission to Enter: November 7, 2018

Ms. Martin made a motion to approve the Permission to Enter; seconded by Ms. Doherty. 7 yeas APPROVED

6. SUBCOMMITTEES

6.I. Lowell High Subcommittee: Report of the Meeting of Thursday, November 1, 2018 [Dominik Lay, Chairperson]

Mr. Lay, Chairperson of the Lowell High Subcommittee informed the Committee that the discussions at the Subcommittee meeting revolved mostly around discipline and how the high school disciplines their students under Massachusetts law. He also spoke to the Committee about the Latin Lyceum program and the rigor of the courses.

Mr. Descoteaux made a motion to accept the report as a report of progress; seconded by Mr. Hoey. 7 yeas APPROVED

7. REPORTS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Acting Superintendent Durkin spoke to the Committee about the Board of Health meeting that she had attended previously to this meeting. Acting Superintendent Durkin stated that the Board of Health shared several school concerns and two (2) of the concerns shared at the meeting have already been rectified. Acting Superintendent Durkin then addressed the pest control problem at the high school and stated that she and the Director of Facilities is meeting with the current vendor that the school department is currently using on Thursday, November 8, 2018 to discuss the contract on how they are going to address this issue, and if the vendor can't adequately address the school department's concerns, we will consider going out for another bid to secure services from another pest control company.

7.I. Mass Insight Education Partnership

Ms. Busted, Head of Lowell High School provided a report to the Committee that included the Mass Insight press release regarding the partnership between Lowell High School and Mass Insight which details progress being made by Lowell High School students in AP STEM and English education. Lowell High School saw a nine (9) percent increase in the number of students who earned a qualifying score on AP STEM and English exams in 2018.

Mr. Nutter made a motion to accept the following Reports of the Superintendent 7.I through 7.IV as reports of progress; seconded by Ms. Martin. 7 yeas APPROVED



7.II. Accountability Report

Paul Schlichtman, Coordinator of Research, Testing and Assessment provided a report to the Committee that informed the Committee that Massachusetts has a new accountability system. The new accountability system is fully built; targets will be weighted heavier for more recent scores. The weighting system is designed to provide more stable targets. The report also included the district level calculations.

Ms. Doherty made a motion to accept the following Reports of the Superintendent 7.I through 7.VI as reports of progress; seconded by Mr. Descoteaux. 7 yeas APPROVED

7.III. Enrollment Figures

The district enrollment report provided to the Committee showed the breakdown by school and grade through November 2, 2018.

Ms. Doherty made a motion to accept the following Reports of the Superintendent 7.I through 7.VI as reports of progress; seconded by Mr. Descoteaux. 7 yeas APPROVED

7.IV. Report On Motions

Acting Superintendent provided the monthly report on the status of outstanding motions and asked the Committee if they had any concerns or questions.

Ms. Doherty made a motion to accept the following Reports of the Superintendent 7.I through 7.VI as reports of progress; seconded by Mr. Descoteaux. 7 yeas APPROVED

7.V. Home Education

Acting Superintendent Durkin recommended that the following parents/guardians be allowed to home educate their child:

Jose Da Silva & Valdelice Ferreria Silva
67 Third Avenue

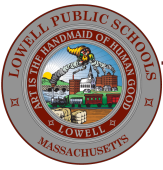
Sonia Souza & Matthew Wright
60 Keene Street, Floor 2

Mr. Nutter made a motion to approve; seconded by Mr. Descoteaux. 7 yeas APPROVED

8. NEW BUSINESS

8.I. Anticipated Changes to the Approved FY19 Budget

Billie Jo Turner, Interim Assistant Superintendent of Finance provided the Committee an update on budget solutions, Food Service issues and transportation. The report included:



- A list that shows \$1.39 million is suggested adjustments to the budget to close the budget gap.
- The Food Service memo that was sent to the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) requesting a four (4) year payment plan that will start next year and informed the Committee that the plan was approved.
- A summary memo and transportation analysis that was shared with the Joint Finance Subcommittee due to a request for information.

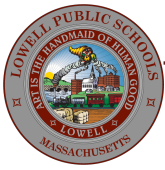
Mr. Nutter made a motion to accept the report as a report of progress; seconded by Ms. Doherty. 7 yeas APPROVED

8.II. Budget Transfer

Department:		SCHOOLS				
TRANSFER TO:						
Account #				Description	Amount	
Org.	Object	Project	DESE Function			
99031006	530002		3500	LHS Athletics - Cont Svcs	\$ 10,958.66	
95073050	530002		2350	Shaughnessy SA - Prof Dev	\$ 1,000.00	
				TOTAL	\$ 11,958.66	
TRANSFER FROM:						
Account #				Description	Amount	
Org.	Object	Project	DESE Function			
99347112	577723		4000	Maintenance - Swimming Pool	\$ 10,958.66	
95010124	541000		2450	Shaughnessy SA - Tech Exp	\$ 1,000.00	
				TOTAL	\$ 11,958.66	

Reason for Transfer: Shifting funds to expend the budget

Mr. Descoteaux made a motion to approve the budget transfer of \$11,958.66; seconded by Ms. Martin. 7 yeas APPROVED



8.III. Vote To Accept Grant Award of \$20,000 to McAuliffe School from Project Fit America Grant

David Anderson, Principal of the McAuliffe School informed the Committee that the McAuliffe School was recently notified that they received a \$20,000 grant from Lowell General Hospital and Project Fit America. The funds are used for the purchase and installation of a new fitness playground, curriculum for our Physical Education teacher to use with our students on the new equipment, and training in that curriculum from a certified Project Fit instructor.

Mr. Hoey made a motion to accept the grant funded amount of \$20,000 from the Project Fit America Grant; seconded by Mr. Descoteaux. 7 yeas APPROVED

9. CONVENTION/CONFERENCE REQUESTS

9.I. LHS-Hockey Team Trip To V.T.

Head of School Marianne Busted, requests permission for coaches Brian Akashian, Robert Hunt, and Daniel Tobin to travel to Highgate, V.T. from December 14-15, 2018 along with [30] thirty Hockey Team students. All expenses will be paid by Lowell High School Hockey Committee. There will be no cost to the Lowell School Department. No substitute teacher is needed.

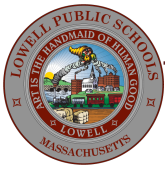
Mr. Descoteaux made a motion to take and approve all three (3) convention/conference requests together; seconded by Mr. Hoey. 7 yeas APPROVED

9.II. LHS - Trip To Cape Verde

Pre-Approved: LHS Staff Dr. Julio C. DeCarvalho, Eileen Ironfield, Shelby Boisvert, Shonii DeFrancesco and Jason Silverberg and approximately 30 LHS students, to travel to Cape Verde from Friday, February 15 through Saturday, February 22, 2019. There is no cost to the School Department budget. No substitute teacher is needed.

Change Requested: Leaving Thursday, February 14, 2019 as a result students will miss one day of school, Friday, February 15, 2019. The students will stay two additional days returning on Sunday, February 24, 2019.

Mr. Descoteaux made a motion to take and approve all three (3) convention/conference requests together; seconded by Mr. Hoey. 7 yeas APPROVED



9.III. LHS-Choir

Marianne Busted, request permission for Michael Winslow, Dr. Sharon Clark, LHS staff, and [5] five CORIE'D chaperones, Jennifer Bosivet, Jen Plourde, Donna Sousa, Kristine Morrison and Wendy Barrett to attend the Bay State Choir Festival to be held in Easton, MA on Friday, November 9th and Saturday, November 10, 2018 with [70] seventy choir students. The cost of the trip is approximately \$5,250 and will be funded using a combination of the Student Activity Account funds and/or student contribution. The \$2,450 transportation cost will be split between the Fine Arts Department and Lowell School's Student Activity account. No substitute teacher is needed.

Mr. Descoteaux made a motion to take and approve all three (3) convention/conference requests together; seconded by Mr. Hoey. 7 yeas APPROVED

10. PROFESSIONAL PERSONNEL

10.I. SEIU-Sick Leave

The Members of the SEIU Clerical Unit hereby request to donate sick leave days to Mary Geoffroy, LHS clerk forty [40] days.

Mr. Hoey made a motion to approve; seconded by Ms. Martin. 7 yeas APPROVED

11. EXECUTIVE SESSION

11.I. Agenda Items:

1-SEIU

- a. Consideration of SEIU bargaining proposal related to application period for sick leave buyback
- b. Consideration of SEIU bargaining proposal related to "6A Clerk" compensation;

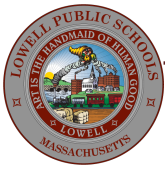
2-LSAA

- a. Consideration of Grievance regarding Sick Leave Buyback
- b. Update on negotiations regarding Collective Bargaining
- c. Review of proposed Memorandum of Agreement

3-UTL

- a. Consideration of Collective Bargaining proposals and update on negotiations

Ms. Martin made a motion to recess at 7:38 p.m., and to enter into Executive Session for the purpose to present and discuss consideration of bargaining proposals and grievances with SEIU, LSAA and UTL, open discussion of which may detrimentally affect the School Committee's position with respect to potential litigation and negotiations with union employees, and to adjourn from Executive Session; seconded by Mr. Descoteaux. 7 yeas APPROVED



12. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Martin made a motion to recess at 7:38 p.m.; seconded by Mr. Descoteaux. 7 yeas Approved

Respectfully submitted,

**Jeannine M. Durkin, Acting Superintendent and
Acting Secretary to the Lowell School Committee**

JMD/mes