

Quincy, MASSACHUSETTS – December 9, 2015

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Regular Meeting of the Quincy School Committee

A regular meeting of the Quincy School Committee was held on Wednesday, December 9, 2015 at the Central Middle School. Present were Mr. Paul Bregoli, Mr. Noel DiBona, Ms. Barbara Isola, Mayor Thomas Koch, Mrs. Anne Mahoney, Mr. David McCarthy, and Mrs. Kathryn Hubley, Vice Chair.

Regular Meeting

Vice-Chair Presiding

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The Superintendent called the roll and all were present. Also present were: Dr. Richard DeCristofaro, Secretary; Ms. Laura Owens, Clerk; Mr. Nicholas Ahearn, Ms. Christine Barrett, Mr. Robert Cavallo, Mr. Michael Connor, Mrs. Susan Shea Connor, Mr. Rick DeCristofaro, Mr. Michael Draicchio, Mrs. Mary Fredrickson, Mr. Daniel Gilbert, Mr. James Hennessy, Ms. Margaret MacNeil, Ms. Maureen MacNeil, Mr. Michael Marani, Mrs. Robin Moreira, Mr. James Mullaney, Deputy Superintendent Kevin Mulvey, Mrs. Maura Papile, Mrs. Ann Pegg, Mrs. Erin Perkins, Ms. Marisa Qualter, Ms. Madeline Roy, Mr. Keith Segalla, Mr. Kevin Segalla, Mr. Robert Shaw, Mr. Lawrence Taglieri, Ms. Judy Todd, Ms. Ruth Witmer; School Committee member-elect James DeAmicis; and Quincy Education Association President Allison Cox.

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There was a moment of silence for Eric Bigham, Grade 5 student at Wollaston Elementary School and Gil DiLorenzo, former Music teacher at Broad Meadows Middle School.

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Ms. Isola made a motion, seconded by Mr. Bregoli, to approve the Regular Meeting minutes for November 18, 2015. On a voice vote, the ayes have it.

Regular Meeting
Minutes Approved
11/18/15

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As no one wished to speak at Open Forum, School Committee went on to the next item on the agenda.

Open Forum

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Dr. DeCristofaro opened the Superintendent's Report by introducing Central Middle School Principal Rick DeCristofaro, who welcomed the Mayor, School Committee, students and parents to Central Middle School.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. DeCristofaro introduced the three Project 351 Ambassadors for 2016: Alyssa Gonzales (Central Middle School with Mentor Aaron Skowyra), Juliana Tracey (Broad Meadows Middle School with Mentors Ron Adams and Daniel Gilbert), and Virginia To (Point Webster Middle School with Mentor Jacqueline Principi).

Dr. DeCristofaro announced the MCAS Accountability Data had been released by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. This year's Level 1 schools are Merrymount, Montclair, and Parker Elementary Schools and Atlantic and Point Webster Middle Schools.

Dr. DeCristofaro asked to move to New Business and proceed to American Education Week Poster and Essay Contest Winners.

New Business

Elementary Curriculum Director Erin Perkins introduced the Grades K through 5 winners:

American Education Week Poster & Essay Contest Winners

- Grades K through 1: Wollaston Elementary School, Mrs. Fallon's Kindergarten (1st place); Snug Harbor Community School, Mrs. Lynch & Ms. Carr's Grade 1 classes (2nd place); Atherton Hough Elementary School, Mrs. Qualter's Grade 1 class (3rd place)
- Grades 2-3: Shauna Foran, Clifford Marshall Elementary School, Grade 3 (1st place); Gia Hua, Lincoln Hancock Community School, Grade 3 (2nd place); and Casey Perdios, Clifford Marshall Elementary School, Grade 2 (3rd place)
- Grades 4-5: John Thomas Malvesti, Merrymount Elementary School, Grade 5 (1st place); William Lam, Snug Harbor Community School (2nd place); Niamh Roland, Clifford Marshall Elementary School (3rd place)
- Grades 6-8: Jennifer Small, Central Middle School, Grade 8 (1st place); Jackson Zhao, Atlantic Middle School, Grade 8 (2nd place); Ryleigh Smith, Broad Meadows Middle School, Grade 7 and Margaret Fay, Broad Meadows Middle School, Grade 6 (3rd place tie)
- Grades 9-10: Klei Hamzallari, Quincy High School, Grade 10 (1st place); Peter Anderson, North Quincy High School, Grade 10 (2nd place); Frances Papandile, North Quincy High School, Grade 10 (3rd place)

Each first place winner read their essay or shared their poster with School Committee.

Ms. Isola thanked the students, teachers, parents, this is the most enjoyable evening of the year.

After a brief recess, Dr. DeCristofaro resumed the Superintendent's Report.

'Tis the Season was held on Thursday, December 3, thanks to the support of community business partners, including the Quincy Symphony Orchestra. Almost 800 staff, students, parents, retired teachers, and other community members attended.

Superintendent's Report (resumed)

On Wednesday, December 2, Undersecretary of Agriculture Kevin Concannon visited Quincy High School in recognition of Quincy receiving a Farm to School Implementation Grant of \$72,000. The grant will be used to support STEM education and Health & Wellness initiatives and increase opportunities for locally sourced foods. Thanks to the Mayor's Office and Planning & Community Development for their initiative in developing the grant proposal in collaboration with Quincy Public Schools.

The Quincy Parent Advisory Council to Special Education held a gingerbread decorating night on Friday, December 4. Over 35 families attended, thanks to QPAC Board members Debby Nabstedt and Cassandra Beck. Students also attended the Enchanted Village under a grant secured by QPAC.

Dr. DeCristofaro concluded his report by noting that the Atherton Hough, Montclair, and Squantum Elementary School and Extended Education Program Newsletters had been shared with School Committee.

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Dr. DeCristofaro reviewed the additional \$250,000 appropriation given to Quincy Public Schools by the Mayor this fall when the Full-Day Kindergarten grant from the state was partly reinstated. School Principals were surveyed and members of the Curriculum & Assessment and Principal teams saw presentations and proposals for several vendors. 80 Eno Interactive whiteboards and 76 short-throw projectors will be installed in 58 elementary school classrooms; 16 middle school classrooms at Atlantic, Broad Meadows, and Point Webster; and 10 classrooms at North Quincy High School. Central Middle School will receive replacement pens for their already-installed Eno Boards, Quincy High School will receive 4 replacement short-throw projectors; and Sterling Middle School will receive portable projectors and whiteboards reallocated from other schools.

Old Business

FY2016 Additional Budget Appropriation

Installation and introductory staff training will begin in January. Follow-up training to support the new users and accelerate advanced users will continue through the winter and spring. Looking at establishing technology champions in each building. The hope is to reach the maximum potential for student engagement. Dr. DeCristofaro thanked Madeline Roy, Keith Segalla, and Robert Cavallo, and the Mayor for the allocation, which will make a huge impact on hundreds of students.

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Mr. Bregoli made a motion to move training school nurses to administer Narcan into the Policy Subcommittee. Ms. Isola seconded the motion and on a voice vote, the ayes have it.

New Business (resumed)
Narcan to Policy Subcommittee

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Ms Isola made a motion to approve the Out of State travel of Central Middle School Grade 8 to New York City, New York, June 8-10, 2016. Mr. Bregoli seconded the motion and on a voice vote, the ayes have it.

Out of State Travel

Mayor Koch made a motion to approve the Out of State travel of North Quincy High School AFJROTC to Fredricksburg, Virginia, April 8-12, 2016. Ms. Isola seconded the motion and on a voice vote, the ayes have it.

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Mayor Koch made a motion to approve the Overnight Travel of Quincy High School to Harvard Model Congress, Boston, Massachusetts, February 18-21, 2016. Ms. Isola seconded the motion and on a voice vote, the ayes have it.

Overnight Travel

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Upcoming meetings were announced: Regular Meeting on January 13 and 27, 2016; February 10, 2016, all at 7:00 pm at the Coddington Building; Subcommittee Meetings for Special Education on Wednesday, January 20, 2016; Teaching & Learning and Budget & Finance on Monday, January 25, 2016.

Communications

Mayor Koch announced the Inauguration will be on Monday, January 4, 2016 at 10:00 am in the Great Hall at Old City Hall.

Joint Convention of the City Council and School Committee will be held on Monday, January 11, 2016 at 6:30 pm for the purpose of appointing the School Committee member to fill Noel DiBona's term.

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Mrs. Hubley noted that all Subcommittee meeting minutes are posted online at www.quincypublicschools.com.

Reports of Subcommittees

Ms. Isola reviewed the Teaching & Learning Subcommittee Meeting held on December 7, 2015. E-Day Resources for students and families will be posted on the Quincy Public Schools website to provide opportunities for student enrichment beyond the bell. Mrs. Perkins presented on the opportunities for

Teaching & Learning

advanced elementary school students in Quincy Public Schools and in cities and towns in Massachusetts. North Quincy High School Principal Robert Shaw and Senior Curriculum Director Madeline Roy presented on Advanced Placement pathways from Grade 5 through 12 in Quincy Public Schools.

Mr. Bregoli reviewed the Policy Subcommittee Meeting held on December 7, 2015. Executive Director Keith Segalla presented the Technology & Training Program Improvement Plan and the goals for 2015-2016. The plan was approved by the Policy Subcommittee. The Subcommittee also reviewed and re-affirmed the Concussion Policy with no changes.

Policy

As there were no corrections to the meeting minutes for the December 7, 2015 Teaching & Learning Subcommittee Meeting minutes and the December 7, 2015 Policy Subcommittee Meeting minutes, all minutes were approved as presented.

Subcommittee Meeting
Minutes Approved

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Dr. DeCristofaro wished each member of School Committee Happy Holidays on behalf of himself, Deputy Superintendent Mulvey, and the Superintendent’s Leadership Team.

Dr. DeCristofaro noted that this is the last School Committee meeting for two School Committee members. Mr. Noel DiBona (2014-2015), served as chair of the Health, Safety, and Transportation Subcommittee, monitored many Health & Wellness initiatives, looking forward to working with him as a member of the Quincy City Council. Mr. DiBona thanked Dr. DeCristofaro, Mayor Koch, and School Committee colleagues, learned much from the different perspectives each member brings. Looking forward to continuing with Quincy Public Schools as a parent, the whole experience has been unmatched. Thanked Dave McCarthy for mentoring him.

Dr. Decristofaro spoke about Dave McCarthy, School Committee member from 2004 to 2015. Mr. McCarthy knows every inch of every school building and was School Committee Chair for 2008-2009, two very difficult budget years. Mr. McCarthy chaired the Budget Subcommittee, Health & Safety, and Facility & Security and served on every Subcommittee. Mr. McCarthy served with 14 different School Committee members and 2 mayors. He was an advocate for class sizes, music and band programs, athletics, building facilities, Full-Day Kindergarten, investments in technology, curriculum, infrastructure and most of all, student and staff safety.

Mr. McCarthy was presented with a chair commemorating his years of service.

Mr. McCarthy said that he is most proud of work to shore up building security with the support of Mayor and City Council, Quincy is ahead of other cities and towns. The Special Education department is near and dear to Mr. McCarthy and

he always wanted to be sure that the program was strong. Director Judy Todd has done a great job, but Mr. McCarthy stayed on the Subcommittee throughout his tenure, partly from understanding how tough it can be as a parent.

When Mr. McCarthy first joined the School Committee, he learned from some committed veterans, served with two Mayors who both care about the city and felt strongly about education. He enjoyed all colleagues, past and present, strong work ethic. The Superintendent and Leadership Team have been an honor and privilege to work with.

Mayor Koch extended his gratitude to Mr. DiBona, will look forward to further conversations on City Council. Mr. McCarthy, grew to respect work ethic and passion for the school system, dedication has made a difference. Expects to see him in future service to the City of Quincy.

Mrs. Mahoney appreciated the time serving with Mr. DiBona. Mr. McCarthy has been an enormous treasure for Quincy Public Schools with such dedication to families, will be sorely missed.

Ms. Isola wished Mr. DiBona best in work on City Council. It has been an absolute privilege to serve with Mr. McCarthy. As a parent, Mr. McCarthy always treated her with respect. As a colleague, Mr. McCarthy set a strong example as she learned to be a School Committee member. Mr. McCarthy is always prepared, passionate, but advocates in a respectful way. In twelve years of service, he has always brought a sense of humor to lighten the room when topics are controversial and has a talent for leading the group to compromise. Ms. Isola is confident that we will see him again and will miss sitting next to him.

Mr. Bregoli feels sad for the loss of both colleagues from School Committee, congratulated Mr. DiBona on his election to City Council. Mr. McCarthy leaves a legacy for his work on School Committee, especially his relationships with colleagues. Mr. McCarthy made a significant mark on the community and the School Committee.

Mrs. Hubley wished Mr. DiBona and Mr. McCarthy both well.

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Mayor Koch made a motion to adjourn for the evening at 7:45 p.m. The motion was seconded by Mr. McCarthy and on a voice vote, the ayes have it.

Adjournment