

Quincy, MASSACHUSETTS – January 25, 2017

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Regular Meeting of the Quincy School Committee

A regular meeting of the Quincy School Committee was held on Wednesday, January 25, 2017 at the Coddington Building. The Superintendent called the roll and present were Mayor Thomas Koch, Mr. James DeAmicis, Mrs. Kathryn Hubley, Ms. Barbara Isola, Mrs. Emily Lebo, Mrs. Anne Mahoney, and Mr. Paul Bregoli, Vice Chair.

Regular Meeting

Vice-Chair Presiding

Also present were: Dr. Richard DeCristofaro, Secretary; Ms. Laura Owens, Clerk; Mr. Michael Draicchio, Ms. Beth Hallett, Ms. Maureen MacNeil, Mr. James Mullaney, Deputy Superintendent Kevin Mulvey, Mrs. Maura Papile, Mrs. Erin Perkins, Ms. Madeline Roy, Mr. Keith Segalla; Quincy Education Association President Allison Cox; Citywide Parent Council Co-President Scott Alessandro; and Quincy High School Student Representative Owen Doherty.

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There was a moment of silence for Bob Farrand, Custodian for 14 years; Donna Willoughby, teacher at Broad Meadows Middle School for 22 years; and George Smith, Social Studies teacher at Quincy High School for 34.

Dr. DeCristofaro also asked everyone to keep Sterling Middle School Science teacher Bob McGillicuddy and his family in their thoughts, in extremely critical condition.

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Mr. DeAmicis made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Hubley, to approve the Regular Meeting minutes for January 11, 2017. On a voice vote, the ayes have it.

Regular Meeting
Minutes Approved
1.11.2017

Ms. Isola made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Hubley, to approve the Executive Session minutes for January 11, 2017. On a voice vote, the ayes have it.

Executive Session
Minutes Approved
1.11.2017

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As no one was present who 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 with recognition of the Quincy Public Schools Project 351 Ambassadors: Anthony Coughlin from Atlantic Middle School; Aisling Kelly from Broad Meadows; and Renee Clermont from Central Middle School. These three Grade 8 students took part in the state-wide day of service in different locations in and around the city of Boston. Mrs. Lebo and Mrs. Mahoney congratulated the students for being part of this important project and taking advantage of the opportunity presented to them. Mr. Bregoli said he continues to be impressed by the students' poise in addressing the School Committee.

Dr. DeCristofaro announced that Pre-Kindergarten screenings are coming up on February 28 and March 14, 2017. Kindergarten Registration will be held on Tuesday, March 7 at all elementary school locations.

Special Olympics will be held at Squantum on Friday, February 17 for ninety students supported by over 30 staff members and Community Service students from North Quincy High School.

Over 700 Grade 8 students will take part in "A Matter of Heart" during the week of January 30-February 3. On Saturday, February 4 a full day CPR certification course will be offered for Grade 8 students and parents. In addition, planning is underway to schedule an opportunity for Grade 10 students to recertify; these students were trained during the first "Matter of Heart" in 2015.

On Tuesday, January 10, Quincy High School hosted the Southeastern Massachusetts Association of Student Councils regional meeting, over 350 students from 22 school systems attended the event, along with their advisors.

High School STEM Fairs will be held on Saturday, February 4 at North Quincy High School and Wednesday, February 15 at Quincy High School. The next Nobel Laureates visit will be students from both high schools visiting Dr. Glashow at Boston University on February 28.

The Middle School Volleyball Championships were held on Saturday, January 21 and the Broad Meadows girls and Central boys are City Champions. Over 200 students participating, supported by parents, families, and teachers as well as members of the varsity teams from both high school Volleyball programs.

Dr. DeCristofaro concluded his report by noting that the Quincy School~Community Partnership and Middle School Curriculum newsletters had been shared with School Committee.

Both the proposed 2017-2018 School Year and 2017-2018 School Committee Meeting draft calendars will be posted on the Quincy Public Schools website for public comment. Both calendars are eligible for vote at the February 8, 2017 School Committee meeting.

Old Business

2017-2018 School Year and School Committee Calendars (Discussion)

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Senior Curriculum Director Madeline Roy presented on the current STEM programs, coursework, and middle to high school pathways. STEM opportunities are available for students with the intersection of Math, Science/Technology/Engineering, and English Language Arts. The 2016 Massachusetts Digital Literacy and Computer Science Curriculum Framework are also available and being unpacked by vertical and skills-based curriculum teams.

New Business

Middle School STEM

Atlantic Middle School Science teacher Christopher Ranft presented on Science Inquiry in Action. Students solve a problem by creative thinking and teamwork, integrating mathematical practices and technology. Library Media Specialist Anna Jorgensen presented on the essential skills and concepts, including fact finding and analysis/verification of news sources, digital citizenship, and information literacy. The Library and Technology/Engineering teachers are collaborating on online test-taking skills with students, ensuring their comfort with the technology that will allow them to focus on the assessment content. Technology/Engineering teacher Hallie Yohe presented curriculum highlights, including the engineering design process utilized through pictorial design, computer-aided design, product design, architecture, structures and bridges.

Sterling Middle School Mathematics teacher Evan Pepe presented on Technology in Mathematics, teachers are differentiating through math stations, integrating technology through *Big Ideas* and *iReady* diagnostics, and sharing content with students through Aspen pages. With increased online access at home, students are provided with opportunities beyond the classroom. Students and teachers are collaborating to take problem-solving to the next level through projects such as designing a tool to measure wind speed, then collecting and analyzing the data: measuring the relationship between variables. This project also provides opportunities to integrate ELA with scientific writing.

At the middle and high school levels, STEM fairs are the occasion for bringing it all together. These events are collaboration opportunities for the entire STEM team, provides an emphasis on interdisciplinary connections, and provide different project pathways that align with student interests. Staff mentors may come from an expanded range of curriculum areas.

Executive Director Keith Segalla spoke about the plan of expanding Engineering and Project Lead the Way opportunities at North Quincy High School. Quincy High School Technology Engineering teacher Paul Tully, STEM learning provides students with skills that impacts their overall success in all academic areas. Mr.

Tully provided an overview of the Engineering Technology course sequence at Quincy High School. Seniors may obtain a Certificate of Occupational Proficiency through completing a capstone project in the Engineering Design & Development. Mrs. Lebo said it is great to see these veteran teachers' enthusiasm for these technology and engineering programs. Our graduates have the tools to be successful in college-level courses and beyond due to the project-based learning.

Dr. DeCristofaro thanked the presenters for their continuing to create innovative curriculum through professional development and independent learning. Thanks to School Committee for supporting the library media and technology engineering programs and these wonderful collaborative staff members.

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Dr. DeCristofaro reviewed that as part of the ongoing working relationship with the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA), Quincy has several Accelerated Repair Program projects scheduled for Summer 2017: Beechwood Knoll (windows, doors, roof, boiler); Atherton Hough, Merrymount, and Wollaston (boilers). The MSBA is now accepting 2017 Statements of Interest for Core Program and Accelerated Repair Program projects. Dr. DeCristofaro is requesting authorization to refresh the Core Program Statement of Interest for Squantum Elementary School and submit Accelerated Repair Statements of Interest for North Quincy High School (roof) and Parker Elementary School (boiler).

New Business

SOI for Squantum Elementary School (Vote)

Mr. DeAmicis made a motion to approve submitting the Core Program Statement of Interest for the Squantum Elementary School:

Be It Resolved:

Having convened in an open meeting on Wednesday, January 25, 2017, prior to the closing date, the Quincy School Committee, in accordance with its charter, by-laws, and ordinances, has voted to authorize the Superintendent of Schools to submit to the Massachusetts School Building Authority the Statement of Interest Form dated April 7, 2017 for the **Squantum Elementary School** located at 50 Huckins Avenue, Quincy, Massachusetts which describes and explains the following deficiencies and the priority category(s) for which an application may be submitted to the Massachusetts School Building Authority in the future:

Priority 7: Replacement of or addition to obsolete buildings in order to provide for a full range of programs consistent with the state and approved local requirements.

Description of Deficiencies for Priority 7: The Squantum Elementary School was built in 1919 and an addition constructed in 1971. In forty-five years, it has not received any substantial upgrades or improvements to the infrastructure or to the interior/exterior structures. Although the custodial and maintenance staffs are attentive to this building’s operational needs, a large portion of Squantum’s mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems were installed during the original construction of the facility. Aside from the improvements needed to the physical plant, educational components crucial for 21st century elementary schools are lacking, specifically classrooms equipped for the integration of educational technology and STEM concepts integral for standards-based instruction for regular education, Special Education, and English Language Learner students. Squantum’s nurse’s office, student support staff offices, cafeteria/ gymnasium, and media center are all undersized and under-equipped by modern educational standards.

and hereby further specifically acknowledges that by submitting this Statement of Interest Form, the Massachusetts School Building Authority in no way guarantees the acceptance or the approval of an application, the awarding of a grant or any other funding commitment from the Massachusetts School Building Authority, or commits the City of Quincy to filing an application for funding with the Massachusetts School Building Authority.

Mrs. Hubley seconded the motion and on a roll call vote, the ayes have it 7-0.

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Mrs. Hubley made a motion to support submitting an Accelerated Repair Program Statement of Interest for the North Quincy High School roof:

New Business

SOI for North Quincy High School Roof (Vote)

Be It Resolved:

Having convened in an open meeting on Wednesday, January 25, 2017, prior to the closing date, the Quincy School Committee, in accordance with its charter, by-laws, and ordinances, has voted to authorize the Superintendent of Schools to submit to the Massachusetts School Building Authority the Statement of Interest Form dated February 17, 2017 for the **North Quincy High School** located at 316 Hancock, Quincy, Massachusetts which describes and explains the following deficiencies and the priority category(s) for which an application may be submitted to the Massachusetts School Building Authority in the future:

Priority 5: Replacement, renovation or modernization of school facility systems, such as roofs, windows, boilers, heating and ventilation systems, to increase energy conservation and decrease energy-related costs in a school facility.

Description of Deficiencies for Priority 5: North Quincy High School was built in 1926 and renovated in 1980. Several sections of the school roof are in need of replacement as they are past the expected service life, specifically the Hunt Street and Oliver Street sides of the building.

and hereby further specifically acknowledges that by submitting this Statement of Interest Form, the Massachusetts School Building Authority in no way guarantees the acceptance or the approval of an application, the awarding of a grant or any other funding commitment from the Massachusetts School Building Authority, or commits the City of Quincy to filing an application for funding with the Massachusetts School Building Authority.

Mrs. Lebo seconded the motion and on a roll call vote, the ayes have it 7-0.

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Ms. Isola made a motion to support submitting an Accelerated Repair Program Statement of Interest for the Parker Elementary School boiler:

New Business

SOI for Parker
Elementary School
Boiler (Vote)

Be It Resolved:

Having convened in an open meeting on Wednesday, January 25, 2017, prior to the closing date, the Quincy School Committee, in accordance with its charter, by-laws, and ordinances, has voted to authorize the Superintendent of Schools to submit to the Massachusetts School Building Authority the Statement of Interest Form dated February 17, 2017 for the **F.W. Parker Elementary School** located at 148 Billings, Quincy, Massachusetts which describes and explains the following deficiencies and the priority category(s) for which an application may be submitted to the Massachusetts School Building Authority in the future:

Priority 5: Replacement, renovation or modernization of school facility systems, such as roofs, windows, boilers, heating and ventilation systems, to increase energy conservation and decrease energy-related costs in a school facility.

Description of Deficiencies for Priority 5: The F.W. Parker Elementary School was built in 1917 and renovated in 1955 and 1995. Given the innovations in HVAC technology since the building renovation was completed, the F.W. Parker Elementary School’s energy efficiency would be substantially improved by the installation of a replacement boiler.

and hereby further specifically acknowledges that by submitting this Statement of Interest Form, the Massachusetts School Building Authority in no way guarantees the acceptance or the approval of an application, the awarding of a grant or any other funding commitment from the Massachusetts School Building Authority, or

commits the City of Quincy to filing an application for funding with the Massachusetts School Building Authority.

Mrs. Hubley seconded the motion and on a roll call vote, the ayes have it 7-0.

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Mrs. Lebo made a motion to accept the gift of \$6,500 from the Randy C. Wolfe Trust for the benefit of Quincy Public Schools Music programs. Mrs. Hubley seconded the motion and on a voice vote, the ayes have it, 7-0.

New Business
Gift

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Mrs. Hubley made a motion to approve the appointment of School Nurse Mollie O’Connell. The motion was seconded by Ms. Isola and on a roll call vote, the ayes have it, 7-0.

New Business
School Nurse
Appointments

Ms. Isola made a motion to approve the appointment of School Nurse Sara Stanton Crowley. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Lebo and on a roll call vote, the ayes have it, 7-0.

On the motion, Mrs. Lebo noted that it is nice to see Quincy Public Schools alums coming back to work in the school system.

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As there were no Additional Business items raised, School Committee moved on to the next item on the agenda.

Additional Business

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Upcoming meetings were announced: School Committee on February 8, 2017 and March 1 and 15, 2017 at the Coddington Building at 6:30 pm.

Communications

Upcoming Subcommittee meetings were announced: Teaching & Learning will meet on January 30, 2017 at 5:00 pm. Policy will meet on February 6, 2017 at 5:00 pm, followed by Health, Transportation & Safety at 6:00 pm.

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Mr. Bregoli noted that all School Committee and Subcommittee meeting minutes are posted online at www.quincypublicschools.com.

Reports of
Subcommittees

Mrs. Lebo reported on the January 18, 2017 Budget & Finance Subcommittee meeting. This meeting was a Quarterly Budget Review and at this time, all budget expenditures are in line with expected levels for this point in the school year.

Budget & Finance

As there were no corrections, the minutes for the January 18, 2017 Budget & Finance Subcommittee meeting were approved as presented.

Mr. Bregoli reported on the January 18, 2017 Policy Subcommittee, where the draft 2017-2018 School Year and School Committee Meeting calendars were reviewed.

Policy

As there were no corrections, the minutes for the January 18, 2017 Policy Subcommittee meeting were approved as presented.

Mrs. Hubley reported on the January 18, 2017 Facilities & Security Subcommittee meeting. Commissioner of Public Buildings Paul Hines presented on the remediation efforts underway as a result of the Water Testing completed in Fall 2016. Work is underway at Bernazzani and Lincoln Hancock with a goal of completing all repairs by September 1, 2017. Dr. DeCristofaro shared a preview of the Challenges & Opportunities presentation, which will be presented at the February 8, 2017 School Committee meeting.

Facilities & Security

Mrs. Mahoney asked about the plans to move the GOALS program, efforts underway to find a new location, no definite timeline.

As there were no corrections, the minutes for the January 18, 2017 Facilities & Security Subcommittee meeting were approved as presented.

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Mayor Koch made a motion for School Committee to go to Executive Session to discuss the Superintendent’s Contract at 7:35 pm. Mrs. Hubley seconded the motion and on a roll call vote, the ayes have it, 7-0.

Executive Session

Superintendent’s Contract

Mayor Koch noted that School Committee would return to the Regular Meeting at the conclusion of Executive Session.

School Committee returned to Regular Session at 7:50 pm.

Mrs. Lebo made a motion to offer Superintendent DeCristofaro a three-year employment contract, from November 1, 2016 to October 31, 2019, with raises of 2% annually. Ms. Isola seconded the motion.

On the motion, Mayor Koch enthusiastically supported the motion, noting that Dr. DeCristofaro is very hard working and passionate about the city’s children and families. The school system continues to grow in positive way, there is collaboration across city departments, progress in so many areas. Dr. DeCristofaro is frequently meets with families to resolve issues. Mayor Koch

publicly thanked Superintendent for his leadership, noting that many school systems are seeking the type of leadership.

Ms. Isola echoed Mayor's comments, Dr. DeCristofaro has provided many years of leadership as Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent and understands the school system in a different way, working hard, interacting with students and staff, not sitting in the office. Dr. DeCristofaro has assembled a leadership team second to none. Ms. Isola is pleased to have the benefit of the Superintendent's experience for the next three years.

Mr. Bregoli said that he has known the Superintendent for many years, we are very fortunate to have someone of his character and caliber in this position. Did not fully appreciate the Superintendent until he became a member of School Committee and knows how hard he works day in and day out.

On a roll call vote vote, the ayes have it, 5-2. Mr. DeAmicis and Mrs. Mahoney voted NO.

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Mayor Koch made a motion to adjourn for the evening at 8:00 p.m. The motion was seconded by Ms. Isola and on a voice vote, the ayes have it.

Adjournment