

Quincy, MASSACHUSETTS – April 12, 2017

- - -

Regular Meeting of the Quincy School Committee

A regular meeting of the Quincy School Committee was held on Wednesday, April 12, 2017 at the Coddington Building. The Superintendent called the roll and present were School Committee Chairman Mayor Thomas Koch, Mr. Paul Bregoli, Mr. James DeAmicis, Mrs. Kathryn Hubley, Mrs. Emily Lebo, and Mrs. Anne Mahoney.

Regular Meeting

Chairman Presiding

Also present were: Dr. Richard DeCristofaro, Secretary; Ms. Laura Owens, Clerk; Mrs. Rita Bailey, Mr. Michael Draicchio, Ms. Danielle Fernandez, Ms. Beth Hallett, Ms. Kerrian Hart, Mr. Ryan Herlihy, Ms. Kristin Houlihan, Ms. Robin Kaplan, Ms. Kathy Mahoney, Ms. Rebecca McInnis, Ms. Karen McPartlin, Mr. James Mullaney, Deputy Superintendent Kevin Mulvey, Mrs. Maura Papile, Mrs. Erin Perkins, Ms. Caitlyn Plaskasovitis, Ms. Madeline Roy, Mr. Keith Segalla, Ms. Kathy Toracco; Quincy Education Association President Allison Cox; and Quincy High School Student Representative Owen Doherty.

§

There was a moment of silence in memory of Ms. Sharon Jarvie, Pre-Kindergarten Paraprofessional for over 20 years.

§

Mrs. Hubley made a motion, seconded by Mr. DeAmicis to approve the Regular Meeting minutes for March 15, 2017. On a voice vote, the ayes have it.

Regular Meeting Minutes Approved 3.15.2017

§

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

Open Forum

§

Dr. DeCristofaro opened the Superintendent's Report by noting that there were pins for School Committee in recognition of autism awareness. Dr. DeCristofaro then introduced Quincy High School Career & Technical Education Department Chair Rebecca McInnis McInnis, Skills USA Advisor Kerrian Hart and the SkillsUSA District Medalists: Norapat Rerngkasetig and Ben Parrish (Gold Medal for 3-D Visualization and Animation; Thanh Tung Duong (Gold Medal for Electronics Technology); Terry Deng (Silver Medal for Electronics Technology); Chi Tsao

Superintendent's Report

(Bronze Medal for Electronics Technology); Aniruddha Doke and George McGee (Silver Medal for Robotics and Automation Technology); Dashiel Chin (Bronze Medal for Information Technology Service); and Vincent Tran (Bronze Medal for Internetworking).

Ms. McInnis then introduced Fashion Technology Teacher Robin Kaplan and the Career & Technical Education Student of the Year Emily Barker, Fashion Technology Major. Ms. Barker is a member of the National Honor Society (ranks 14<sup>th</sup> in graduating class), Horizons Choir, Drama Club, and was costume coordinator for Quincy High School's recent production of *Hello, Dolly*.

Executive Director of Career & Technical Education Keith Segalla noted that at the May 3 School Committee meeting, the CTE Program Advisory Team will present. Quincy High School's annual Fashion Show will be held on May 12 at 7:00 pm, and on May 24, Quincy High School will host a Women in the Trades Summit sponsored by Callahan Construction.

Mrs. Lebo said the SkillsUSA accomplishments are incredible, noting that Quincy High School swept the Electronics Technology medals. Mrs. Lebo also enjoyed seeing Ms. Barker's fashion designs.

Dr. DeCristofaro thanked all the students, so proud to have them here and thanked parents for support.

Dr. DeCristofaro introduced Inspire Quincy, featuring highlights from Digital Learning Week, Atlantic's Young Writers magazine, Central's STEM Fair, the North Quincy & Quincy High School Spring Concerts featuring the choruses and combined high school band.

Dr. DeCristofaro then reviewed the recent Parent Academy events: Learning to Read, Part 3 on Dyslexia and Brain Boosters for Breaks.

The Sterling Building Committee met on April 11 and discussed site preparations that will begin in June once school is out for the summer. Dr. DeCristofaro is working with Public Buildings, the City Solicitor, and City Councilors to schedule a Community Meeting and prepare for an upcoming presentation for Sterling Staff.

North Quincy and Quincy High School Physics students visited Boston University and Nobel Laureate Sheldon Glashow; student evaluations were enthusiastic and we hope to plan another Nobel Laureate for next Fall.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Picnic in the Park will be held on Saturday, April 29 from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm at the Adams Historic Site. The event is a collaboration of the National Park Service, the city's Planning & Community Development Department, and Quincy Public Schools, with funding provided through the USDA Farm to School Grant.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Healthy Choices Family Night will be held on Thursday, April 27 at Central Middle School (middle school parents) and Veterans Stadium for Elementary & Middle School students.

The week of March 27-31 was Digital Learning Week and featured professional development opportunities for staff members, thanks to Digital Learning Team chairs Ed Smith, Quincy High School’s Science Department Chair and Senior Curriculum Director Madeline Roy.

The Middle School Swimming Championship was April 1, over 100 students participated, supported by parents, middle school principals and assistant principals, coaches. The McGillicuddy family was there as well to be part of the event, in recognition of Bob McGillicuddy’s organization of this annual event.

For Beyond the Bell, the STEM Saturday morning program concluded on April 1, 130 students over 6-week program under the direction of Bernazzani teacher Case Deaguero and Extended Education Coordinator Mike Marani.

A Choral Camp will be held on April 18 and 19, over 100 Grades 3-5 students will participate at Montclair and Quincy High School. Dr. DeCristofaro announced that North Quincy High School Drama Club will present *Back to the 80s* on May 5, 6, and 7.

The Quincy Public Schools Spring Concert schedule was shared with School Committee, along with Newsletters for QHS Athletics, QPS Food Services, and the QPS Band Program. Additional Inspire Quincy footage was shared with School Committee on CD.

§

There was no Old Business.

Old Business

§

Senior Director of Student Support Services Maura Papile presented an update on Student Support Initiatives focused on protecting teens from the devastating effects of addiction. Quincy Public Schools is in a unique position to make an impact through the leadership of Mayor Koch, Superintendent DeCristofaro and the School Committee. Our professional educators go above and beyond the school day to engage students and families

New Business

Student Support Initiatives

Central Middle School Guidance Counselor Kathy Mahoney and Health Teacher Caitlin Plaskasovitis presented the Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD) program which is being introduced at the middle school level, providing peer to peer education that provides support for healthy decisions.

Quincy High School Dean Karen McPartlin presented on Care Dimensions, a program offering bereavement supports within our schools. Grief support groups are important as 1 in 10 students affected by death of someone close to them. The program provides opportunity for peer sharing and support; both high schools are offering this program, referrals are from staff and sometimes other students.

Quincy High School Health Interventionist Kerriann Hart presented on Substance Use Prevention Week held the week of January 4, sponsored by Mayor Koch's office. Kathy Torracco presented on Pay It Forward, a group where peer support leaders to assist with transition from middle to high school, positive healthy decision-making, and resisting negative peer pressure. Meaningful collaborations include Manet Health, the Caron & Gavin Foundations, Impact Quincy, and the Thompson Family. One example of outreach is Sports Injury Management, support for alternates for prescription medications. MIAA Opioid Use Prevention program supports information sharing between coaches, students, parents, and health care professionals.

North Quincy High School Health Interventionist Ryan Herlihy presented on Substance Use Prevention Curriculum through the *Life Skills Curriculum*, understanding the impact of alcohol and marijuana on the adolescent brain. North Quincy High School Nurse Kristin Houlihan spoke of how the middle and high school programs work together to reinforce the importance of making safe choices. North Quincy High School teacher Danielle Fernandez, Student Council advisor, spoke of the collaboration of Student Council with SADD, ROTC, Quincy International Student Association, and the Rainbow Alliance. Looking ahead, 40 sophomore mentors will be trained to prepare for September 2017 freshman supports.

Rebecca Fiddler from Baystate Community Services discussed her collaboration with both high schools to provide training; her clinical background is in intensive adolescent recovery, both residential and outpatient. Ms. Fiddler also works with Manet Community Health Centers on screening tools for substance abuse prevention and recovery. Being in the schools is an opportunity for communication, allows students to ask for help before so far down the road to require interventions. Legalization of marijuana will present new challenges for all providers.

Mrs. Papile reviewed new collaborations with BlueCross/Blue Shield and Boston Children's Hospital. Parent engagement tools provide support for substance abuse topics and keeping teens safe. At the upcoming Family Healthy Choices night, middle school parents will be invited to see a presentation of Drug Story Theater, Thursday, April 27.

Mr. Bregoli thanked all the presenters, very important to see all the supports provided. Mrs. Lebo said the wrap-around services are incredible, very concerned about the mixed messages of the marijuana legislation. Suggested the topic would

be a good one for a Parent Academy. Mrs. Papile said this is a complicated issue, the April 27 is the first event, there will be others to follow.

Mayor Koch thanked Mrs. Papile and the team of presenters, we are talking about these issues and that is important. The additional program and information provided to families, collaboration with the partners and outside resources to leverage the message to family. Praised the staff for their work, can't measure how many kids each of these adults have saved from going down the path.

Mrs. Mahoney asked for clarification on Ms. Fiddler's collaboration with Quincy Public Schools. Ms. Fiddler provided a professional development for deans, guidance, high school nurses, and health interventionists. Student groups have started at Quincy High School and will begin at North Quincy High School after April vacation. Mrs. Mahoney applauds all of the efforts, we are doing a much better job than we have ever done. The availability of edibles is another topic to be discussed, can be ingested by a student of any age.

Mr. Bregoli asked about the status of a specific grant opportunity from Attorney General Healy's office. Mrs. Papile said we are combining funding from many sources to address parent concerns and partner with them and provide educational tools.

Dr. DeCristofaro said these incredible adults are role models and supports for our students and families, building trust and relationships. They all give so much above and beyond the school day, living what is in their hearts. The leadership of Maura and Rita Bailey makes a difference in the lives of so many kids and families.

§

Mrs. Hubley made a motion to approve the Out of State Travel of Montclair Elementary School Grade 5 to Canobie Lake Park, Windham, New Hampshire on June 15, 2017. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Lebo and on a voice vote, the ayes have it.

New Business  
Out of State Travel  
(One Day)

§

Mayor Koch made a motion to approve the Overnight Travel of Quincy High School SkillsUSA to the State Competition in Marlboro, Massachusetts on April 27-29, 2017. The motion was seconded by Mr. DeAmicis and on a voice vote, the ayes have it.

New Business  
Overnight Travel  
(In-State)

§

Mrs. Hubley made a motion to approve the Overnight/Out of State Travel of North Quincy High School AFJROTC to the JROTC Academic Bowl at Catholic University in Washington, D.C. on June 23-27, 2017. The motion was seconded by Mayor Koch and on a voice vote, the ayes have it.

New Business  
Overnight Travel  
(Out of State)

Mrs. Hubley made a motion to approve the Overnight/Out of State Travel of North Quincy High School AFJROTC to the Cardigan Lodge in Bristol, New Hampshire on June 27-29, 2017. The motion was seconded by Mayor Koch and on a voice vote, the ayes have it.

§

There was no Additional Business.

Additional Business

§

Upcoming meetings were announced: School Committee on May 3, 2017 and June 14, 2017 at the Coddington Building at 6:30 pm; the May 17, 2017 meeting will be held at Central Middle School.

Communications

Upcoming Subcommittee meetings were announced: Teaching & Learning will meet on May 1, 2017 at 5:00 pm. Facilities & Security will meet on May 8, 2017 at 5:00 pm. The FY2018 Budget & Finance Subcommittee meetings will be held on May 10, May 16, and May 22, 2017 at 5:00 pm. Special Education will meet on May 24, 2017 at 6:00 pm. The FY2018 Public Hearing is May 31, 2017 at 6:00 pm.

§

Mr. Bregoli noted that all School Committee and Subcommittee meeting minutes are posted online at [www.quincypublicschools.com](http://www.quincypublicschools.com).

Reports of  
Subcommittees

Mrs. Mahoney reported on the March 22, 2017 Special Education Subcommittee, featuring presentations on the new Unique Learning System Curriculum and the LEAP Program at North Quincy High School.

Special Education

As there were no corrections, the minutes for the March 22, 2017 Special Education Subcommittee meeting, the minutes were approved as presented.

§

In Ms. Isola's absence, Mrs. Lebo reported on the April 3, 2017 Teaching & Learning Subcommittee meeting, which featured presentations on Science Curriculum at Grades K-12 and the High Needs English Learners Team.

Teaching & Learning

As there were no corrections, the minutes for the April 3, 2017 Teaching & Learning Subcommittee meeting, the minutes were approved as presented.

§

Mrs. Hubley reported on the April 11, 2017 Facilities & Security Subcommittee Meeting which focused on the Massachusetts School Building Authority Accelerated Repair Program projects at Beechwood Knoll Elementary School to be

Facilities & Security

completed in the Summer of 2017. These include new windows, doors, roof, and boiler replacement.

The minutes for the April 11, 2017 Facilities & Security Subcommittee were approved with one correction.

§

Mrs. Lebo reported on the Quarterly Budget & Finance Subcommittee Meeting held on April 11, 2017. Mr. Mullaney presented a 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter reconciliation of deficits and surpluses showing that the line items balance out within the total Quincy Public Schools FY2017 budget.

Quarterly Budget & Finance

The minutes for the April 11, 2017 Quarterly Budget & Finance Subcommittee were approved with one correction.

§

There was no Executive Session.

Executive Session

§

Mayor Koch made a motion to adjourn for the evening at 8:25 p.m. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Hubley and on a voice vote, the ayes have it.

Adjournment