

Quincy, MASSACHUSETTS – April 11, 2018

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Regular Meeting of the Quincy School Committee

A regular meeting of the Quincy School Committee was held on Wednesday, April 11, 2018 at the Coddington Building at 6:30 p.m. Superintendent DeCristofaro called the roll and present were School Committee Chair Mayor Thomas Koch, Mr. Anthony Andronico, Mr. James DeAmicis, Mr. Douglas Gutro, Mrs. Kathryn Hubley, and Mrs. Emily Lebo, Chair.

Regular Meeting

Vice Chair Presiding

Also present were: Dr. Richard DeCristofaro, Secretary; Ms. Laura Owens, Clerk; Mr. Kevin Bell, Ms. Rebecca Brooks, Mr. Michael Draicchio, Ms. Danielle Fernandez, Dr. John Franceschini, Dr. Beth Hallett, Mr. Edward Holmes, Mr. Walter MacDonald, Ms. Rebecca McInnis, Mr. Joe McRitchie, Ms. Courtney Mitchell, Mr. James Mullaney, Deputy Superintendent Kevin Mulvey, Ms. Maura Papile, Ms. Erin Perkins, Ms. Madeline Roy, Mr. Keith Segalla, Mr. Lawrence Taglieri, City Solicitor James Timmins; Quincy Education Association President Allison Cox; North Quincy High School Student Representative Luke Molloy.

Mr. Paul Bregoli was absent.

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Mr. DeAmicis made a motion, seconded by Mr. Andronico to approve the Regular Meeting minutes for March 7, 2018 as presented. On a voice vote, the ayes have it.

Regular Meeting Minutes Approved 3.7.2018

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Mrs. Diane MacDonald, President of the Quincy Choral Boosters, spoke about hoping to expand Choral awareness and strengthen the music program for Grades K through 12.

Open Forum

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Dr. DeCristofaro opened the Superintendent's Report by introducing Executive Director of Career & Technical Education Keith Segalla, Quincy High School Principal Lawrence Taglieri, Career & Technical Education Department Chair Rebecca McInnis, and Information Technology Coordinator Edward Holmes.

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Holmes presented the Skills USA District Medalists: *Ben Parrish & Norapat Rerngkasetkig*, gold medal for 3D Visualization & Animation; *Donald Hurld*, silver medal for Information Technology Service; *Kevin Mortimer*, silver medal for Internetworking; *Ethan Graney*, silver medal for Computer Programming; *Elise*

*Ducharme*, gold medal for Technical Computer Applications; *Kenton Kwok*, silver medal for Technical Computer Applications; and *Chase Reardon*, bronze medal for Technical Computer Applications.

Quincy High School senior Victoria Shen was recognized as the CVTE Student of the Year. Ms. Shen is #6 in the graduating class, with a 4.62 GPA, and is a member of National, Business, and Science Honor Societies; a member of Student Council, Interact Club, and the Crew team. Ms. Shen will attend Babson to study Accounting and has been awarded a full tuition scholarship.

Retiring Quincy Police DARE Officer John Grazioso was recognized for his 32 years of service to the families of Quincy. DARE Officer Don Sautter thanked his partner for being such an asset to the Quincy Public Schools. Officer Grazioso was a DARE officer for 22 years and met so many helpful staff members, hoped that his work made a difference.

Mr. Gutro thanked Officer Grazioso, his teaching helped many students to make good choices.

Dr. DeCristofaro thanked Officer Grazioso; our principals, assistant principals, and teachers, along with the students who you gave guidance and were a trusted figure for will all miss you.

Dr. DeCristofaro congratulated Quincy High School senior John Kelley who served as Governor for Student Government Day at the State House. Thanks to Quincy High School AP US Government teacher Meg McMillen for her leadership.

Dr. DeCristofaro shared the Revised 2017-2018 School Year Calendar, June 25 last day for students and June 26 is the last day for staff.

Representatives from the Massachusetts School Building Authority recently toured Central Middle School for a Post-Occupancy Site Visit, a new pilot program.

At recent competitions, the High School Robotics team was recognized for their teamwork, organizational plan, and finished 19<sup>th</sup> of 41, earning the creativity award. The high school students are mentoring elementary and middle school teams for May 19 Robotics Challenge event for Grades 5 through 8, sponsored by the QEA. Thanks to facilitators Michael Gendron, Donald Long, Kim Pierce, Paul Tully, and Lynn Byron.

The FY2019 Budget process is beginning and a draft meeting schedule was shared. Dr. DeCristofaro will meet with each School Committee member to discuss their priorities for the new fiscal year.

Upcoming Quincy School~Community Partnership Events: Credit for Life Fair, April 26; Student Athletic Summit, June 1; the Community Service Learning Celebration, May 30; Grade 5 Student Council Leadership, June 4; and Flag Day at Lincoln Hancock sponsored by NAGE.

Quincy Public Schools School Safety & Security Presentation was given this past Monday at the Citywide Parent Council Meeting and will be presented on April 23 at the City Council Public Safety Subcommittee meeting and on April 25 for the QEA Representative Council

Quincy Public Schools will host its sixth Nobel Laureate on May 1 with a visit from Dr. Richard Roberts, recipient of the 1993 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine.

Upcoming Parent Academies include: Healthy Choices Family Night on April 26, elementary and middle school parents and students; May 22 Welcome to Kindergarten; and the May 30 Girl Rising year-end celebration.

This past Saturday, Lincoln Hancock Community School hosted a Touch a Truck event and then hosted the Middle School Swim meet, where over 150 students participated.

On Saturday, April 28, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Picnic in the Park will be held on the grounds of the Adams National Historic Site. This event is a collaboration of the National Park Service, the USDA/Farm to School, the City of Quincy Department of Planning and Community Development and Quincy Public Schools and is free to elementary school students and their families.

F.W. Parker Elementary will celebrate the school’s 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on Saturday, May 12 at 10:00 am. Colonel Francis Parker was the 1<sup>st</sup> Superintendent of Quincy Public Schools, thanks to Principal Margaret MacNeil for her work in planning the celebration.

Dr. DeCristofaro concluded his report by noting that the QHS and NQHS Winter Athletics Newsletters and *Safety First* newsletters had been shared with School Committee.

Mr. Gutro asked about the goals of the MSBA Post-Occupancy Site visit and potential impact on future collaborations. Dr. DeCristofaro said the MSBA’s focus was about maintenance and building materials, this is a pilot program and seemed more mechanically focused. Commissioner Paul Hines represented the City’s Public Buildings department.

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Mrs. Lebo reviewed that there is a proposed change to the Policy Book Section 2.4.11 Public Participation in School Committee Meetings. The current language reads:

Old Business

Policy Book Section  
2.4.11

Open Forum: *An opportunity for community input regarding the Quincy Public Schools. After giving his or her name and address, each speaker may make a presentation of no more than four minutes to the School Committee. An individual may not exchange their time or yield to others.*

and the proposed new language reads:

Open Forum: *An opportunity for community input regarding the Quincy Public Schools. Community in this context is defined as a resident of the City of Quincy, a parent of a student who attends the Quincy Public Schools, or an employee of the Quincy Public Schools. Non-community persons not permitted to speak at Open Forum may submit written statements to the School Committee. After giving his or her name and address, each speaker may make a presentation of no more than four minutes to the School Committee. An individual may not exchange their time or yield to others.*

This proposed language is on this agenda for discussion and will be eligible for vote at the May 2, 2018 School Committee.

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Dr. DeCristofaro introduced Sterling Middle School Principal John Franceschini and Assistant Principal Courtney Mitchell. Ms. Mitchell has been working with Grade 8 students who comprise the Junior Building Committee. Over the last five years, students have created a website, researched the existing school history, and presented at PTO and the Topping Off Ceremony. The students shared video presentations of the new school schematics and current construction status.

New Business  
New Middle School  
Junior Building  
Committee

Mrs. Lebo and Mr. Gutro thanked the presenters.

Dr. DeCristofaro thanked the students, and noted their next presentation is for the current Lincoln Hancock Grade 4 students who will attend the new school as middle school students.

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City Solicitor and Building Committee Chair James Timmins thanked the Junior Building Committee, although the students will not attend school in the new building, they are doing valuable work in documenting the building for the Massachusetts Historic Society. Owners Project Manager Tom Kerwin from PCA 360 introduced Scott Dunlap, Ai3 Architects; Vice President Ken Johnson and Project Executive Dave Capaldo from Bond Brothers, and thanked all for the collaborative process. Project Manager Brian Laroche from PCA 360 reviewed the project status, working towards the completion of the exterior building envelope. Since last November, the foundation and steel frame have been completed. In February, some interior work began for the HVAC system.

New Business  
Construction Update:  
New Southwest Quincy  
Middle School

Mayor Koch said that of all the construction projects in his experience, this project has gone the most seamlessly, the communication is significant. Mayor Koch is looking forward to the opening of the building.

Dr. DeCristofaro thanked the team, including Walter MacDonald from Public Buildings. He is very appreciative of everyone's efforts in keeping this project moving.

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Mayor Koch updated that he has submitted an appropriation for a new design for Kincaide Park. There will be a walking path, running track, soccer fields, a splashpad, basketball courts, and lights. New entrance enhancements are planned for the entrances on Water Street and Roberts Street.

New Business  
Kincaide Park  
Improvements Update

Mr. Andronico asked about the project timeline, Mayor Koch said it will coincide with the opening of the new middle school in 2019.

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Senior Curriculum Director Madeline Roy reviewed that the Department of Elementary & Secondary Education process of revising History & Social Science Frameworks began in 2016 with a review panel which collected input from Pre-K through 12 and higher education stakeholders. Over the course of 2017, there were six meetings of the panel which considered preliminary recommendations and analyzed possible models for the revision of history & social science curriculum framework. The revised standards were presented to the DESE Board in November 2017 and then were available for public comment in the first quarter of 2018. The revised standards are expected to be adopted in June for implementation over the next two school years.

New Business  
2018 History & Social  
Studies Framework

The priorities for the revised frameworks included an emphasis on civics education and deepening understanding by improving the standards to address rigor, clarity, and coherence. Ms. Roy shared the integration of three types of standards: content standards, practice standards (inquire, evaluate, and conclude), and literacy standards (research, writing, collaboration).

North Quincy High School Social Studies Department Chair Danielle Fernandez reviewed the potential impact on course development and sequence. DESE is recommending two full years each of United States History and World History, where currently these are a year and a half each. This would impact students' ability to pursue History & Social Science electives, of which we currently have a large number of options. In terms of integrating the standards, there are considerations for the Massachusetts standards, the Common Core standards, and the AP Practices & Reasoning Skills.

At the middle school levels, the proposal would be for Quincy Public Schools to revise the scope and sequence to integrate Grades 6 and 7 into a two-year sequence of world history and geography by region; ancient and classical civilizations and selected topics in modern history. For Grade 8, the sequence would cover United States and Massachusetts Government and Civic Life.

For the elementary grades, the Grade 3 framework of the history of Massachusetts beginning with the Pilgrims would be expanded to be the history of Massachusetts

and New England through the study of Native Peoples, European explorers/settlers, and the creation of self-government. For Grade 4, the history of the United States, Mexico, and Canada and its peoples from a geographic perspective. Grade 5 focus will be the history of early North American colonies, the expansion and conflict of the United States into the 19<sup>th</sup> century, and the Civil Rights movement. For all grades, there is opportunities for cross-curricular standards (especially Science) and the incorporation of small group, close reading materials.

For Grades Pre-K through 1, there is an introduction to civics, geography, history, and economics, a focus on students' immediate social and community experiences. For Grade 2, World Geography: Places, Peoples, Cultures, and Resources will have students learn about global geography and look at reasons why people settle in particular places, why they migrate and how they bring culture with them.

Professional Development will include "unpacking" the standards during the 2018-2019 school year, creation of interdisciplinary pilot units for elementary and middle school levels, curriculum mapping, and pacing guides. As this work continues over the school year, the budget impact for professional development and curriculum needs will be defined in the spring for the FY2020 budget process. For the 2018-2019 school year, there will be no change to the grade-level and course instruction while this work is going on.

Mr. Gutro complimented the presentation, asked a follow up question about assessment of the implementation of the frameworks. Ms. Roy said DESE provides districts with the framework, but it is on the school district and the teachers' expertise to implement the standards, unless DESE decides to create a Social Sciences MCAS assessment in the future.

Mr. Andronico thanked the presenters and noted that there are benchmarks for Civics-related projects at Grades 5, 8, and 11 and two will be required to graduate from high school. Mr. Andronico asked if Quincy Public Schools currently requires capstone projects. Ms. Fernandez said that certain electives require projects.

Mayor Koch thanked the presenters, would like to see an emphasis on the importance of Quincy in American history, as well as respectful debate and unbiased exploration of the many facets of history. Ms. Perkins said that the community focus begins in Pre-Kindergarten and continues throughout the elementary grades. Mr. McRitchie said that in Grade 8, the Quincy Historic Society has assisted in developing lessons on Quincy's importance during the Civil War era, a less-known impact.

Mr. Luke Molloy noted that the Student Advisory Committee has been involved with some of the discussion. It seems that democracy is the central theme of these new standards, how will this impact the current curriculum. Ms. Roy said this is a major shift and through the vertical teams, this will be explored. In terms of the civics, there are seven principles and there will be a pacing guide so that there is

continuity between schools. Mr. MacRitchie said that there will be some individuation among the schools and teachers. Mr. Molloy asked if Personal Financial Literacy would shift from Career & Technical Education to Social Studies and if Economics will be added at North Quincy High School. Both of these will have to be considerations as the standards are reviewed this year.

Ms. Roy said this is an opportunity to be creative and innovative, while keeping a cohesive pacing and awareness of the possibility of student

Mr. Molloy asked if there is any indication of whether a Social Sciences MCAS would be developed. Mrs. Hubley asked if a Social Sciences MCAS was introduced, how much lead time would there be before implementation, but there is currently no timeline.

Mrs. Lebo asked if the Post-World II History class is required for Grade 12 students. Mr. Bell said this is a half-year course and is often paired with another elective. Mrs. Lebo asked about whether US History can still be taught in one and a half years; Mr. Bell said it becomes more challenging as the content requirements grow. Mrs. Lebo said that she noticed that "Native People" concepts appear 42 times in the new framework, there is huge opportunity for bringing in local history of Native Peoples and formation of governments.

Dr. DeCristofaro said that Quincy Public Schools is so lucky to have the talented professional staff and their thirst for knowledge and continuing growth.

Mrs. Lebo said that the coordination of all of these revised Frameworks over the last few years is incredible, so many plates spinning for the Curriculum staff.

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Mr. Gutro made a motion to accept the recommendation of Superintendent DeCristofaro to withdraw from School Choice for the 2018-2019 school year. Mrs. Hubley seconded the motion and on a roll call vote, the ayes have it, 6-0. Mr. Bregoli was absent.

New Business  
Withdraw from School Choice (Vote)

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Mr. Gutro made a motion to designate Superintendent DeCristofaro as the Quincy Public Schools representative to the South Shore Educational Collaborative for the 2018-2019 school year. Mayor Koch seconded the motion and on a roll call vote, the ayes have it, 6-0. Mr. Bregoli was absent.

New Business  
South Shore Educational Collaborative Representative (Vote)

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Mayor Koch made a motion to approve the June 26-29, 2018 Out of State (Overnight) Travel of North Quincy High School AFJROTC to Senior Outdoor

New Business

Leadership Program at Highland Center, Crawford Notch, New Hampshire. The motion was seconded by Mr. DeAmicis and on a voice vote, the ayes have it.

Out of State Travel (Overnight)

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Mayor Koch made a motion to approve the April 26-28, 2018 In-State Travel (Overnight) of Quincy High School Skills USA to the SkillsUSA State Conference in Marlboro, Massachusetts. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Hubley and on a voice vote, the ayes have it.

New Business

In-State Travel (Overnight)

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Mayor Koch made a motion to approve the June 20, 2018 Out of State Travel (One Day) of Bernazzani Elementary School Grade 5 to Canobie Lake Park, Salem, New Hampshire. The motion was seconded by Mr. Andronico and on a voice vote, the ayes have it.

New Business

Out of State Travel (One Day)

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Mr. Gutro requested an update for Bishop Field issues at an upcoming Athletics & Wellness Subcommittee. Mayor Koch suggested that Mr. Gutro reach out to the Mr. Bregoli who is the School Committee representative on the Park Board.

Additional Business

Mrs. Lebo made a motion to move the Yakoo into the Teaching & Learning Subcommittee. Mr. Gutro seconded the motion and on a voice vote, the ayes have it.

Both of these items will appear on the May 2, 2018 School Committee meeting agenda for referral to the requested subcommittees.

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Upcoming meetings were announced: Regular Meetings on May 2, 2018 and June 13, 2018 at the Coddington Building at 6:30 pm; May 16, 2018 at Central Middle School at 6:30 pm.

Communications

Subcommittee Meetings: On April 25, the Quarterly Budget & Finance Subcommittee will be held at 6:00 pm, followed by Teaching & Learning Subcommittee at 6:15 pm.

Mayor Koch left the meeting at 8:45 pm.

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

Reports of Subcommittees

Mr. DeAmicis reviewed the Facilities, Transportation & Security Subcommittee meeting that was held on March 14, 2018. Commissioner of Public Buildings Paul Hines presented an update on the repair/replacement of water fixtures in response to the water testing program from Fall 2016; Dr. DeCristofaro presented the statistics on incidents in Quincy Public Schools which resulted in disciplinary issues, reported to DESE annually; and Dr. DeCristofaro presented research on metal detector usage on school sites.

Facilities,  
Transportation &  
Security Subcommittee

As there were no corrections, the minutes of the March 14, 2018 Facilities, Transportation & Security Subcommittee were approved as presented.

Mr. Gutro reviewed the March 14, 2018 Athletics & Wellness Subcommittee, where a review of Winter Athletics, including Middle School Athletics was presented. Discussion of league placement and coaching evaluation followed.

Athletics & Wellness  
Subcommittee

As there were no corrections, the minutes of the March 14, 2018 Athletics & Wellness Subcommittee were approved as presented.

Mrs. Lebo reviewed the Teaching & Learning Subcommittee meeting held on March 28, 2018. Ms. Roy presented an update on the Girl Rising initiative, the Advanced Pathway initiative, and the Curriculum Team presented an overview of the Digital Literacy & Computer Science Frameworks.

Teaching & Learning  
Subcommittee

As there were no corrections, the minutes of the March 28, 2018 Teaching & Learning Subcommittee were approved as presented.

Mrs. Hubley reviewed the Policy Subcommittee meeting held on April 5, 2018. Sections 2 and 5 were reviewed, with suggested revised language for 2.4.11 for Public Participation at School Committee meetings brought forward to the full School Committee for consideration.

Policy Subcommittee

As there were no corrections, the minutes of the April 5, 2018 Policy Subcommittee were approved as presented.

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There was no Executive Session.

Executive Session

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Mrs. Hubley made a motion to adjourn for the evening at 9:00 p.m. The motion was seconded by Mr. DeAmicis and on a voice vote, the ayes have it.

Adjournment