



NEWTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE

RUTHANNE FULLER– EX OFFICIO	
Newton School Committee Members	
WARD	
I	Rajeev Parlikar
II	Christopher Brezski
III	Anping Shen
IV	Tamika Olszewski, Chair
V	Emily Prenner
VI	Paul Levy
VII	Kathy Shields, Vice Chair
VIII	Cove Davis

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING –Minutes

- Date:** September 7, 2022
- Location:** Special School Committee meeting via **ZOOM**
- Time:** **6:30 pm** School Committee Meeting
- Members Remote:** Smith, Parlikar, Brezski, Shen, Olszewski, Prenner, Shields, Levy, Davis, Mayor
- Students Remote:** Nabeshima, Currid
- Staff Remote:** Toby Romer, Assistant Superintendent for Secondary Education; Ayesha Farag, Assistant Superintendent for Elementary Education; Renee McCall, Assistant Superintendent for Teaching & Learning; Liam Hurley, Assistant Superintendent/Chief Financial, and Administrative Officer; Casey Ngo Miller, Assistant Superintendent for Special Education/Student Services; Jill Murray, General Counsel; Steven Rattendi, Director of IT and Library Services; Alyssa Baringer, Senior Budget Analyst

Other Staff/Presenters:

The School Committee held a hybrid Regular Meeting on September 7, 2022, at 6:30 p.m., in person (School Committee) and via Zoom (Public), the Chair and vice chair being present. The minutes from April 4, 2022, April 6, 2022 and April 11, 2022 were presented for approval.

The chair opened the meeting at 6:30 pm and welcomed everyone and opened the meeting to Public Comment.

- 1) Laura Towvin – Gun Violence prevention educating students & families regarding gun safety
- 2) Tausig- Gun Violence prevention - educating students & families regarding gun safety

At the conclusion of Public Speak, the Chair asked for Interim Superintendent Kathy Smith to give the Superintendent’s Update.

Interim Superintendents Update

Interim Superintendent Smith presented her update which was received and placed on file. It included enrollment information, highlights from the schools, special programs, staffing, DEI, Building Readiness transportation and Food Services.

Questions, answers and discussion followed.

The Chair called for the Central Staff team to present the FY23 Systemwide Goals

FY23 Systemwide Goals

Interim Superintendent gave an overview of the Goals and and Central Staff members Ayesha, Toby, Renee, Casey, Steven and Liam presented the FY23 Systemwide Goals which was received and placed on file.

The team presented Focus Areas, Targeted Goals and Rationale for **Educational Goals; Family and Community Communications and Engagement Goals; and Operational Goals.**

Questions, answers and discussion followed.

There was much discussion regarding the ongoing request for the team to provide measurable goals in the areas of student outcomes, staff professional development, initiatives such as Culturally Responsive Classroom, etc. Other topics of discussion included establishing a 2-year set of goals; a district Report Card; pandemic recovery.

The Chair thanked the team and announced that she was moving the agenda around – Alyssa Baringer and Liam will present the Superintendent Search Consultant process.

Superintendent Search Consultant Update (Liam/Alyssa)

Liam Hurley presented a memo which announced that the district had selected Hazard, Young, Attea & Associates (HYA) through a non-price proposal which was received and placed on file. HYA was rated by the selection committee as highly advantageous.

Questions, answers and discussion followed.

FY23 School Committee Calendar

This is the second look at the calendar. The Chair announced that the Committee can't vote on this item as it wasn't posted. She tabled it until next meeting

PTO Equity Spending

The Revised PTO Spending Guideline was received and placed on file. The chair said this is the second, or third reading and asked if were there any questions.

There was some discussion regarding the guidelines vs. the policy and what was being voted on. After clarifications the Chair asked for a motion to approve the recommended changes to the PTO Equity Spending Guidelines.

Motion: Prenner

2nd: Davis Further discussion: none
Ward 1 Y Ward 5 Y Mayor Y
Ward 2 N Ward 6 N
Ward 3 Absent Ward 7 Y
Ward 4 Y Ward 8 Y

Motion to approve the PTO Equity Spending Guidelines passes 6 yes- 2 no (Brezski/Levy)-1 (absent Shen)

High School Athletic Petty Cash Balance Increase

The Chair asked for a motion to approve the memo, which was received and placed on file, requesting an increase to the High School's Athletic Petty Cash account from \$2,000 to \$3,500

Motion: Levy

2nd: Davis No further discussion
The Chair called for a Roll Call Vote to approve the request:
Ward 1 Y Ward 5 Y Mayor Y
Ward 2 Y Ward 6 Y
Ward 3 (absent) Ward 7 Y
Ward 4 Y Ward 8 Y

Motion to approve the High School Athletic Petty Cash Account form \$2,000 to \$3,500 8-0-1 (Shen absent) passes

Approve minutes: April 4, 2022, April 6, 2022 and, April 11, 2022

Next the Chair asked for a motion to approve the April 4, 2022, April 11, 2022 and April 12, 2022 minutes with the amendment as noted (Davis not acknowledged as present on April 6 and April 11) which were presented and placed on file.

Motion: Shields

2nd: Prenner
The Chair called for a Roll Call Vote to approve the minutes listed above
Ward 1 Y Ward 5 Y Mayor Y
Ward 2 Y Ward 6 Y
Ward 3 absent Ward 7 Y
Ward 4 Y Ward 8 Y

The minutes were approved 8-0-1 (Shen absent)

The Chair announced that this concludes the posted business for tonight and the next School Committee meeting will be on September 19, 2022. She thanked everyone and adjourned the meeting 9:25 pm.

Lisa Mazzola

School Committee Secretary

Date: January 26, 2023