

**GREENFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
DRAFT MINUTES: Wednesday, September 14, 2016
GCTV Studios, 393 Main Street, Greenfield MA**

Present: Timothy Farrell (TF); Jordana Harper, Superintendent (JH) (arrived 7:30); Susan Hollins (SH); William Martin (WM); Adrienne Nunez (AN); Nathaniel Tripp (NT) Cameron Ward (CW). Student representatives Amy O’Sullivan and Sarah O’Sullivan. **Absent:** none
Also present: Don Alexander, Lea Appel, Adelle Ferreira, Scott Smith; school staff, citizens, and the press.

I. Call to Order

With a quorum present (TF, SH, WM, AN, NT, CW), Chair Farrell opened the meeting at 6:35 p.m.

III. Public Comment

Lea Appel, MSA parent, requested parent forums to continue, shared concerns re: schedule, curriculum changes at MSA: no art or ELT, limited recess.

Adelle Ferreira, MSA parent, requested proactive communication from district to families (e.g., curriculum changes at MSA); requested comprehensive food allergy policy for district; need for food options at school events (MSA ice cream social) that respect all children’s needs.

SH requested posting prior years’ School Cte minutes on district website to allow members to review history of decisions.

IV. Reports

A. Student representatives

Amy O’Sullivan and Sarah O’Sullivan reported on sports events (many on new GHS athletic fields); volunteering at Franklin County Fair and Green River Clean-up; NHS inviting new members; active band; Student Council’s observance of first day of school.

C. Subcommittees

1. Budget, Finance & Negotiations

AN reported that Negotiations Subcte continues positive meetings with GEA. Next meeting is workshop re: finances.

2. Personnel

NT reported that Subcte continues work on 2015-16 Supt. evaluation; request for members’ comments by Sept. 19 and special full Committee mtg Sept. 22. Nov. 1 is deadline for negotiating Supt’s next contract.

2. Health, Safety & Facilities

(Subcte’s main item, MOU, later on agenda.) CW reported Subcte will discuss transportation, including bus students with allergies.

3. Policy & Curriculum

(First reading of financial policies later on agenda.) SH reported that Subcte discussed process for reviewing from initiation of the policy topic to the final posted, voted change, from start to finish”; will next set new priorities.

B. Superintendent

JH provided overview of written reports, including staffing; Kidsfit furniture at Newton;

staffing report, Newton School exercise equipment; charitable giving by Davis Street staff; Civics report; monthly financial report; marketing.

V. Business

A. Memorandum of Understanding between Greenfield Public Schools and Greenfield Police Department Update

NT moved to accept MOU as written. SH 2nd.

- WM moved to amend VII. Program Assessment: “...assessed annually prior to the close of the school year.” AN 2nd. Motion passed.
- SH moved to amend VII. Duration: “shall become effective upon completed execution....” (= upon signing by Supt, TF, Chief of Police). 2nd Motion passed unanimously.
- To be included as attachments: reference materials on restorative justice; statutory citation requiring SRO.

Motion passed unanimously.

B. Open School Committee Seat Vote

Two candidates, Don Alexander and Scott Smith, each spoke of their qualifications. Candidates responded to questions from members.

AN moved to nominate Don Alexander to vacant seat on Greenfield School Cte. SH 2nd.

WM moved to nominate Scott Smith to vacant seat on Greenfield School Cte. SH 2nd.

Discussion: Strength of both candidates. Straw poll split 3-3.

Roll call vote: CW: Don Alexander; NT: Don Alexander; AN: Don Alexander; WM: Don Alexander; SH: Don Alexander. **Motion to approve Don Alexander passed unanimously.**

Mayor Martin administered oath of office to Don Alexander (DA). At 8:01 p.m. DA joined the table as School Cte member.

C. Policies for First Reading and Vote

SH provided first reading of these policies:

DKC: Expense Reimbursement

DJB: Capital Purchasing

DIE: Audits

Responses by counsel and Supt. to be considered in revisions.

VI. Other Business

A. Chair Farrell appointed SH to serve as School Cte representative on town’s Planning and Construction Cte.

B. Chair Farrell appointed SH to serve as official voting delegate to MASC’s annual business mtg Nov. 2

C. At request of NT, special meeting Sept. 22 will be posted.

D. Approval of Draft Minutes

AN moved to approve draft minutes of August 10 and August 24, 2016. 2nd NT. Discussion: Clarify JH preparing draft calendar of DESE checklist (Aug. 24 minutes). Discussion summaries do not imply consensus or action. **Motion passed.**

E. Legal duties of school committees: SH shared documents from MASC school law meeting.

F. Capital planning: SH reported that town's Planning and Construction Committee requiring capital requests by mid-October, earlier than in prior years.

G. Demolition of Davis Street school: cost; fate of valuable materials; RFP; schedule community "nostalgia tour."

VII. Executive Session

Chair Farrell called for Executive Session based on MGL c 30A, §21, (3): To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares.

Roll call vote to enter executive session – Yes: CW, NT, AN, TF, DA, SH, WM. Moved into executive session at 8:15 p.m.

Roll call vote to leave executive session – Yes: CW, NT, AN, TF, DA, SH, WM. Public session resumed at 8:35 p.m.

AN requested Chair to reach out to MASC or Collaborative to provide Cte with general information about investigative process.

AN moved to table the topic until further information is available. 2nd Roll call vote: Yes: CW, AN, TF, DA, WM. No: SH, NT. **Motion to table passed.**

VIII. Adjournment

WN moved to adjourn. 2nd CW. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Farber
Recording Secretary