GREENFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES: Wednesday, January 10, 2018
Greenfield High School, 21 Barr Ave., Greenfield MA
Approved 02.14.18

Present: Don Alexander (DA); Katie Caron (KC); Susan Eckstrom (SE); Jordana Harper, Superintendent (JH); Susan Hollins (SH); William Martin (WM) (arrived 6:40); Adrienne Nunez (AN); Cameron Ward (CW). Absent: none

Also present:
GHS student representative Anthony Bohannon; Bob Cooley, resident; Abby Desjardins, The Management Solution; Doug Selwyn, resident; other school staff and citizens.

I. Call to Order
With a quorum present (DA, KC, SE, SH, AN, CW), Chair Nunez opened the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

II. Approval of Minutes
SH moved to approve minutes of December 13, 2017. DA 2nd. Motion tabled.
CW moved to approve minutes of January 2, 2018. 2nd. Motion passed 5-0-1 (SH abstain).

III. Public Comment
Doug Selwyn, resident, asked if School Cte has policy re: refusals/opt-out of state tests.
Bob Cooley, resident, expressed support for civics curriculum and for overall work of newly constituted Committee.

IV. Reports
A. Student Representatives
GHS student Anthony Bohannon reported on GHS activities, including music and Student Council events; fundraisers; dress/suit free-store (for formal dance); community service day; midterm exams in two weeks.

B. Chair
- Thanked staff, administrators, DPW for work on snow/ice removal and buildings in extreme cold.
- Pointed to “Role of the Chair” (MASC publication) as guideline
- Reviewed function of subcommittees: place for extended conversations; either vote or consensus; quorum = 2 members.
- Reminded members of open meeting law – no outside deliberations, including email/on-line.
- Recommended members read Section B policies.
- Workshops requested by members.

    SH moved that a School Committee workshop be developed around budget. DA 2nd. Motion passed unanimously.
    SH requested workshop with specialist attorney (MASC) on School Committee roles and duties.

AN presented recommendations for additional appointments.

    DA moved to appoint Susan Hollins to [Town] Planning and Construction Committee. CW 2nd. Motion passed unanimously.
SH moved to appoint Don Alexander as Parliamentarian. WM 2nd. Motion passed 6-0-1 (DA abstain).

WM moved to appoint Susan Eckstrom as representative to the Collaborative for Educational Services. SH 2nd. Motion passed unanimously.

Planning & Construction, CES reports to be included on agenda with subcommittee reports.

C. Superintendent’s Report
JH welcomed new members and overviewed packet:
- NEASC’s positive progress report re: GHS
- School newsletters
- Budget summaries
- Upcoming events: GHS informational night and music concert; Jan. 15 schools closed; Jan. 16 PD day; Feb. 19-23 vacation.
- School calendar to be reviewed by union before presentation to School Cte

V. Old Business
A. Policy GCG: Substitute Teacher Employment
SH provided overview of development of revised policy. Revision removes part-time teachers; clarifies pay distinction between daily (full day, extended day, half-day) and long-term substitutes. SH provided 2nd reading of GCG.
SH moved to approve the revision of Policy GCG, Substitute Teacher Employment. SE 2nd. Motion passed 6-1.

B. Superintendent Goals
AN summarized work of out-going Personnel Subcommittee on goals and consensus to support. Noted that “proficient” rating is marked in handout in error; vote is to accept goals, not evaluate.
JH presented goals in 3 areas: Professional Practice; Student Learning; District Improvement.

WM moved to change student area of learning to math instead of language arts. SH 2nd. Motion withdrawn.

SH moved to move [Supt goals] to Subcommittee and bring back to Committee for endorsement. WM 2nd. Motion passed 6-1.

VI. New Business
A. Request for reports/information
WM requested data on enrollment; enrollment of students from Puerto Rico; school choices seats; new hires.

B. Policy KF, Community Use of School Facilities
SH questioned change to Policy KF; SH said “because Superintendent’s office must be aware of all building rentals for business office fees.” Referred to Policy Subcommittee.

IX. Adjournment
SH moved to adjourn. 2nd. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Farber
Recording Secretary
Meeting Documents

1. Agenda: January 10, 2018
2. Draft minutes: December 13, 2017 and January 2, 2018
3. Policy BJ: School Committee Legislative Program
5. NEASC letter to GHS Principal Patenaude RE: accreditation (Dec. 7, 2017)
6. School newsletters
7. Financial reports
   a. Budget Summary (memo from TMS Abigail Desjardins, January 8, 2018)
   b. Year-to-Date Budget Report FY 18, December 31, 2017
   c. Revenue, Gift & Scholarship account balances, December 29, 2017
   d. Project account (no date)
8. Policy GCG: Part-Time and Substitute Professional Staff Employment
10. Role of the Chair (MASC guide)