

**GREENFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES: Wednesday, May 9, 2018**
Greenfield High School, 21 Barr Ave., Greenfield MA
Approved 06.13.18

Present: Don Alexander (DA); Katie Caron (KC); Susan Eckstrom (SE); Susan Hollins (SH); Adrienne Nunez (AN)

Absent: Jordana Harper, Superintendent (JH); William Martin (WM); Cameron Ward (CW).

Also present:

GHS student representative Dylan Badillo; Dianne Ellis, Director of Pupil Services; Mark Williams, Deputy Chief, Greenfield Police Dept.; Greenfield residents Doug Selwyn, Jan Maher; other school staff and citizens.

I. Call to Order

With a quorum present (KC, SE, SH, AN), Chair Nunez opened the meeting at 5:30 p.m.

II. Executive Session

AN announced intent to move into Executive Session in accordance with MGL c 30A, §21, (2) To conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with non-union personnel.

SH moved to enter Executive Session. 2nd SE. Roll call vote: Yes – KC, SE, SH, AN. Moved into executive session at 5:33 p.m.

KC moved to leave Executive Session. SE 2nd. Roll call vote: Yes – KC, SE, SH, AN. Returned to public session at 7:25 p.m.

III. Approval of Minutes

KC moved to approve minutes of April 11, 2018. SE 2nd. Motion passed unanimously.

IV. Public Comment

Doug Selwyn, resident, asked that the money for proposed School Resource Officers be used instead for student services; supports investment in schools as good business.

Jan Maher, resident, shared concerns about SROs: students' testimony about physical/emotional safety, adequate training, need to build community.

Paul DeMarco, representing MTA and GEA, suggested \$225K surplus in City's budget (snow/ice removal) be transferred to schools; compared Police Dept, Public Works 10% increase to 4.5% decrease to School Dept budget, despite increasing enrollment; supports using SRO \$ for school services.

V. Reports

A. Student Representative

GHS student Dylan Badillo reported on GHS activities including upcoming AP and MCAS testing; Trivia Night fundraiser for Student Council; Film Festival; Relay for Life; prom, graduation; community service day; band awarded Gold Medal.

B. Chair

AN reported on:

- Teacher Appreciation Week
- proposal by Councilor Sund to change Town Charter re: term limits

- School Committee shared folder still in process
- Vote on school choice either June meeting or prior special meeting

C. Superintendent (AN reporting on behalf of JH)

- Madison Walker, Food Service Director, has submitted resignation to spend more time with family.
- Budget reports available for review
- Members encouraged to attend Class Night and Commencement

D. Subcommittees

1. Personnel & Negotiations (DA)

- Continued discussion on Human Resources MOU, legal representation, legislative representative
- Supt. annual evaluation next month. Members to review JH's self-assessment and supporting documents May 18—June 3. By June 4, send comments to SE for merging. Special Mtg June 18 for evaluation of Supt.
- Subcommittee's recommendation: Personnel Subcommittee recommends the Town of Greenfield consider and evaluate cost-saving options for human resources services, including an online program to provide employees a self-service option for benefits administration for future possible expansion to school district employees.

2. Policy & Program (DA)

- Policies for 2nd reading later on agenda
- Studied Policies BG, BGB, BGC, related to Policy Adoption & Review
- Upcoming – discussion of policy language re: students at after school hours; Supt. is gathering information; BDD, Subcommittees of the School Cte.

3. Budget (SH reporting on behalf of CW)

- How to bridge \$800K different between School Committee's voted budget and Mayor's budget
- Revolving funds reporting
- Additional \$150K to be added to City's stabilization fund for special education = \$250K total
- Voted to accept the Superintendent's recommendation for \$426K reserve funds, FY19 budget
- Impact of enrollment increase, including additional Grade 5 position at GMS

4. Health, Safety & Facilities (KC)

- Discussed SRO proposal, later on agenda

5. Town Planning & Construction Committee (SH)

- Review of how Committee's recommendations are used in city planning, especially re: capital requests

VI. Business

A. School Resource Officer Proposal

Deputy Chief Williams read statement from Chief Robert Haigh, in support of proposal for three School Resource Officers.

Discussion: How additional officers would be deployed; request for needs assessment, more detailed proposal, mission; support for truancy officer; new MA legislation; role of School Committee in program.

SH moved that we endorse no more than one SRO for FY19 and we work with police chief on an amended MOU that addresses the needs of the school district and with full appreciation for the

sensitivities of our students and families as well as our needs for intervention where the position could be helpful. Motion failed for lack of second.

B. Foundation Budget Review Commission Recommendation

Tabled from last meeting. AN urged endorsement.

KC moved to table discussion until June. DA 2nd. Motion to table passed unanimously.

C. City and School Human Resources

Discussion has been going on for a long time. No evidence that HR merge would save money or reduce staff. The MUNIS conversion will provide online resource for member benefits for employees, which was requested by Personnel & Negotiations Subcommittee.

DA moved that we the School Committee of Greenfield Public Schools officially announce that we are no longer interested in further conversation or deliberation about creating a Human Resources MOU with the City of Greenfield and that we support the implementation of a digital resources option to address inquires related to employee retirement and insurance benefits. SE 2nd. Motion passed unanimously.

SE made a motion to amend agenda to move H. School Requests for Maintenance and Safe Transportation next on agenda. SH 2nd. Motion failed 0-4-1.

D. Policies for 2nd Reading

1. JKAA: Physical Restraint of Students

DA provided 2nd reading of JKAA.

KC moved to approve modified JKAA policy. SE 2nd.

KC moved to revise para. 2, line 2: – “...to prevent a student from ~~injuring himself or herself~~ self-injurious behavior....” SH 2nd. Motion to amend passed unanimously.

Motion to approve JKAA as amended passed unanimously.

2. JLD: Guidance Program and JLD-E: Guidance Program

DA moved to table consideration of JLD Guidance Program and JLD-E Guidance Program until June meeting for 2nd reading at that time. SH 2nd. Motion passed unanimously.

Dianne Ellis requested consideration of Policy JJ Extracurricular Activities, to add inclusive language re: gender-identity and homelessness. Was tabled at March 24 meeting.

E. MASC Policy Manual Service

DA presented MASC's for-fee services to support policy development/review. Policy Subcommittee supports subscription. Policy Manual Development Support Service, cost: \$10K for one MASC staff member dedicated to supporting full review of policies.

SH moved that we consider the MASC Policy Service for January of 2019 and we spend the next 6 months to complete policies in the pipeline. Motion failed for lack of second.

KC moved to table conversation to July or August meeting. SH 2nd. AN will follow up with SH re: Policy Subcommittee work. Motion to table passed 4-1.

F. Unit C Collective Bargaining Memorandum of Understanding

AN introduced and read MOU related to longevity

SE moved to approve the MOU with Unit C regarding longevity and to add appropriate appendix title/header. DA 2nd. Motion passed unanimously.

G. Stakeholder Letter

DA introduced draft letter. **KC moved to table. SH 2nd. Motion to table passed 4-1.**

H. School Requests for Maintenance and Safe Transportation

AN provided background, including discussions by Health, Safety & Facilities Subcommittee. Desire for DPW to prioritize work related to school safety and transportation, e.g., signs, painting crosswalks, fences. Supt. to meet with city engineer.

SH made a motion, with warm weather and increased encouragement for students to walk and bike to school in May and June, to respectfully request our DPW re-paint worn crosswalks for all schools. Motion failed for lack of second.

AN will follow up with Supt. to share needs.

VII. New Business

AN proposed request to Town Council to increase \$ for schools in Mayor's budget. \$400K increase would allow level services. SH noted need for \$250K for level services; \$100K for 5th grade teacher, MSA administrator; \$50K building security needs.

SH made a motion that, with time to study and review both the Mayor's recommendation for the school district in FY 19 and our budget needs, to request the City Council identify \$400K in the proposed city budget for FY19 that can be added to the Mayor's recommendation for the GPS budget for FY19. KC 2nd. Motion passed unanimously.

VIII. New Agenda Items

SH: LGBTQ resources for school counselors/principals; discuss what School Cte can do to support students, culture.

SH: Request for reports from Federal St, Newton, GMS. Important to give equal time to schools.

VIII. Adjournment

SH moved to adjourn. 2nd CW. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 10:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Farber
Recording Secretary

Meeting Documents

1. Agenda and Timed Agenda: May 9, 2018
2. Draft minutes: April 11, 2018
3. Subcommittee minutes
 - a. Personnel & Negotiations, April 17, 2018
 - b. Policy & Programs, April 24, 2018
 - c. Budget & Finance, May 2, 2018
 - d. Health, Safety & Facilities, May 1, 2018
4. School Newsletters
5. Budget Reports
 - a. Year-to-Date, as of April 30, 2018

- b. Account Balances, as of April 30, 2018
 - c. MUNIS
- 6. Karin Patenaude, GHS Principal, invitation to Commencement
- 7. Policies
 - a. JKAA: Physical Restraint of Students
 - b. JLD: Guidance Program
 - c. JLD-E: Guidance Program
- 8. Proposal for Policy Manual Development, MASC
- 9. MOU between Greenfield Public Schools and the Greenfield Education Association
- 10. Draft Letter from School Committee (from DA)
- 11. Motions to amend Town Charter re: term limits
- 12. Policy Twenty-One (MASC brochure)