

**GREENFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES: Wednesday, August 8, 2018**
GCTV Studio, 393 Main Street, Greenfield MA
Approved 09.12.18

Present: Don Alexander (DA); Katie Caron (KC); Susan Eckstrom (SE); Jordana Harper, Superintendent (JH); Susan Hollins (SH); Adrienne Nunez (AN)

Absent: William Martin (WM); Cameron Ward (CW)

Also present: Pat Correira and Liz Lafond, MASC; Matthew Holloway, candidate for Director of Pupil Services; Stephen Nembirkow, Business Manager; other school staff and citizens.

I. Call to Order

With a quorum present (DA, KC, SE, SH, AN), Chair Nunez opened the meeting at 6:32 p.m.

II. Approval of Minutes

KC moved to approve minutes of July 11, 2018. 2nd SE. Correction: "Executive Session - KC moved to leave Executive Session. SH 2nd." **Motion passed unanimously.**

III. Public Comment

none

DA made a motion to move V. B. and V. A. ahead of Reports. KC 2nd. Motion passed unanimously.

V. Business

B. Results of MASC Self-Evaluation

Pat Correira and Liz Lafond, MASC, provided summary of School Committee's Self Evaluation.

AN moved to have a workshop with Pat Correira and Liz Lafond to follow up on our annual self-evaluation. DA 2nd. Motion carried 4-0-1.

A. Director of Pupil Services Interview: Matthew Holloway

JH described search and selection process and candidate Matthew Holloway's qualifications. Holloway gave an opening statement.

KC asked about approach to services for English Language Learners.

SH asked about reading instruction especially for older students (grades 7-12).

AN asked about building positive relationships with families, students, staff, and beyond.

DA asked about management skills and leadership vision.

SE asked about inclusion, push-in and pull-out services, and least restrictive environment.

KC asked about supports for struggling students who do not qualify for services but need support.

SH asked about funding and entrepreneurial thinking to create income (e.g., adult education, special education student tuition).

AN asked about appeal of working in Greenfield Public Schools and long-term career goals.

DA asked about state and federal issues of concern.

SE asked about supporting stability of special education staff.

Holloway asked members to describe what they see as the district's greatest strength and a problem of concern.

KC moved that we enter into negotiations with Matthew Holloway for the position of Director of Pupil Services. DA 2nd. Motion passed unanimously.

IV. Reports

A. Chair (AN)

AN directed members to materials related to self-evaluation; upcoming discussion of Student handbook.

B. Superintendent (JH)

- Extended Learning Time grant \$769,164 for Newton, GMS/MSA.
- Alert on Janus decision affecting collective bargaining
- Launch of parent communication app, which provides translation into multiple languages
- Recent media coverage
- Budget reports; FY18 budget close-out
- Positive reflection on tonight's interview of Matthew Holloway

Discussion of budget reports with Business Manager Nembirkow:

FY19

- Change "assistant supt of curriculum" to "curriculum coordinator"
- Change "paraprofessionals" to "instructional assistants"
- Professional Development appears in each school site and district-wide. Nembirkow to provide AN with PD-budget summary.
- Change "personnel assistant" to "Human Resources Services"
- No ELL \$ in North Parish, Federal Street lines: using shared services at district level.
- Transportation contract is currently being negotiated. Includes transportation to charter schools. Same services as last year but with 8 routes, 8-bus limit.

FY18

- \$15K for referees not spent: is there no need?
- \$66K for substitutes not spent: Despite high need for subs, subs not available
- \$8K for growth model assessment: unspent, or posted elsewhere?
- Technology budget over-run: subscriptions essential to curriculum; capital requests not funded for last years.

D. Subcommittees

1. Health, Safety & Facilities (KC)

Reviewed proposal for Green River School, support for Supt. to move forward.

Consensus on need for truant officer.

SH moved to re-prioritize swipe cards for school doors for FY19 action. KC 2nd. Was cut from capital budget. Potential swap with AEL trim work if Town Council process can be clarified. Motion passed unanimously.

2. Personnel & Negotiations (DA)

Supt's annual goals to be presented at School Committee's regular September mtg.

Members to submit Supt evaluation comments to SE by end of day Aug. 10.

Seeking quorum for special meeting for Supt. evaluation (August 16?)

3. Policy & Program (DA)

Continued discussion of problem of students not being picked up after school; and need for truant officer.

DA moved that the School Committee direct the Superintendent to generate a proposal for a truant officer. KC 2nd. Motion passed unanimously.

V. Business

C. Green River Usage Plan

JH described proposed GHS alternative education program, Green River Educational Alternatives for Teens (GREAT) School, to be held at Green River School building.

KC moved to endorse the Superintendent's pilot proposal for the GREAT School at Green River School. SE 2nd. Motion passed unanimously.

VII. New Agenda Items

SH: School Committee goals

VIII. 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 (*Director of Pupil Services*) and (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 (*cafeteria workers contract*).

KC moved to enter Executive Session. 2nd SE. Roll call vote: Yes – (DA, KC, SE, SH, AN). Moved into executive session at 10:01 p.m.

KC moved to leave Executive Session. 2nd SE. Roll call vote: Yes – (DA, KC, SE, SH, AN). Returned to public session at 10:57 p.m.

IX. Adjournment

SE moved to adjourn. 2nd KC. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 10:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Farber
Recording Secretary

Meeting Documents

1. Notice of Meeting, Agenda and Timed Agenda: August 8, 2018
2. Draft minutes: July 11, 2018
3. Subcommittee minutes:
 - a. Policy & Programs, July 24, 2018
 - b. Budget & Finance, July 6
 - c. Personnel & Negotiations, July 24, 2018
4. School Committee Self Evaluation, with memo from Pat Correira and Liz Lafond, August 8, 2018
5. Documents regarding Self-Evaluation:
 - a. Greenfield Public Schools Strategic Plan
 - b. Policy ADA: School District Mission and Goals
 - c. GPS School Committee Goals (Internal) 13 December 2017 – July 1, 2019
 - d. Policy BBA: School Committee Powers and Duties
 - e. Policy BA: School Committee Strategic Objectives
6. Letter from Gov. Baker to Supt. Harper, August 1, 2018, re: ELT grant \$769,164
7. Budget Reports
 - a. Memo from Steve Nembirkow, August 1, 2018
 - b. Year-to-Date MUNIS, as of 7/31/2018
 - c. Year-to-Date Budget Report, as of 7/31/2018
 - d. Revenue, Gift, and Scholarship Accounts, as of 7/31/2018
 - e. All-Funds Budget FY19
8. Director of Pupil Services documents
 - a. Director of Pupil Services job posting
 - b. Matthew Holloway, job application documents
 - c. Sample School Committee Questions to ask the Director of Pupil Services candidate
9. MASC Legal Alert, July 6, 2018
10. Pilot Proposal: GHS Alternative Education Program
11. GPS Announces New Parent Communication App! (gpsk12.org)
12. *Composting: Kids have got it down pat*, Recorder editorial, August 2, 2018 (gpsk12.org)