

I. **CALL OF MEETING  
TO ORDER AND FLAG  
SALUTE**

A regular meeting of the School Committee was held in the Library at 201 Gliniewicz Way.

Present: Ms. Kathy Bailey, Chairperson; Mr. Mike Kurowski, Vice-Chair; Ms. Jannette Leary, Secretary; Mr. Chris Coyle, and Ms. Wendy Happel, Members. Also in attendance were Mr. Peter Schafer, Superintendent of Schools; Ms. Felicia Moschella, Assistant Superintendent for Business and Finance; and Ms. Theresa Minnehan, Executive Secretary.

II. **HEARING OF VISITORS**

Mr. Russo acknowledged that the Boosterthon at the Woodsdale and Beaver Brook Elementary Schools kicked off today with a rally at each of the schools. The funds raised from this school-wide event will help to fund enrichment programs at each school. He thanked the parents involved in organizing this program for our students. Mr. Schafer also thanked the parents and staff and acknowledged that money raised last year helped to fund technology in the schools.

Ms. Bailey stated that there is a public hearing on School Choice for the 2018-2019 school year and to accommodate the 7:30 p.m. public hearing, there may be an interruption in the meeting.

III. **READING AND APPROVAL OF RECORDS**

A. September 26, 2017

VOTED: on motion of Mike Kurowski (Jannette Leary) the members of the School Committee voted to approve the minutes of September 26, 2017, as presented.

Yes: Ms. Leary  
Mr. Coyle  
Mr. Kurowski  
Ms. Bailey  
Abstain: Ms. Happel

IV. **REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS**

A. *Cooperative Girls' Hockey Team with Rockland and Hull High Schools.*

Peter Serino, Athletic Director for the Abington Public Schools, was present this evening to inform the members of the School Committee that Abington is interested in forming a club

activity, girls' hockey with Rockland and Hull High Schools which will allow girls in grades 9-12 to participate in hockey this school year. The goal of the club will be to progress towards a varsity program within the next few years. It will run in the winter season, beginning after Thanksgiving through late February. Mr. Serino has met and discussed with Rockland and Hull and also met with interested students who completed a survey.

B. *Superintendent of Schools' Self Evaluation for 2016-2017.*

Ms. Bailey stated that according to the Superintendent of School's evaluation calendar, Mr. Schafer submitted his self evaluation to her recently; however, due to the state schedule around the release of MCAS results, this item will be delayed until the November meeting.

C. *Re-Configuration Update.*

Mr. Schafer provided an update on the ongoing work around the new grade and building configuration. Mr. Schafer stated that the buses are rolling into Beaver Brook about seven minutes earlier due to some changes made at the middle school dismissal; for example, students are going to their lockers at the beginning of 7<sup>th</sup> period rather than at the end of the day. Signage and routing around the new building will improve in the coming weeks. This is a work in progress and Mr. Schafer will keep the members and parents informed of any changes and/or improvements.

D. *Consideration of Abington Public Schools' participation in the School Choice Program for the 2018-2019 school year in accordance with Chapter 71, The Education Reform Act of 1993.*

***Public Hearing on School Choice Participation for the 2018-2019 school year.***

VOTED: the members of the School Committee unanimously voted by roll call vote to enter the public hearing on school choice for the 2018-2019 school year.

Yes: Ms. Happel  
Ms. Leary  
Mr. Kurowski  
Mr. Coyle  
Ms. Bailey

Mr. Schafer informed the members of the Abington School Committee on the process for districts to participate or opt out of school choice stating that that Chapter 71 of the Education Reform Act of 1993 requires a public hearing on school choice. Mr. Schafer reviewed the current state of enrollment in Abington and that overall we are up just over 100 students, most at the new school building. Approximately, 15 percent of students left Abington for private school

or vocational schools which is significantly lower than the 30 percent in previous years. He also stated that many new 2 or 3 bedroom homes are being built, data he received from the Assessor's office and due to these factors, he is recommending that Abington not participate in school choice for the 2018-2019 school year. Members asked questions and recommended that a vote be postponed until the November 28, 2017, meeting.

VOTED: the members of the School Committee unanimously voted by roll call vote to return to the regular meeting session.

Yes: Ms. Happel  
Ms. Leary  
Mr. Kurowski  
Mr. Coyle  
Ms. Bailey

## V. REPORT OF SUBCOMMITTEES

### A. Review of Proposed MASC Resolutions for 2017.

Ms. Bailey asked members to look at the seven resolutions included in the packet that she will be voting on at the MASC/MASS Joint Conference next week. The Committee reviewed the resolutions and voted on the following: Resolution #1: *Movement of the Chapter 70 Funding Enrollment Date to March 15*, the members of the School Committee are in favor to support Resolution #1; Resolution #2: *Reform of Circuit Breaker Funding*, the members of the School Committee are in favor to support Resolution #2; Resolution #3: *Litigation for Fair School Finance*, the members of the School Committee are in favor to support Resolution #3; Resolution #4: *Privatization of Public Education and the Oversight of Public Schools, Including Small and Regional Districts*, the members of the School Committee are in favor to support Resolution #4; Resolution #5: *Use of Federal Funds*, the members of the School Committee are in favor to support Resolution #5; Resolution #6: *Foundation Budget*, the members of the School Committee are in favor to support Resolution #6; Resolution #7: *Affordable Care Act and Medicaid*, the members of the School Committee are in favor to support Resolution #7.

## VI. REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT FOR PUPIL PERSONNEL SERVICES

### A. Special Education Parent Advisory Council Update.

Mr. Schafer reported on behalf Dr. Thomas this evening as she is at a conference. He acknowledged and thanked the recently elected members of the Special Education Parent Advisory Board: Jayne Coyle, Chair; Aimee Kellstrand, Vice-Chair; Secretary, Harla Manesis.

Mr. Schafer stated that Dr. Thomas is pleased to have these parents on the Board to help advise her in the area of special education.

B. Professional Development Update.

Mr. Schafer stated that the all-day professional development for staff on Tuesday, October 31<sup>st</sup> will be the continuation of technology. He is pleased that staff are delivering lessons using technology and students are responding through the use of technology.

C. Additional 2017-2018 Home Education Approval Request.

On behalf of Dr. Thomas Mr. Schafer stated that one additional family has completed all the required paperwork to home school one student, and he is recommending that the members of the School Committee approve this request this evening.

VOTED: on motion of Chris Coyle (Jannette Leary) the members of the School Committee unanimously voted to approve the additional home education program for the 2017-2018 school year as recommended by Mr. Schafer on behalf of Dr. Thomas.

**VII. REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT FOR BUSINESS AND FINANCE**

A. Presentation and Consideration of the FY-2019 School Department Budget Development and Article Planning Schedule.

Ms. Moschella reviewed the FY-2019 school department budget development and article planning schedule with the members of the Abington School Committee. This is the schedule that has been followed for many years of budget development. FY-2019 budget materials have been sent to principals and department heads and meetings will take place during the first week of December in preparation for the preliminary budget hearing of the Abington School Committee on January 2, 2018.

VOTED: on motion of Chris Coyle (Jannette Leary) the members of the School Committee unanimously voted to approve the FY-19 school department budget development and article planning schedule as presented.

B. Update on School Building Committee.

Prior to Ms. Moschella's building update, she addressed the concern of the North River Collaborative vans parking at the Beaver Brook Elementary School. These vans were from the program housed at the Frolio and they have been asked to park at the Frolio. Ms. Moschella reported on the continuation of the completion of the prek/middle/high school building punch lists; specifically work on the HVAC system. She also reported that the asphalt and parking should be complete in November as well as signage around the building and the completion of the fields and seeding and that after three growing season, they fields will be ready for use. She reported that the site contractor will be de-mobilized in November as well. Ms. Moschella was pleased to report that the school opened one year earlier than anticipated.

VIII. **ESTABLISHING OF NEXT SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING DATES**

*Tuesday, November 28, 2017 @ 7:00 p.m. Regular Monthly Meeting*

IX. **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:**

• **Dates to Remember**

1. Tues., October 31 – Professional Development Day for Staff – No School For Students
2. Wed., November 1 – Fri., November 3 – MASC/MASS Joint Conference
3. Wed., November 1 – Green Wave Boosters' Meeting in the Middle/High School Library @ 7:00 p.m.
4. Wed., November 8 – National Honor Society Induction in the High School Auditorium at 6:30 p.m.
5. Fri., November 10 – Veterans' Day – All School Offices and Buildings Closed
6. Wed., November 22 – Half Day (Thanksgiving Break Begins)
7. Thurs., and Fri., November 23 and 24 – All School Offices and Buildings Closed
8. Tues., November 28 – Next Regularly Scheduled School Committee Meeting at the Middle/High School Library @ 7 p.m.

- MA DESE Press Release: *State Releases 2017 Accountability Results, Seven High School Commended*

Mr. Schafer acknowledged and congratulated all staff in the Abington Public Schools for the recent recognition of Abington High School being one of seven school districts for high achievement and making strong progress and/or narrowing proficiency gaps.

- READS Collaborative's Quarterly Report, September 2017

- North River Collaborative's Quarterly Report, October 2017
- DESE Talking Points for Grades 3-8
- Correspondence from the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education – *MCAS Letter to Parents*
- Abington Education Foundation 2017-2018 Grant Program

Mr. Schafer thanked the Foundation for all their work and for the generous funding of over \$20,000 for enrichment programs in our schools.

- **Personnel Administration - Informational**

1. The Superintendent has granted Meghan Boudreau, a Reading Teacher within the Abington Public Schools, a parental leave of absence in accordance with Options B and A as stipulated in Article XXIV of the Unit A Agreement. This leave will commence on or about October 19, 2017, and continue until to February 26, 2018.
2. On the recommendation of Teresa Sullivan, Principal of Abington High School, the Superintendent has approved the appointment of Judith Buckley as a special needs tutor within the Abington Public Schools effective on Monday, September 22, 2017.
3. On the recommendation of Matthew MacCurtain, Principal of the Abington Middle School, the Superintendent has approved the recommendation of Steven Butler as a special education tutor within the Abington Public Schools effective on Wednesday, September 27, 2017.
4. On the recommendation of Jonathan Hawes, Principal of the Woodsdale Elementary School, the Superintendent has approved the appointment of Mary Carberry as a substitute Reading Teacher for Ms. Meghan Boudreau effective on or about October 19, 2017, and continuing to February 26, 2018.
5. On the recommendation of Teresa Sullivan, Principal of Abington High School, the Superintendent has approved the appointment of Matthew Cutter as an English Teacher within the Abington Public Schools effective Monday, October 2, 2017.
6. On the recommendation of Teresa Sullivan, Principal of Abington High School, the Superintendent has approved the appointment of Riva Millosi as a part-time library tutor within the Abington Public Schools effective on Tuesday, October 10, 2017.

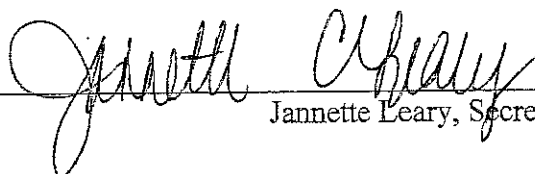
7. On the recommendation of Teresa Sullivan, Principal of Abington High School, the Superintendent has approved the appointment of Kristin Reardon as an instructional paraprofessional within the Abington Public Schools effective on Wednesday, October 4, 2017.
8. On the recommendation of Teresa Sullivan, Principal of Abington High School, the Superintendent has approved the appointment of Karin Whitten as a special needs tutor within the Abington Public Schools effective on Monday, September 25, 2017.
9. On the recommendation of Teresa Sullivan, Principal of Abington High School, the Superintendent has approved the appointment of the following advisors:
  - ACE After School Program Susan Crowley
  - Intramural Stephen Perakslis
  - Freshman Class Advisor Kristin Reardon
10. On the recommendation of Matthew MacCurtain, Principal of the Abington Middle School, the Superintendent has approved the appointment of the following advisors:
  - Theater Club Karena Paleologo
  - Spring Track Jessica Sullivan
  - Spring Track Lauren Peruzzi
  - Grades 5 & 6 Chorus Steve Shannon
  - Art Club Michelle Jacobs
  - Intramurals Club James Gorman
  - Intramurals Club Steven Butler
  - Student Account Bookkeeper Ann Parks
  - Student Council Megan Tomlin
  - Homework Club Steven Butler

*Abington Public Schools Employee Grid of FTE*

<i>2017-2018</i>	<i>updated</i>			<i>Additional</i>
<i>10/18/17</i>	<i>Paras</i>	<i>Tutors</i>	<i>Teachers, Nurses, Psychologists and Guidance</i>	
Early Education Program	7	0	4	
BBES	15	2	28	
Woodsdale	7	2	22	
Middle School	14	4.5	43.3	
High School	3	5	42	-1 Para at AHS +1 Tutor at AHS
District Wide	1		18	
	47	13.5	157.3	

X. **EXECUTIVE SESSION** @ 8:22 p.m. by roll call vote for the purpose of discussing the litigation Jones v. The Town of Abington and not to return to public session.

Yes: Ms. Happel  
 Mr. Coyle  
 Mr. Kurowski  
 Ms. Leary  
 Ms. Bailey

  
 Jannette Leary, Secretary