

**BELMONT SCHOOL COMMITTEE MINUTES
CHENERY MIDDLE SCHOOL COMMUNITY ROOM
OCTOBER 10, 2017**

Present: Dr. Lisa Fiore, Chair
 Ms. Susan Burgess-Cox, Secretary
 Mr. Murat Bicer
 Ms. Kate Bowen
 Ms. Andrea Prestwich
 Mr. John Phelan, Superintendent
 Ms. Janice Darias, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction
 Mr. Anthony DiCologero, Director of Finance, Business and Operations

Absent: Mr. Thomas Caputo

Mary Pederson, Human Resources Director invited each teacher receiving Professional Status – listed below - to come up to receive a certificate and small gift as a token of gratitude from the School Committee and Belmont School Administration. Superintendent Phelan congratulated all the Professional Status Recipients along with Mary Pederson and Dr. Lisa Fiore, School Committee Chair.

Atlas	Anne	Burbank	T - Grade 1
Chung Swallow	Yu-Chen	High School	T - Foreign Language (Chinese)
Costa	Sarah	Burbank	T - Grade 3
Edwards	Quinn	Chenery	T - Grade 5, Math/Science
Ellis	Jennifer	Burbank	T - ESL
Ferretti	Lisa	Wellington	T - Reading
Gu	MuQing	High School	T - Foreign Language (Chinese)
Hausman	Rachel	Chenery	T - Grade 5, ELA/Social Studies
Hayashi	Kathryn	Burbank + Winn Brook	T - Music
Ketchen	Paul	High School	T - Band Director
Landry	Ashley	High School	T - Media Specialist
Mailloux	Devin	Wellington	T - Grade 3
Mawn	Jacqueline	System-Wide	T - Autism Inclusion Specialist
Murphy	Clare	High School	T - ESL

O'Regan	Erin	Chenery	T - Special Education/Behaviorist
Osborn	Lucy	Chenery	T - English, Grade 7
Panzarella	Brianne	Chenery	T - Social Studies, Grade 6
Rumley	Beth	Chenery	Nurse
Taylor	Emily	High School	Guidance Counselor

1. **OPENING BUSINESS**

1.1 Call to order

Dr. Fiore called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

1.2 Pledge of Allegiance

Dr. Fiore led the Pledge of Allegiance.

1.3 Citizens' Concerns

There were no citizens' concerns.

1.4 Adjustments to the Agenda

1.5 Chair's Report

Dr. Fiore updated the School Committee on the following events:

- Dan Scharfman Road Race was held on October 3rd and was a great success. Congratulations to all runners and thanks to all volunteers along with the FBE.
- Belmont Public Library Annual Book Sale – October 13th and 14th. Teachers are welcome to attend on October 12th to choose any books they would like to take free of charge for their classrooms. Thanks to the Belmont Public Library Staff for their work and generosity.
- Halloween Masquerade Concert – October 25th at 7:30 p.m. – Belmont High School
- 5th Annual Halloween Window Painting Contest in Belmont Center – October 28th at 9:00 a.m.
- FBE Spelling Bee – November 4th at Chenery Middle School.

1.6 Student Representative Report

There was no student representative in attendance.

1.7 Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Phelan updated the School Committee on the recent two-day visioning meetings which included staff, students and members of the community. The group came together with the design team working on the Belmont High School building project. They discussed ideas for what is important in a new high school. Another Community Engagement meeting will be held at the Beech Street Center on October 13th at 1:15 p.m. Everyone is encouraged to attend to learn more about the high school building project. Another Community Engagement meeting will be held on October 28th at 10:00 a.m. at Belmont High School.

Superintendent Phelan announced the retirement in December 2017 of Amy Wagner, Principal of the Wellington Elementary School. Amy will be moving with her family to the west coast. Information regarding a search for her replacement will be forthcoming.

2. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

3. MAJOR BUSINESS

3.1 FBE Donation from Cityside Subaru – Exhibit A

Meagan Taylor, Director of Community Involvement and Nathan White, General Manager, of Cityside Subaru provided an overview of the donation of books to the Belmont Public Schools. Cityside Subaru donated these books on behalf of the Subaru Loves Learning project in partnership with the Science Books and Films Project at the American Association for the Advancement of Science. The books will help support the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) education.

3.2 Class Size Report – Exhibit B

Assistant Superintendent Janice Darias provided a presentation on enrollment and class size. The current enrollment 4531 with a projection of 4741 by October 2019. The average six-year increase is 105 students per year. Two sub categories of students with increasing enrollment are students who are non-English speaking (ELs) and students on IEPs who receive their services through out of district schools (OOD). EL enrollment has increased from 118 students in 2010 to 340 students in 2017. In September of 2016 there were 102 OOD students and in June of 2017 the number increased to 111.

To alleviate some of the space issues, the district has added 6 modular classrooms at Belmont High School and 6 modular classrooms at Chenery Middle School. At the elementary level, Burbank, Butler and Winn Brook have reallocated space to accommodate 3 additional classes and 4 modular classrooms will be added to Burbank in the 2018-19 school year.

Assistant Superintendent Darias compared class size guidelines with actual class sizes for grades K – 4. All grades are slightly higher than the recommended guidelines with the exception of grade 3. The following information shows how many classes exceed the guidelines.

Kindergarten – 2

Grade 1 – 9

Grade 2 – 6
Grade 3 – 7
Grade 4 – 4

At the Chenery Middle School, the 2016-17 total enrollment was 1,359 and the 2017-18 total enrollment was 1,421. At Belmont High School in 2017-18, there are 22 classes with 15 students or less, 81 classes with 16-20 students, 182 classes with 21-26 students, 84 classes with 27-30 students, and 10 classes with 30 students. There are also 7 performance classes with 30 students.

3.3 FY17 Closeout – Exhibit C

Tony DiCologero, Director of Finance, Business and Operations presented an update on the FY17 closeout.

General Fund

The General Fund ended with a positive year-end balance of \$1,596 which was turned back to the town. The Special Education Out of District tuition account slightly exceeded the budget.

Revolving Accounts

The revolving accounts had a positive ending balance of \$561,061. Mr. DiCologero also provided a brief overview of the food service account.

Grants

There was a total of \$1,163, 336 to be carried forward to FY18 from various grant accounts. The largest balance was in Circuit Breaker reimbursement funds that the Department of Revenue recommends carrying over from one year to the next in the event such funds are needed for unexpected spending.

4. SUBCOMMITTEE/LIAISON UPDATES (as needed)

4.1 Finance Subcommittee

The Finance Subcommittee met earlier in the day and discussed the FY17 closeout, needs for FY18 and FY 19 as well as custodial fee related to outside rentals.

4.2 Policy and Procedure Subcommittee

There was no report from the Policy and Procedure Subcommittee.

4.3 Curriculum and Instruction Subcommittee

There was no report from the Curriculum and Instruction Subcommittee.

4.4 Capital Budget Committee

The Capital Budget Committee will meet in the beginning of November to discuss Town Meeting articles.

4.5 Warrant Committee

The Warrant Committee will meet tomorrow.

4.6 Belmont High School Building Committee

The Belmont High School Building Committee will meet tomorrow at the Wellington Community Room at 10:00 a.m. The will also meet on October 13th at 1:15 at the Beech Street Center for a Community Engagement Meeting which everyone is encouraged to attend.

4.7 Community Path Committee

The Community Path Committee met with the Belmont High School Building Committee, Jim Davis, Director of Athletics, and members of the Recreation Department to discuss their project as it relates to the high school building project.

4.8 Library Long Range Planning Committee

There was no report from the Library Long Range Planning Committee

5. **OTHER BUSINESS**

5.1 Consent Agenda

5.2 Personnel Items - none

5.3 Business Items – None

5.4 Approval of Minutes

- September 26, 2017

On a motion offered by Andrea Prestwich and seconded by Kate Bowen, it was

VOTED 4-0-1 to approve the minutes of October 10, 2017.

Superintendent Phelan read a note from John Carson thanking community members and Athletic Director Jim Davis for their help in creating the Belmont Soccer Night which was held recently for the second year in a row. Superintendent Phelan thanked John Carson for all his work in putting the event together as well.

6. **FUTURE BUSINESS**

Upcoming Meetings:

October 24, 2017

Finance Subcommittee Meeting

SAB Conference Room – 7:30 a.m.

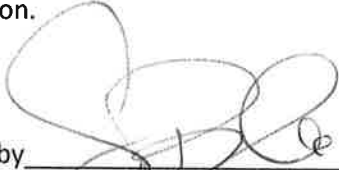
October 24, 2017
Shelburne Community Center
2730 Washington Street, Roxbury, MA
Reception – 6:00 p.m.
Meeting – 6:30 p.m.

7. **ENCLOSURES**

Strategic Plan

8. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At 8:38 p.m. a roll call vote was taken and the School Committee agreed to enter Executive Session with the intention of returning to Open Session for the purpose of discussing strategy with respect to collective bargaining with union personnel given that a discussion in Open Session may have a detrimental impact on the School Committee's bargaining position.

Respectfully submitted by 
Susan Burgess-Cox, Secretary