

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

REMOTE MEETING

MAY 19, 2022

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DATE: June 8, 2022
TIME: 3:23 PM

Present: Ms. Meghan Moriarty, Chair
Ms Amy Checkoway, Secretary
Ms. Catherine Bowen
Mr. Mike Crowley
Mr. Jeff Liberty
Mr. Jamal Carlos Saeh

1. Chair Moriarty called the SC Retreat to order at 4 PM. The purpose of the retreat is to 1. Discuss subcommittees and appoint town committee liaison assignments and 2. Review the Superintendent Evaluation Process.
2. Discussion and assignment of subcommittees and town committee liaisons

The School Committee discussed the scope of each of the current SC subcommittees: finance, equity, policy, and curriculum and how each subcommittee's practices align with the responsibilities of the SC. There was consensus around the Policy subcommittee being well aligned and having a large role in the coming year as the committee responds to the equity audit. Kate Bowen wishes to continue as Chair.

In discussing the finance subcommittee, the consensus is that the full SC wishes to be more involved with the budget process and finds the morning meetings a challenge. Not all voices are reflected equally throughout the budget process given the subcommittee structure and practices. The current FSC also feels that the meetings tend to be repetitive of what is presented at the full SC meetings, leaving little room for deliberation. Members of the Curriculum subcommittee noted that this subcommittee is used similarly: to preview presentations that will be given at the full SC. The consensus is the pilot the finance subcommittee not operating next year (starting August 1) and for this business to be brought to full School Committee meetings and for a subgroup will convene during the summer to meet with the WC about the budget process. Kate Bowen moved to pilot the conduct of the finance subcommittee business at the regular meetings of the School Committee beginning on August 1, 2022. Jamal Saeh seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously (6-0).

Chair Moriarty asks for a volunteer to be the appointed Warrant signer in order to streamline this process and provide more transparency about the Warrant at full SC meetings on a quarterly basis. Kate Bowen moved to pilot a SC appointee to sign the warrants and review the warrants at the regular meetings of the School Committee beginning on August 1, 2022. Amy Checkoway seconded the motion. No SC member volunteered during the retreat to serve as the designated warrant signer.

The SC discussed changes to the Curriculum and Instruction subcommittee at length. Members would like to see it be more data driven and outcome focused to align with the student achievement focus and responsibilities of a SC. Jamal Saeh suggested it take on a strategic planning focus. There was also discussion about the Equity subcommittee. Equity is a focus of all of the SC work and core commitment so there was discussion about if this should continue to be a separate subcommittee. Jamal Saeh volunteered to further discuss the vision of the Equity subcommittee with DEI Director, Chon'tel Washington, and report back.

The SC will continue this discussion and make town committee liaison appointments at a future meeting.

3. Discussion of Superintendent Evaluation

Due to lack of time, Chair Moriarty will circulate the materials for the summative Superintendent Evaluation via email and review the process at the SC Meeting on May 24.

Adjourned at 5:05 PM

Respectfully Submitted by:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Amy Checkoway". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.