

**Minutes from the  
Regular Meeting of the  
East Bridgewater School Committee  
on Thursday, February 14, 2019**

A meeting of the East Bridgewater School Committee was held on Thursday, February 14, 2019 at 7:00 PM in the Anne Kenneally Hynes Library in the East Bridgewater Jr/Sr High School. In attendance were: Chair Ellen Pennington, Co-Chair Hazel Tessier, Secretary Rob Rhuda, Jonathan Babcock, Gordon McKinnon, Superintendent Elizabeth Legault, Assistant Superintendent Dr. Gina Williams, and Recording Clerk Joanne Benner. Mrs. Maltz was not in attendance.

Motion to open at 7:02 PM:  
McKinnon/Rhuda

Vote: 5 in favor

The attendees stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Also in attendance: Director of Food Services Deb Vaughn, PreK-6 Student Activities Director Lisa Varrasso, K-12 Curriculum Facilitator Jennifer McPartland, Assistant Principal Deborah Duprey, District Technology Integration Facilitator, Student Advisory Council Member Mathew Condon, Trista Higgins

**Public Comments:**

- ❖ The public comment period is not an open public forum. Speakers may address topics on the agenda, items specified for public comment, or items within the scope of the School Committee's responsibility. Chair Pennington asked if anyone was here for public comments and no-one came forward.

**Guests:**

- ❖ Hillary Dubois and Police Chief Scott Allen discussed issues associated with vaping. Mrs. Dubois said that vaping has become pervasive in all communities not just in East Bridgewater. A survey of the students was conducted and usage has gone up a bit and the perception of harm has gone down. Students do not consider vaping a drug and other products, such as THC, may be used in the device. Kids are going into bathrooms to vape and it is creating an awkward environment for others. Information and resources need to be shared with parents as well as students to educate the dangers of vaping and what the various devices look like. Chief Allen said they have been working collaboratively with Mrs. Dubois's office, and the schools, to try and stop this epidemic. They will be looking at local regulations as vaping wasn't around when they were originally set. Superintendent Legault said they would like to work with Independence Academy and their new at risk program. If a student is going to be suspended for vaping there will be an alternative to attend school there. The student will learn the dangers of vaping while taking and English and math class as well as social and emotional well-being. The cost to the district is \$63.00 per day and the parent would be responsible for transportation; it is located in Brockton.

**Report of East Bridgewater Jr/Sr. High School Student Advisory Council:**

- ❖ Time has been scheduled for a report from the East Bridgewater High School Student Advisory Council to the School Committee. Matthew Condon said there is a lot going on in March: Student Senate has begun planning March Madness week which will run 3/18-3-22, Key club is hosting Mr. EBHS on 2/22 at 7:00

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PM in the auditorium, Foreign Language Honor Society is hosting a week beginning 3/11, Juniors and Seniors are planning their proms, sophomores are hosting a fundraising night at Chipotle on 3/9 from 4-8 PM, and Freshmen are hosting a lock in on 3/1 from 10PM-6AM. Music/tri M, the senior and junior jazz bands, and rhythmix are performing 3 shows tomorrow, jazz band will be attending the Cape Cod Jazz Festival 3/28-3/20, and the junior district festival is 3/8-3/9. Finally the math team competed in their final meet of the season and scored a total 30 points making it the highest scoring meet of the season.

### Report of Subcommittees and Standing Committees:

- ❖ Time has been scheduled for updates from any of the Subcommittees or Standing Committees. None at this time.

### Superintendent's Corner:

- ❖ NRC update – an MOU was signed, with no money involvement, on getting more social and emotional opportunities and hands on clinicians for at risk students. Clinicians will come here and we will be bringing in two adjustment counselors at a great rate by utilizing NRC. The program is currently in West Bridgewater and they can't say enough good things about it.
- ❖ READS update – the board has tabled the building project because they cannot get into the MSBA to offset the cost. They would have to increase membership fees and decided that too much money would have to be requested at this time. They are advocating legislatures to get into the MSBA and are looking at alternative solutions such as leasing old office space. They do not want to leave Middleboro as they feel it is a central location.
- ❖ SEPAC update – the Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, and Chair Pennington went to their last meeting. They want parents to know they are there to support them and the students. They are advocates that have immersed themselves in SPED law.
- ❖ Winter sports update – the girls basketball team are playing Rockland tonight for the division title. The VSP Boosters are doing a wonderful job supporting the students. Superintendent Legault has requested a shelter for the athletes to be under in inclement weather to keep them dry.
- ❖ Unified sports update – currently there is a unified basketball team coached by Matt Baillargeon and the kids are having a wonderful time. Kids with challenges and peers come together and as good as it is for the challenged children it enlightens the peers to a new world.

### New Business:

- ❖ Report from Deborah Vaughn, Food Service Director on the School Lunch Program. Mrs. Vaughn said there are three things she would like to share this evening: the onsite review, investing back into the program, and professional development. On Monday and Tuesday there was an onsite review of the Food Service Program. The staff did an amazing job and we received a good review. The staff is well versed in offer versus serve which cuts down on waste, and they know food safety. The corrections that needed to be made were: on the calendar in February the Mitchell School didn't offer a subgroup starch and on the 31<sup>st</sup>

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there wasn't a green. It was suggested we color code the menus and obtain letters of proof on the free & reduced students with a SNAP number. The program is all set for another three years.

Investing into the program – last year they worked with the Central School and painted the cafeteria. This year she is focusing on the Mitchell School; she purchased a milk cooler, two ovens, and have a bid out for a new steamer. Mrs. Vaughn said they will be painting over there, too.

Professional Development was done with live training. Chefs came into the Jr/Sr HS and the theme was Mediterranean; next up is Latin and Asian Fusion. Maureen Gonsalves came in to train the staff on communication and marketing. We did a survey at the three schools on what foods the kids would like to have and a few of them were pizza, McDonald's, Wendy's, and Taco Bell.

Mrs. Vaughn said she wouldn't be as successful without the amazing staff she has. Mr. McKinnon asked what she thought has allowed her to grow her program and she said that having the support of the Superintendent, and being allowed to move with her vision, has been the biggest factor.

- ❖ Report from Lisa Varrasso, PreK-6 Student Activities Director, on the Before and After School Care Program. There are 291 students enrolled in the program from PreK-grade 8 and 32 staff members that create a ratio of 1 adult to 10 children. Healthy snacks are included in the price and they are allowed unlimited water, milk, and one juice. Breakfast was discontinued as it was regulated and needed to be in compliance with DESE. The program runs during school breaks, PD days, and through the summer; it is \$44 per day from 7:00 AM – 6:00 PM. This has been the price and since 2017 and there is no plans to increase it next year. Also included in the \$44 pricing are field trips, pizza parties, ice cream sundae parties, entertainment, arts and crafts, and themed parties. The kids get to participate in programs, karaoke, watch movies, play games, do puzzles, and play ball. We have begun working on collecting past due amounts and have notified those with them that if they do not pay it will go to the police department for collection. Superintendent Legault thanked Mrs. Varrasso and commended her on creating such a successful program that is well received by the community.

- ❖ Strategic Plan #1 A-B

- Jennifer McPartland & Deborah Duprey – 1A Curriculum & 1B Instruction- Currently the Central School is in the midst of an action plan for writing, they have increased collaboration with weekly grade level meetings, and are having breakout sessions to share instructional practices. The Mitchell School is going to use a school-wide prompt about friendship and what makes a good friend. They will be teaching financial literacy with the FitMoney program after MCAS is over. The staff has been attending UDL (Universal Design for Learning) which will offer more ways for kids to display different ways of learning. The Jr/Sr HS is working on curriculum mapping with objective driven planning focus on student-centered classrooms and integration of tech tools.

MAP is in the mid-year cycle and they are focusing on student growth. At the Central School at the data meetings they are looking at MAP, DIBELS, and assessments. At the Mitchell School they are looking at PLCs on MAP growth within grade levels, and holding department meetings regarding growth.

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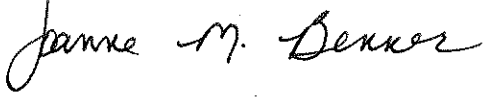
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Motion to close at 8:59 PM to: McKinnon/Tessier

Vote: 4 in favor

Respectfully Submitted by,



Joanne M. Benner  
School Committee Clerk

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