

Date Approved/Released: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Approved/Hold: \_\_\_\_\_

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING  
THURSDAY, JANUARY 19, 2017  
TOWN HALL AUDITORIUM

School Committee Chair: W LaPointe

1. Call to order: 6:01 P M.

Present: Danielle LaPointe, Janet Corbosiero-(called in remotely), Dawn Fronte, Larry Murphy,  
Felicia Nurmsen, Steve Haddad-Superintendent, Richard Ikonen-Business Manager

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Citizen Questions and/or Comments: None

4. Correspondence and Announcements: None

5. Student Representative: None

6. Student Recognition: January, 2017

Pre-K Program-Ava Malcolm; Memorial School -Olivia Blais, 2<sup>nd</sup> grade; Toy Town Elementary; Noah Oliveira, 4<sup>th</sup> grade; Murdock Middle School-Jake Ross, 8<sup>th</sup> grade; Murdock High School-William Paul Iwanik, grade 12, graduated. Each student was presented with a Blue Devil Cool tee-shirt that listed some of the nominating teacher(s) comments.

John & Abigail Adams Scholarships: Principal Josh Romano explained the qualifications for the award, noting that several of the students attend the Murdock Academy.

The following students were awarded the John & Abigail Adams Scholarship:

Thomas Aho, Andrew Burns, Nicholas Cefole, Bradley Geslak, Brooke Harris, Kyle Higgins, William Iannacone, Ryan Kaminsky, Victoria Lemire, Jordan Manuel, Jared Nelson, Jay Pereira, Aidan Provost, Camay Rich, Hanna Seghir, Tiffany Shammo-Sluder, Savannah Smith, Victoria Swanson, and Christopher Yang.

Murdock Academy - Joshua Mutti, Senior (completed graduation requirements on January 12, 2017). He stressed the importance of education policies and school programs to be flexible enough to meet the needs of the students. He presented J. Mutti with his diploma.

**6:32 PM D. Fronte moved for a 5-minute recess. Second by F. Nurmsen. Approved 5-0-0.**

**6:40 PM Reconvened**

**L. Murphy moved to move (agenda item) 9a Chartwells-up to now. Second by D. Fronte. J. Corbosiero-Aye; L. Murphy-Aye; D. Fronte-Aye; F. Nurmsen-Aye; D. LaPointe-Aye.**

**Approved 5-0-0.**

## 9. New Business:

- a. Chartwells-Jason Yeagle, Manager at Chartwells, gave a month-to date and year-to date comparison of December 2015 to 2016. He noted overall participation numbers are down; the biggest drop is at the Middle/High School. Discussion included the scheduling changes there that adversely affected the breakfast program availability; he hopes to change it for next year. A focus group offered a good exchange of information and ideas, including having breakfast on the floor verses in the cafeteria.

The early service time does not work for the high school students. He explained some of the initiatives to draw kids in and more fully engage students already participating. Expenses are down this year by leveraging government produce and product. The net loss is due to lower participation numbers, higher labor and product costs. The district has to pay for any loss. L. Murphy noted the food service has served 10,000 less meals than last year and the district is only half way through school year. J. Yeagle noted a lot of startup costs, adding they usually decrease as the year goes on. D. LaPointe told him the districts' budget has no wiggle room; she does want to be nonchalant about it. F. Nurmsen agreed, stating a plan with a 'magic number', to break even or make money, needs to be made. He will report again in March. He asked for faculty and administrative support and for them to encourage students to take advantage of the program.

## 7. Superintendent Report:

S. Haddad reported the DA Joseph Early gave the district a \$2,000 check for the Toy Town Elementary Playground project. S. Haddad explained the state program that funds sports and activities that engage kids, noting it can support other projects in the district. The installation of the telephones at Toy Town and Memorial is completed; the new system is wonderful; the security camera project is ongoing, paid for out of Robinson-Broadhurst and the Capital Projects Funds from the town. Bids are being sent out next week for Phase 1-\$60,000, which will provide some of the necessary equipment at each school building. The project will be completed in 3 phases; Phase 1 will be complete by June, 2017.

## Business Office Report:

R. Ikonen noted he had sent committee members the reclassifications for review; there were no questions.

## 8. Old Business:

- a. School Committee Goals-The meeting was not posted; it is rescheduled to Saturday, January 28<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM at Central Office. J. Corbosiero noted she is interested in goals 2 & 4. The meeting is open to the public.
- b. Camera and Telephone System Update-See Superintendents' Report. Also, the DOE Commissioner will meet with school personal from a group of participating districts at a Community Forum on January 31<sup>st</sup> at Fitchburg State. The administration team and committee members will attend if possible; D. LaPointe, D. Fronte and L. Murphy confirmed attendance. L. Murphy noted the concerns of smaller schools versus larger regional, vocational and charter schools and the need for a more fair and equitable process was brought to the Commissioner last summer. S. Haddad stated he will bring the question to him again. The calendar committee is working on the 2017-2018 school calendar; L. Murphy noted they are being strategic about the placement of half days. He asked committee members for input, especially from a parents' viewpoint (i.e. childcare). Parent-Teacher conferences are more coordinated district wide.
- c. MUNIS Upgrade/Rollout-R. Ikonen noted a teleconference with Mark Abrams, consultant from the Abrams Group, also included the Superintendent, the Town Manager and Town Accountant for the MUNIS upgrade and potential changes to the chart of accounts. After a lengthy discussion, it was decided to complete the MUNIS upgrade first, before July1, 2107. He reviewed scheduled meetings

and noted he and Bill Schlosstein will work on the project and report periodically to the school committee.

9. New Business:

- b. Superintendent Mid-Year Evaluation - D. LaPointe noted she received S. Haddad's self-assessment portion; individual committee members will forward theirs to D. LaPointe by January 31<sup>st</sup>. F. Nurmsen announced she will not participate, stating, since she has not worked with S. Haddad long enough to accurately or fairly evaluate his performance. D. LaPointe will have the results compiled by February 7<sup>th</sup>.
- c. Next Tri-Board Meeting - It has been scheduled for Monday, February 13<sup>th</sup>, time to be determined. D. LaPointe is unable to attend. J. Corbosiero wants to resume the regular rotation schedule. The issue will be put on as an agenda item. S. Haddad noted he is working with Linda Daigle regarding the agenda.
- d. Sub-Committee s- F. Nurmsen moved to table to the next meeting. Second by J. Corbosiero.

**J. Corbosiero-Aye; L. Murphy-Aye; D. Fronte-Aye; F. Nurmsen-Aye; D. LaPointe-Aye.  
Approved 5-0-0.**

**J. Corbosiero moved to move the Approval of the Meeting Minutes up to now and then have Larry's' Quarterly review after the Meeting Minute Approval. Second by D. Fronte. J. Corbosiero-Aye; L. Murphy-Aye; D. Fronte-Aye; F. Nurmsen-Aye; D. LaPointe-Aye.  
Approved 5-0-0.**

11. Consideration of Minutes of Previous Meetings Not Yet Approved or Released:

- a. Thursday, December 15, 2016-Regular Meeting-J. Corbosiero moved to accept as amended or fixed per my notes from Barrie. Second by D. Fronte, J. Corbosiero-Aye; L. Murphy-Aye; D. Fronte-Aye; F. Nurmsen-Aye; D. LaPointe-Aye. Approved 5-0-0.
- b. Thursday, January 5, 2017-J. Corbosiero moved to approve with the correction of Ms. Harris' name to Ms. Fronte at the very beginning (and released per D. LaPointe). Second by L. Murphy. J. Corbosiero-Aye; L. Murphy-Aye; D. Fronte-Aye; F. Nurmsen-Aye; D. LaPointe-Aye. Approved 5-0-0.

**7:25 PM J. Corbosiero discontinued the phone call and left the meeting.**

- c. CAPS Quarterly Report - L. Murphy reported there are many program, housed at different schools, for students with needs the district cannot fulfill; he explained several. Winchendon sends the 3<sup>rd</sup> most students (10) from the participating districts; most send 1-3 students. He noted the high financial impact on the district budget; the program cost does not include transportation cost. S. Haddad noted K. Mecelicaite reviews and ensures placement plans are needed and that students are serviced in district if possible. L. Murphy noted there are great programs and activities offered by the CAPS program. He reviewed business measures and other actions taking place or being planned. F. Nurmsen requested an explanation of how they define success and what is the hoped for outcome; is it the same as ours or the parents? The programs are based on Massachusetts curriculum frameworks and are bound by the students IEP. Cindy Landanno, CAPS Executive Director, will be asked to present here in March.

10. Citizens Questions and Comments: None
12. Questions and Comments by Members: None
13. Other: None
14. Future Agenda Items:
  - a. District Accountability Report
  - b. Superintendent Evaluation
  - c. Chartwells Update (March)
  - d. Kristine Mecelicaite-Director of Pupil Services -Student Retention
  - e. Cynthia Landanno – CAPS - ‘Definition of Success’
  - f. Sub committees
  - g. Basketball-Varsity Team
15. Executive Session: None
16. Adjournment: 7:36 P.M., L. Murphy moved to adjourn. Second by D. Fronte. Approved 4-0-0.

Respectfully submitted: \_\_\_\_\_  
Barrie E. Martins, School Committee Recording Secretary