

GARDNER SCHOOL COMMITTEE
Regular Meeting – May 15, 2019
City Council Chambers
95 Pleasant Street, Gardner, Massachusetts

Members present: Mayor Mark Hawke, Chairman; Jennifer Pelavin, Vice Chairperson; Anne Hurst, Secretary; James Abare, Melody Phelps, and Robert Swartz

Member absent: John LaFreniere

Student Representative absent: Cameron Davis, Gardner High School

School Personnel present: Mark J. Pellegrino, Superintendent
Ms. Terri Hillman, Recording Secretary
Ms. Joyce West, Director of Pupil Personnel Services

Call to Order

Mayor Hawke, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7 pm. The meeting opened with a roll call and the pledge of allegiance. The meeting was broadcast live on Channel 8 television.

Open Time for the General Public

Mark Hawkins, a teacher at GHS and co-president of the Gardner Education Association, spoke about State funding for education and the need to update the funding formula.

Recognition by Superintendent

Superintendent Pellegrino presented Certificates of Recognition to members of SWAT (Student Wellness Advisory Team). He also presented Certificates of Recognition to members of the Leo Club. The GHS Leo Club has been named Leo Club of the Year for all of District 33A and Cameron LaRoche was named Leo of the Year for the State.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Swartz moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented:

- **Approval of minutes of regular meeting of May 15, 2019 with a correction on page 2, Item 3020 – dates should be July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020.**
- **Approval of following Warrants as recommended by the Finance Subcommittee:**
 - **Warrant #19-41 dated 04/11/19 in the amount of \$123,965.68**
 - **Warrant #19-42 dated 04/18/19 in the amount of \$159,689.14**
 - **Warrant #19-43 dated 04/25/19 in the amount of \$264,369.35**
 - **Warrant #19-44 dated 05/02/19 in the amount of \$161,939.94**

Seconded by Mrs. Pelavin.

Vote – so voted.

Mayor Hawke abstained from voting.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Facilities Subcommittee

Mr. Swartz said that the Facilities Subcommittee met on April 23, 2019. Minutes of the meeting were presented.

Superintendent Pellegrino, Mr. Anderson and Ms. Yu gave a quick update on the remaining fine of \$50K owed by SJ Services, Inc. It is pending and their contract will expire on 6/30/19.

Moura's Cleaning Services won the bid for cleaning services for the next three years.

Other facility projects needing attention are the lower roof at the Middle School and the roof at the Helen Mae Sauter School. Tremco Roofing has been asked to provide estimates for repairs.

Work is proceeding on Watkins Field. Contractors have been contacted regarding the move of GALT and Central Office to HMS.

Finance Subcommittee

Mr. LaFreniere, Chairperson, said that the Finance Subcommittee met on May 6, 2019. Minutes of the meeting were presented.

Ms. Yu gave an update on the FY 2019 year-to-date budget. The members went over the Finance packet for the month of April line by line. Questions were answered.

The FY 2020 Budget was reviewed with House 2 State budget figures. It was voted to bring the total budget to the full School Committee for a vote.

A Comprehensive School Health Services Grant of \$125,000 has been received. Ms. McCaffrey, School Nurse Manager, worked very hard to get this grant for the District.

Policy Subcommittee

Mrs. Hurst, Chairperson, said that the Subcommittee met on April 17, 2019. Minutes of the meeting were presented.

Policy GBEC – Gifts to and Solicitations by Staff - was reviewed and determined that no changes were required, It will be updated as “Reviewed April 2019”.

Several policies were revised and approved to send to the Full Committee for a first reading. See Item #3032.

Several policies sent to the full Committee for a first reading in April were reviewed and discussed and minor revisions made. The vote was to send them to the full Committee for a second reading and vote. See Item #3033.

Student Advisory Board

Cameron Davis, Student Representative to the School Committee, was not present and there was no report.

NEW BUSINESS

Item #3031 – FY 2020 Gardner Public Schools Budget

Mrs. Pelavin moved that the District School Committee vote to approve the FY 2020 Gardner School Budget in the amount \$24,735,158 as recommended by the Finance Subcommittee.

Seconded by Mr. Swartz.

Vote – so voted.

Mayor Hawke abstained from voting.

Item #3032 – First Reading of Policies

Mrs. Hurst presented the following policies for a first reading as recommended by the Policy Subcommittee:

- BHC School Committee – Staff Communications
- GA Personnel Policies
- GBA Equal Opportunity Employment
- GBEA Staff Ethics/Conflict of Interest
- GBEB Staff Conduct
- GCBA Staff Salary Schedules
- GCBB-1 Employment of Administrators
- GCBC Professional Staff Supplementary Pay Plans
- GCE Professional Staff Recruiting/Posting of Vacancies
- JF School Admissions
- JFABD Homeless Students
- JFABE Educational Opportunities for Military Children (for Adoption)
- JFABF Educational Opportunities for Children in Foster Care (for Adoption)

Item #3033 – Second Reading of Policies

Mrs. Hurst moved that District School Committee vote to approve the following policy for a second reading as recommended by the Policy Subcommittee:

- **BDEE Athletic Council**
- **EA Support Services Goals and Objectives**
- **EB Safety Program**

• EBB First Aid
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- GBAA Sexual Harassment
- GBBA Harassment
- JH Student Absences and Excuses
- JHD Exclusions and Exemptions from School Attendance
- JLCE Life Threatening Food Allergies

Seconded by Mrs. Pelavin.

Vote – voted.

Mayor Hawke abstained from voting.

Item #3034 – Removal of Policies

Mrs. Hurst moved that District School Committee vote to approve the following policies for removal as recommended by the Policy Subcommittee:

- EBCC Bomb Threats
- GBD School Committee – Staff Communications

Seconded by Mr. Swartz.

Vote – so voted.

Mayor Hawke abstained from voting

Item #3035 - District Improvement Plan

Superintendent Pellegrino presented the District Improvement Plan for 2018-2020. The Vision is for every child, in every classroom, every day to make them feel welcomed safe, and included in the school community. He outlined the Strategic Objectives, the Action steps, and the Outcomes expected and the time lines. He also presented the Benchmarks, the person(s) responsible, completion date and present status of the projects. They are lofty goals but they are achievable.

Item #3036 – Superintendent's Evaluation Update

Mrs. Pelavin said that the Subcommittee has been meeting. Committee members must submit evaluations by June 5 and the Evaluation will be presented at the June 10, 2019 School Committee meeting.

Item #3037 – CAPS Collaborative and FLLAC Collaborative Representative

Mrs. Phelps moved that the District School Committee appoint Superintendent Mark Pellegrino as the Gardner representative to the CAPS Collaborative and to the FLLAC Collaborative Board of Directors.

Seconded by Mr. Swartz.

Vote – so voted.

Mayor Hawke abstained from voting.

Item #3038 – Curriculum Coordinator Update

The Curriculum Coordinator's Update was included in the packet. Dr. Goguen was not present.

Item #3039 - Special Education Update

The Special Education Update was included in the packet. Ms. West was present to answer questions.

Item #3040 – Grants Administrator's Update

No report for this meeting.

Item #3041 – MSBA – New Building Project

Mayor Hawke reported that schematic drawings are being prepared and the building is starting to take shape.

COMMUNICATIONS

Mayor Hawke spoke about a recent incident involving a GHS coach. He emphasized that the Gardner School District does not tolerate racism or racism remarks. He also spoke about the press coverage of an incident at GALT.

FINAL COMMENTS

Mr. Abare urged community members to go out on Memorial Day and support the students as they march and play in the bands. He also encouraged everyone to support the students at their Graduation activities.

Mrs. Hurst congratulated the students who were recognized this evening. It is great to see the students involved in the community and they need to be encouraged in all they do.

Mrs. Phelps thanked the SWAT members and the Leo Club members for what they do. There are five Leo Clubs in the District and Gardner is No. 1.

Mr. Swartz thanked Ms. McCaffrey for her work to obtain Comprehensive School Health Services Grant Award. He also thanked the SWAT and Leo Club members for their work.

Mayor Hawke Said that the Memorial Day Parade will be held on Monday, May 27, and encouraged everyone to get out and support the students who will be marching. He also encouraged everyone to get out and support the local sports programs.

ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. Pelavin moved to adjourn.

Seconded by Mrs. Phelps.

Vote – so voted.

Mayor Hawke abstained from voting.

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm.

Terri Hillman, Recording Secretary