SANDWICH SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
April 6, 2022
SANDWICH TOWN HALL

School Committee Members Present: Mr. DiGiacomo, Ms. Ames, Ms. Bader,
Dr. Miller (remote), Mr. Fisher, Mr. Sareault
Members Absent: Mr. Pell arrived at 5:44pm
Administration Present: Dr. Gould, Ms. Wiklund, Ms. Austin
Others: Charlie Holden, Liaison

1) CALL MEETING TO ORDER:
Mr. DiGiacomo called the meeting to order at 6:00pm and also stated that you may view the
meeting by live stream at this time on Sandwich Community TV and that this is being recorded.

2) Executive Session
- Pursuant to M.G.L., Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(2) to discuss contract negotiations
  for the new Superintendent since holding this meeting in Open Session may have a
detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the Committee.

3) Act on Meeting Minutes from Supt. Search Subcommittee dated March 11, 2022: Vote Required
Ms. Ames motions to accept the minutes present for meeting 3/26
  Passes 7-0

4) Pledge of Allegiance

5) Public Forum:
- Agenda packets can be found here for review:
  Pauline Jones/Race Lane
  Margot Crichfield/3 Boardwalk Rd
  Jonathan Finch/3 Chipman Rd
  Margarite Orman/27 Race Lane
  Jo Ann Buntich/88 Boardley Rd
  Holly Scott/38 Townneck Rd
  Charmane Russell/27 Race Lane
  Rebecca Burrio/47 Windsor Rd

7) Student Representative Report by Jenna Lodge (Class of ‘24) - Jenna was unable to attend

8) Superintendent’s Update
The play Mama Mia opens up. Dr. Gould spoke about the dates. She spoke about the girls
lacrosse team who won. Reminder that there is no school 4/15 then the start of April school
vacation.
Dr. Gould spoke about the project budget estimate of the Central Office Relocation Budget
Ms. Ames asked if facilities was okay with us taking the $100,000 (we were saving it for the design fee).

Mr. Sareault asked if facilities have an average cost per square foot? Mr. Nelson used the same number that he was using initially and the numbers came out the same.

Is there money in the budget to stay in the Wing school for another year? Dr. Gould answered yes. There isn’t much space left in the buildings. There will be a few buildings coming up. Timing is tough now.

Ms. Ames asked if there was funding in the budget to stay at the Wing School. Yes, Dr. Gould answered.

9) New Business:

• Beehive project at STEM
  A working beehive can now be viewed from inside a classroom for pollination and life cycles research. No bees are getting into the school and this is in Rene Fudala’s classroom. She is a STEM Science teacher

• Consideration to approve remaining a school choice district
  Every single school district in MA is considered a school choice district until they vote not to be. This is based on space availability within each grade and building. If there are not enough seats we have to have a lottery. Once that student is in the district they stay until the end if they want. A sibling is automatically allowed to come in. They “find” a seat. We get $5,000 per child.
  No vote was taken the board just acknowledged that we are remaining school choice.

• FY22 Budget Transfers
  Vote Required
  Ms. Austin spoke about the handouts that she provided for the meeting.
  Move money into facilities to cover the playground with “open money” from available grants.
  Transfer from the big yellow bus code (savings of $170,000). Ms. Austin is putting in a requisition of assets. The plow truck needs some TLC. Mr. Nelson found a truck at a dealership and we have the money to go ahead and buy it.
  Money saved from the salary of the athletic trainer to help fund a part time clerical position to help Neil Murphy (Athletic Director) with clerical duties.
  Ms. Ames motions to accept the budget transfer request for the FY22 budget as presented/Seconded by Mr. Sareault.

   Passes 7-0

10) Old Business:

• FY22 Budget still in good shape. Dr. Miller noticed that there are overages in all the classrooms. Did we bring in teachers at higher salaries or what, will it balance at the end of the year.

• Food Service Vendor Contract Update
  The Abbey Group will be continuing their contract for another year. They are yearly contracts. It’s a mutual renewal.

• Team Leading Job Postings - 2nd Reading
  Vote Required
  Added number 7 to the 2nd Reading. All of the teacher leaders are paid a $2,000 stipend outside of the school day. This money is coming out of the mental health grant.
  Ms. Ames motions to accept the Team Leader Job Posting as presented/Seconded by Ms. Bader.

   Passes 6-0-1
DEIAC Handbook - 2nd Reading

Ms. Bader made adjustments to the Handbook with the SC liaison. Ms. Ames suggested that there always be a Co-Chair. Dr. Gould suggested asking Dr. Maruszczak to attend a meeting over the summer.

Mr. Fisher has advocated for members of this committee to be diverse. He is going to vote against this. Mr. Fisher senses a big problem in this town regarding racial complaints.

Mr. Sareault said they seek volunteers and they seek people who volunteer only. They can’t force people to volunteer.

Dr. Miller said that getting people to meetings is always a challenge. Is it possible to leave remote access? Mr. Sareault questioned if they are still allowed under current state guidelines.

Ms. Ames motions to accept the DEAIC handbook with the revision of allowing remote meetings for the future/Seconded by Dr. Miller.

Ms. Ames thanked Kristi and her team for their great work.

Passes 6-1

Policy IMG, Addendum: Therapy Dogs and Companion Animals - 2nd Reading

Ms. Wiklund has a ton of work on this project. Pets of staff members IMG -A Animals in Schools (added service dogs to this title)

Ms. Wiklund added service animals are not the same as companion animals. B- Therapy dog- therapy, comfort and companion dogs are not service animals.

Guidance Document- goes through the requirements for any staff member who wants to participate in any companion dog or therapy animal. Examples of letters that will be sent home are attached to the handout.

The Superintendent of Schools makes the final decision.

Ms. Ames says that there is a violation of the policy, fur bearing animals. Companion “animal” She would like it to say Dog. Dr. Wiklund answered that it’s not by individuals, it’s only through an organization that has the insurance.

Mr. Fisher motions to approve this policy/Seconded by Ms. Ames.

Mr. Fisher withdraws his motion and this will be reviewed again at the next meeting.

11) Acknowledgements

Congratulations to the Sandwich Enterprise for all the awards they won.

12) Warrants

Ms. Ames motions to accept the warrants as presented/Seconded by Dr. Miller.

Passes 6-0-1

13) Act on Meeting Minutes:

Regular Business Meeting Minutes dated 3/16/22 and 3/23/22

Ms. Ames motions to approve the meeting minutes as presented/Seconded by Mr. Fisher

Passes 7-0

14) PTA/PTSA/Special Education PAC/School Council/Board of Selectman Report

Ms. Ames says the Special education pack has an upcoming “meet the specialist” within the next week or so. Look on Facebook

15) Liaison/Advisory Committee Reports
DEIAC guest speaker was present to speak about diversity/equity/inclusion and has been educational. Ms. Bader says it will be more effective if they meet quarterly with the School Committee. Members of the DEIAC are researching and will present and recommend that the school district adapt if a Bias situation arises.

Dr. Gould stated that the principles are currently working on the handbooks now. Make sure the DEIAC is aware of that.

16) Other Topics Not Reasonably Anticipated by The Chair

Dr. Miller says it's important to communicate with the community about the Capital Plan. Dr. Gould said they met with the TV production team. Had a good conversation with Mr. Riley, Mr. Stone and two students (Ray Milburn and Emma Abramson). Looking to break the PSA into three parts. 1) Internal HVAC/Infrastructure; 2) Playground; and 3) Explain to the people where it is coming from. Students are helping with the production.

17) Public Forum

none

18) Announcements/Closing Remarks

none

19) Adjournment

Ms. Ames motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 pm until the next scheduled meeting on April 27, 2022/Second by Ms. Bader

Passes 7-0

Meeting is adjourned and the next Regular Business Meeting will be on Wednesday, April 27, 2022, at 6:00 pm at Sandwich Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted by,

Melissa Murphy
Melissa Murphy
School Committee Recording Secretary

DOCUMENTS USED AT MEETING:

Budget Transfer Request
Capital Article
FY22 Budget Report
Team Leader Job Description
DEAIC Handbook
Guidance: Use of Therapy Dogs/Companion Dogs in School
IMG-A
IMG-B
IMG-C
3/16 & 3/23 Minutes