

BEDFORD SCHOOL COMMITTEE
January 6, 2015
Bedford High School - Large Group Instruction Room

1. Call to Order

At 8:30 p.m., Mr. Hafer called to order the meeting of the Bedford School Committee. Other members present included Mr. Pierce, Ms. Guay and Mr. McAllister. Miss Sophia Kyrou, student representative was also in attendance. Ms. Seibert was absent.

2. Comments from Public

None

3. Personnel Report

Mr. Sills reported the following personnel items:

Resignations:

Alex Rogal	Special Education Bridge Teacher	Middle School
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Leave of Absences:

Jaime Smith	Leave of Absence for Practicum Effective Dec. 24, 2014- May 8, 2015	Middle School
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Appointments:

Brandon Pyles	1.0 Long term Sub Custodian	High School
Kristen Podolsky	.3 Board Certified Behavior Analyst	Pre School

Mr. Sills also asked the School Committee to approve a couple of donations made to the school department.

Mr. Pierce made the following motion:

MOVED: That the School Committee accept the \$50 donation made to Bedford Public Schools from Mr. Michael Lueders of Lueders Environmental, Inc.

MOTION SECONDED by Ms. Guay

MOTION APPROVED: 4-0

Mr. Pierce made the following motion:

MOVED: That the School Committee accept a donation of \$760.83 to Bedford Schools Music Department from the Patrons of Music Students.

MOTION SECONDED by Ms. Guay

MOTION APPROVED: 4-0

4. Appointment to Ad Hoc Naming Committee

Mr. Sills reported that Selectman Rosenberg proposed naming a field in honor of Dave Wilson, former Coach at Bedford High School. As a result of this nomination, a naming committee must be formed and two representatives of the School Committee need to serve on the committee per policy mandates. Mr. McAllister and Mr. Hafer agreed to serve on this Committee. Mr. McAllister noted that he had Mr. Wilson as a coach and wanted this to be public knowledge.

Mr. Pierce made the following motion:

MOVED: That the School Committee appoint Mr. Hafer and Mr. McAllister to serve on the

ad hoc Naming Committee in order to consider naming a field after Dave Wilson, former BHS Coach.

MOTION SECONDED by Ms. Guay

MOTION APPROVED: 4-0

5. FY'16 Budget Discussions

Mr. Sills explained that he prepared a report for the Finance and Capital Expenditure Committees that summarized the six-year technology plan and clarified how this technology helps students learn. Mr. Sills shared this report with the School Committee and asked for any comments.

Mr. Pierce said that it is striking to see the amount of software that is used and noteworthy to see the variety of versions that are out there. Mr. Pierce suggested making this report available to the public.

Ms. Guay agreed that the public should be aware of this report.

Mr. McAllister said he is pleased that the report is so comprehensive and that the amount of technology and software used is impressive.

Mr. Sills said he is interested in using the report Introduction section for the basis of a newspaper article. He said it really illustrates how much technology is embedded in our schools.

Ms. Guay suggested sharing it with our state legislators.

Miss Kyrour commented that technology really enhances student access and learning. She said Smartboards really help teachers become much more interactive.

Mr. Sills then discussed the analysis he has done on the large cost centers in the school budget. He identified the following significant reductions of the proposed FY'16 budget request:

CASE Assessment \$300,000

High School FTE - Reduce by .5 (and maybe more if we move forward with proposed special education programs)

Mr. Hafer reminded the School Committee that the School Department differs from the Finance Committee's guideline for the FY'16 budget by \$882,000. He would like future budget conversations to focus on finding more efficiencies in house and using more of the reserves.

Mr. McAllister suggested that Mr. Sills illustrate what would happen to our programs if our desired new positions and budget items do not get approved.

School Committee members agreed to further discuss the FY'16 budget at the next meeting on January 20, 2015.

6. Superintendent's Report

Mr. Sills opted to report nothing due the late hour.

7. Liaison Reports

Mr. Hafer said that the Field Partnership Committee has met a few times to discuss field options at the "St. Michael's" land. He noted that the Selectmen voted, two years ago, to put two grass fields in that area. However, people have been questioning the feasibility of doing this given the

size of the land and the amount of wetlands nearby. There have been several alternative field proposals raised. These proposals are being analyzed. Mr. Hafer said that the Selectmen were not too happy to hear that alternative plans are now being considered.

Mr. Pierce said he would be inclined to put a grass field on the land as proposed because the schools' need another field. He said then people can consider the need and placement of another artificial turf field.

8. Minutes for Approval

Mr. Pierce made the following motion:

MOVED: That the School Committee approve the minutes of the December 2, 2014 meeting as amended.

MOTION SECONDED by Ms. Guay

MOTION APPROVED: 4-0

9. Future Agenda

Items to be discussed at future meetings include:

- Program of Studies from the high school
- Class Rank Discussion
- Approval of 2015-2016 School Calendar

10. Adjournment

Ms. Guay made the following motion.

MOVED: Motion to adjourn at 10:00 p.m. to Executive Session for purposes of non-bargaining unit contract discussions, not to reopen.

MOTION SECONDED by Mr. Pierce

MOTION APPROVED: 4-0

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Pierce	Yes
Ms. Seibert	Absent
Mr. McAllister	Yes
Ms. Guay	Yes
Mr. Hafer	Yes

School Committee Secretary

Date

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Exhibits/Documents

None