



Georgetown School Committee

Thursday, August 25, 2022

Meeting Minutes

51 North Street
Georgetown, MA 01833
(978) 352-5777

Approved 11-10-2022

Michael Hinchliffe, Chairman
Cheryl Lachendro, Vice Chair
Barbie Linares
Suzanne MacDonald
Lauren King

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Attendance:

Michael Hinchliffe

Carol Jacobs

Jack Tiano

Cheryl Lachendro

Suzanne Sutherland

Collin MacDonald

Barbie Linares

Jeff Carovillano

Suzanne MacDonald

Lauren King

1. **Call to Order:**

2. **Consent Agenda:**

Motion: to approve Warrants #06P23, #08P23, #10P23, #05V23, #07V23, #09V23. Michael Hinchliffe moved the motion. Lauren King seconded the motion. Vote taken. All in favor. Motion carried.

Motion: to approve School Committee Sub-Committee Meeting Minutes of 8-9-2022, School Committee Meeting Minutes of 7-21- 2022, 7-26-2022 & Executive Session Meeting Minutes from 7-21-2022. Michael Hinchliffe moved the motion. Lauren King seconded the motion. Vote taken. All in favor. Motion carried.

3. **Audiences:** None

4. **Student Representative:** N/A

5. **Administrative Reports:** **Note:** School Committee Members toured the schools before this meeting.

Mike Anderson discussed some of the upgrades to GMHS which included sanitary dispensers, moving of staff and the Robotics Room..

Mike Hinchliffe stated that Perley looked great, and it is ready for the students to come back.

Lauren King stated that Penn Brook looked great. There was a brief discussion about the removal of the plexiglass in the library. There was also discussion about safety glass and buzzers to let visitors in.

Barbie and the members of the committee thanked Mike Anderson and his crew for their hard work.

Carol Jacobs discussed the luncheon for the custodial/maintenance staff that took place today as a small token of the districts appreciation.

6. Superintendent's Information for the Committee:

Carol Jacobs provided the School Committee with some pictures from the Art Show. Barbie Linares stated that while touring GMHS she was able to see the art projects in person. She told the committee how impressed she was with the students work.

Jeff Carovillano, Collin MacDonald and Jack Tiano joined the School Committee members to discuss staffing. Jack Tiano stated that his department alone needed to hire 27 staff members. Jeff Carovillano mentioned that we are in need of 4 Instructional Paraprofessionals at GMHS. It was mentioned that all teachers for the district have been hired. Carol Jacobs talked about how the district plans to support the staff in hopes that they stay. Carol discussed the hiring of 2 Spanish Teachers. Jeff Carovillano and Carol Jacobs spoke about one of the new teachers being from Colorado. The group discussed that one of the other teachers hired worked for Georgetown in the past. There was a brief discussion about a few of the positions that are vacant but not being filled. These were part of budget cuts.

Jack Tiano spoke about his secretary moving to the preschool to be the receptionist, but she will remain the Special Education Secretary as well.

Carol Jacobs spoke about Collin MacDonald continuing to do the Teacher Evaluations, but he will not be the Perley Principal as the former principal from Penn Brook had done. Jack Tiano will be the Principal of Perley Preschool.

Carol Jacobs spoke about her team and how excited she is to work with them this year.

Collin MacDonald spoke about the many internal transfers.

Carol Jacobs discussed the hiring process and stated that she doesn't remember a time that the district had to hire so many at once.

Jack Tiano spoke about the hiring for the summer programs as well. Barbie Linares stated that she heard wonderful things about the summer program. Jack mentioned that he had an amazing staff.

The program had to turn away students because of the high enrollment. If there was more staff, they would have accepted more students.

Carol Jacobs asked me (Tracy Parker), to joining the meeting to discuss bussing. I spoke about the challenges faced by only having 5 busses for Georgetown. I explained that as of now, the buses are overenrolled at the elementary level so there are currently 12 students waiting for routes. I explained that these are late registrations and not for those students that were enrolled on time. I discussed the option of charging for buses but the committee expressed that they do not want to move in that direction. Lauren King expressed her concern that 12 students are not able to ride at this time. She asked about getting a sixth bus. This currently is not an option for the district.

7. Financial Report

Suzanne Sutherland discussed her final budget report with the School Committee. The committee members were provided a copy of the report in the packet.

Motion: to approve the FY22 budget transfers in the amount of \$274,354.70 as presented. Michael Hinchliffe moved the motion. Lauren King seconded the motion. Vote taken. All in favor. Motion carried.

8. Subcommittee Reports: None

9. Old Business:

Michael Hinchliffe discussed the 6 applicants received by the School Committee (special subcommittee) for legal representation. The sub-committee has narrowed it down to 4 including the one the district is currently using. Michael Hinchliffe, subcommittee representative, is bringing it back to the School Committee for a decision on how to proceed. Barbie Linares explained that she had talked to Carol Jacobs and Michael Hinchliffe about the ongoing legal issues that the School Committee is having and what the affect would be by changing firms.

The appointment of such firm normally takes place in September. There was discussion among the members of the School Committee about extending the contract with the current firm until January to get through the legal issues that are currently ongoing.

September 22, 2022 will be the scheduled date of the re-organization. This is the time that the law firm is normally appointed.

The Committee discussed how to proceed with the law firm search. Carol Jacobs expressed that she was happy with the current firm and although there were some issues this year, she has a good working relationship with the current firm.

Lauren King mentioned that with Carol Jacobs retiring in June 2023, it may be best to stay with the current firm until Carol retires.

Michael Hinchliffe suggested to reappoint until January 1st, 2023 and then proceed from there. Carol Jacobs asked that the School Committee let the other firms know that this is on hold until January. Carol then mentioned that maybe we should appoint the current firm until June 2023.

A brief discussion took place regarding Policy DN (Disposal of Surplus) and Policy DD (Grants, Proposals & Special Projects). Suzanne Sutherland clarified some information for the School Committee.

Motion (made by Michael Hinchliffe) to accept Policy DD as presented. Barbie Linares moved the motion. Lauren King seconded the motion. Vote taken. All in favor. Motion carried.

Motion (made by Barbie Linares) to approve Policy DN as presented. Michael Hinchliffe moved the motion. Lauren King seconded the motion. Vote taken. All in favor. Motion carried.

10: New Business:

Motion: to accept the generous donation made by the Class of 2022 in the amount of \$2,500 for a Class Gift. Michael Hinchliffe moved the motion. Lauren King seconded the motion. Vote taken. All in favor. Motion carried.

11. Adjourn: Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:12PM. Michael Hinchliffe moved the motion. Lauren King seconded the motion. Vote taken. All in favor. Motion carried.

12. Executive Session: None

Respectfully Submitted,

Tracy Parker
School Committee Secretary