



## SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Lisa Fiske- Heger, Chairperson  
Tom Devin, Vice Chairperson  
George Kokoros, Recording Secretary  
Cyril Chafe  
Kate Naughton  
David Ringius  
Joseph Sullivan, Mayor

### SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday, May 15, 2017  
Braintree High School

### MINUTES

School Committee Present: Cyril Chafe/Thomas Devin/Lisa Fiske Heger/Kate Naughton/  
George Kokoros  
David Ringius (Arrived 7:22 p.m.)  
Mayor Joseph Sullivan (Arrived at 7:15 p.m.)

Administration: Dr. Frank Hackett, Superintendent of Schools  
Ms. Jennifer Fay, Assistant Superintendent of Schools  
Mr. Ed Cronin, Business Manager

Student Representatives: Kathleen Kilmain/Erin McGinn/Matthew Pugsley

Recorder: Diane Intravaia

#### I. CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Fiske Heger called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

#### II. ROUTINE MATTERS

##### A. Consideration of Approval of Minutes: Open Session May 1, 2017

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY: Upon a motion by Mr. Devin and seconded by Mr. Kokoros to approve the minutes for the Open Session of May 1, 2017.

ROLL CALL: AYES –5

Mr. Chafe/Mr. Devin/Ms. Fiske Heger/  
Mr. Kokoros/Ms. Naughton

##### B. Communications & Commendations

- i. DOVE – Ms. Fay introduced Ms. Racheal Cina from the DOVE Program. Ms. Cina worked with a number of Braintree High School (BHS) 11<sup>th</sup> grade students on the Youth Speaks Peer Leader Training Program. Nineteen students participated in a 6 hour training session and discussed a full range of topics surrounding healthy and unhealthy relationships. The new peer leaders then broke into presentation groups and passed on their knowledge to 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade students at BHS. The following students were recognized for their participation: Hailey Canelli, Meghan

Carney, Julia Demarquez, Julia Doherty, Niamh Dunphy, Destinee Grath-Alix, Angelina Joyce, John McDonnell, Sean Morin, Meghan O'Rourke, Renee Padell, Jennifer Pettinato, Christina Peirre Tossaint, Matthew Reilly, Thomas Richards, Paige Shanley, Patrick Sullivan, Joshua VanAlfen, and Michael Wishart.

ii. BHS Spring Concert, May 9, 2017

iii. Community Inclusion awards - Ms. Fiske Heger congratulated all of the Braintree 2017 Inclusion Award winners. She stated Mayor Joseph C. Sullivan will be hosting the 9th Annual Braintree Community Inclusion Awards on May 25 at 6:30 p.m. to honor members of our community that have furthered the ideals of inclusion. Inclusion means that all children and youth are given equal opportunity to participate in the community. More specifically, children and youth with special needs are participating alongside their typical peers. The following members of the community will receive the award:

- Braintree Community Youth Center – Braintree Rotary Club founded the BCYC ten years ago with the intent of providing a safe, fun, and supervised environment for the youth of Braintree. The BCYC is an outstanding example of “inclusion” in action!
- Susan Frazier – Sue Frazier’s is one of the first faces everyone who enters Braintree High School sees. She is an enthusiastic and natural “includer” of all young people she encounters in many ways in the Braintree Schools and the community!
- Coach Adam Ringius and his assistant coaches Nick Faoro, David Ringius, Sr., Christos Papiroannou, and their team, Chris Anderson, Evan Anderson, Chris Faoro, Ned Fitzgerald, Patrick Grehan, Michael Mackay, Brendan McGonigle, Sokrat Pango, Foti Papaioannou, and Adam Ringius, Jr. (A.J.) – This 2nd grade boys soccer team and their coaches are a shining example of what it means to include everyone and enjoy the sport as a team!
- Abigail “Abba” Yaney – Abba is an extraordinary senior at Braintree High School who has reinvented how the BHS yearbook is created to ensure all students are represented and is a wonderful student leader and role model for inclusion.

iv. Student Representatives - Collectively the School Committee members expressed their appreciation to the Student Representatives for their willingness to serve on the School Committee and provide their student perspective on many of the matters discussed. Student Rep. Matthew Pugsley shared he will be attending the University of Rochester in NY and studying History in the fall. Student Rep. Erin McGinn will be moving on and studying Nursing at the University of Boston.

C. Trip Approval

- i. Consideration of Trip Approval, Director of Art, Ms. Heidi Hurley  
Student Group Travel to California and the Grand Canyon April 2019 “Creative West Coast Adventure” an eight day all-inclusive art adventure.

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY: Upon a motion by Mayor Sullivan and seconded by Mr. Devin to approve the trip request to California and Arizona on April Vacation 2019.

ROLL CALL: AYES –6

Mr. Chafe/Mr. Devin/Ms. Fiske Heger/

Mr. Kokoros/Ms. Naughton/Mayor Sullivan

D. Gifts to Schools

Monatiquot School Kindergarten Center: gifts to schools totaling \$2,517.02

- a. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY: Upon a motion by Mr. Devin and seconded by Mr. Kokoros to accept as a gift to schools checks and cash totaling \$847.02 from Box Tops for Education Fundraiser, Bertucci's Dining for Dollars Fundraiser and a recent book sale as gifts to schools to be used by as needed by the Monatiquot School Kindergarten Center.

ROLL CALL: AYES –7

Mr. Chafe/Mr. Devin/Ms. Fiske Heger/Mr. Kokoros/

Ms. Naughton/Mr. Ringius/Mayor Sullivan

- b. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY: Upon a motion by Mr. Devin and seconded by Mr. Kokoros to accept as a gift to schools checks and cash totaling \$1,670.00 from MSKC Apparel Fundraiser and a recent book sale as gifts to schools to be used by as needed by the Monatiquot School Kindergarten Center.

ROLL CALL: AYES –7

Mr. Chafe/Mr. Devin/Ms. Fiske Heger/Mr. Kokoros/

Ms. Naughton/Mr. Ringius/Mayor Sullivan

Braintree Public Schools – gifts to schools totaling \$71.50

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY: Upon a motion by Mr. Kokoros and seconded by Mr. Devin to accept as a gift to schools two checks in the amount of \$23.00 and \$48.50 from Bay State Textiles as gifts to school to be used as needed in support of the Braintree Public Schools.

ROLL CALL: AYES –7

Mr. Chafe/Mr. Devin/Ms. Fiske Heger/Mr. Kokoros/

Ms. Naughton/Mr. Ringius/Mayor Sullivan

III. FROM BRAINTREE HIGH SCHOOL HEADMASTER, STAFF & STUDENTS

BHS Headmaster, Jim Lee came forward and briefly spoke of the 1:1 initiative that will be started next year with the incoming 9<sup>th</sup> grade class. Mr. Lee stated the high school has been preparing for this initiative for quite some time by deploying Chromebooks and having teachers become early adopters of technology. Ms. Victoria Joyce a BHS English teacher and Mr. Kyle Fredericks a BHS Social Studies teacher have very quickly become experts and have served as leaders among their peers as they pass on their knowledge to others through Professional Development sessions. Ms. Joyce and Mr. Fredericks walked the School Committee through an online Google Classroom exercise which illustrated the benefits of a 1:1 initiative. The walk through highlighted a variety of benefits such as:

- Students and guardians will have daily access and direct communication with the teacher.
- Overall assistance in organizing a student's work by allowing only a single copy of document(s) to exist, eliminating lost homework (storage in the cloud), and easily identifying the owner.
- Students can access information from their teacher during absences e.g. snow days, student absences, teacher absences, etc.
- Students can get real-time feedback from their teachers following an assessment.
- Chromebooks in the classroom have helped teachers increase student collaboration

- through the ability to share documents among a group of students.
- Real time student feedback creates greater potential for teachers to modify their instructions.
  - On line lessons in the classroom allow shy and reserved students to play a more productive role during the discussion.
  - Different sections of the same class at BHS will be more equitable because of Google Drive.
  - Reserved students can more easily ask questions in the middle of teacher presentations.
  - The 1:1 initiative allows students at home, and in the classroom, the teacher PowerPoints, files, videos and assignments.
  - For each student, Google Classroom automatically takes every assignment from each of their teachers and puts them in a single calendar, assisting the student in tracking assignment deadlines.
  - Teachers can create interactive (video, audio, text) lectures, allowing students to listening at their own pace in addition to receiving 1:1 support.
  - With teacher use of Google Classroom, support personnel can more seamlessly help students.

Ms. Joyce and Mr. Fredericks stated the biggest unexpected outcome in utilizing the 1:1 initiative is how well the students have gravitated to it and how much more confident they are during classroom dialogs. Mr. Fredericks noted although online classroom discussions are impressive and interactive, he always looks to highlight the takeaways on the topic in a more traditional verbal classroom manner.

#### IV. FROM SUPERINTENDENT AND STAFF

##### A. Update on Wellness Initiatives, Assistant Superintendent Fay

Ms. Fay introduced Ms. Laurie Melchionda, Director of Nursing and Ms. Melonie Bennett, Director of Physical Education and Health. Ms. Fay provided a presentation regarding the subcommittee task of developing a report of the current educational programs regarding substance abuse education, identifying outside programs for BPS students and families, and recommendations of areas to focus on in order to increase opioid and substance abuse education.

The subcommittee findings identified health education that should be offered at an earlier age to reduce the onset age of substance experimentation; professional development and training opportunities should be increased to the community at large; awareness should be raised among students and their families by utilizing interactive lessons, and presentations and resource materials should be offered to families struggling with addiction.

BPS has responded to the needs of health education through a variety of initiatives such as:

- hiring a 6<sup>th</sup> grade PE/Health teacher
- adding .62 guidance at South Middle School
- adding .5 nurse to support BHS and SBIRT
- 9<sup>th</sup> grade students participating in SBIR
- nurses contacting families regarding pain medication safety

- Naloxone carried by athletic directors/trainers
- 'How to help a friend (suicide prevention)' for 8<sup>th</sup> graders
- DOVE Healthy versus Unhealthy relationship
- Home Alone Program
- It's All About Me Alcohol Tobacco and other Drugs Program
- Travis Roy Assembly
- Students against Destructive Decisions (SADD)
- Brain Drain
- Braintree Alliance For Safe and Healthy Youth Offerings

In addition, professional development has been offered in areas such as coping skills, emotional wellness, suicide and depression, dangers of social media and reducing math anxiety.

i. Attorney General Healey Opioid Prevention Grant (\$20,000)

On May 1<sup>st</sup> BPS was awarded a Youth Opioid Prevention Grant for \$20,000 spread over 2 years. Ms. Fay stated with this grant, BPS will look to improve and expand substance use educational programming and raise awareness both at school and at home.

The Youth Opioid Prevention Grant supports the collaborative efforts among BPS, Mayor Sullivan, and the Braintree Community Partnership on Substance Use to develop effective awareness programming and support throughout the town. The funds received from the grant will significantly impact our entire school-community for years to come, and BPS looks forward to our continued partnership with Attorney General Healey and her team.

ii. SBIRT & SADD Updates

SBIRT is an evidence-based practice used to identify, reduce and prevent problematic use, abuse and dependence on alcohol and illicit drugs. SBIRT consists of three major components; Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT). Ms. Melchionda stated with the collaboration of guidance, health/PE, and the nursing staff they were able to provide all 9<sup>th</sup> grade students with confidential screening sessions.

Mayor Sullivan thanked Ms. Melchionda, Ms. Bennett and Ms. Fay on behalf of the community for the work they are doing with the middle school curriculum. Mayor Sullivan feels getting more involved with the children at a younger age will have long-term positive ramifications. Dr. Hackett also expressed his gratitude not only for the amount of gains that have been achieved but the quality of work that has been put forth. Ms. Melchionda and Ms. Bennett have already gained statewide recognition for the work they are doing. Dr. Hackett noted the efforts of the entire community and partnership with BPS has made a tremendous difference in a short amount of time. He is thankful and encouraged with the work that has been done and looks forward to what more can be done together. Ms. Heger echoed the previous sentiments

B. Updates on Assistant Superintendent Hiring Process (out of order 7:54 pm)

Dr. Hackett noted the Search Committee has conducted 5 interviews for the Assistant Superintendent Position. Three candidate's names have been moved forward. He will

conduct interviews with those candidates this coming week and ideally have a recommendation by the end of next week. Dr. Hackett thanked all those involved in the Search Committee.

C. Update on Central Office Restructuring

Dr. Hackett stated the hiring process continuous to be underway for the position of Assistant Financial Manager and Human Resource Manager within the Central office.

V. FROM THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE

A. School Building Committee

Dr. Hackett and Mr. Devin noted at the School Building Committee meeting earlier this evening, action was taken in recommending the submission of the Schematic Design to the MSBA for East Middle School. It was noted submission of the Schematic Design is the largest step prior to obtaining approval from the MSBA to move forward.

B. Consideration of Approval of MSBA Schematic Design Submission for East Middle School

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY: Upon a motion by Mr. Devin and seconded by Mr. Kokoros to acknowledge support of the submission by the School Building Committee of the Schematic Design to the MSBA.

ROLL CALL: AYES – 7

Mr. Chafe/Mr. Devin/Ms. Fiske Heger/Mr. Kokoros

Ms. Naughton/Mr. Ringius/Mayor Sullivan

VI. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

Mayor Sullivan gave a “shout out” to the class of 2018. He attended the Junior Prom at Sunset Lake and mentioned it was very nicely done. Congratulations to the class of 2018!

Ms. Fiske Heger and Ms. Naughton attended the 2018 Mother’s Day Brunch. Ms. Fiske Heger said the food was outstanding and the tent was majestic as had been promised. She thanked the class of 2018 and felt the event was a great idea.

VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION: Ms. Fiske Heger announced that the Committee would be moving into Executive Session pursuant to Chapter 30A, Section 21(a) (3), to discuss strategy for the negotiation of Collective Bargaining Contracts as an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the legal position of the School Committee, as declared by the Chair, and would be returning to Open Session.

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY: Upon a motion by Mr. Ringius and seconded by Ms. Naughton to adjourn to Executive Session for the purpose of discussing strategy for the negotiation of Collective Bargaining Contracts.

ROLL CALL: AYES – 7

Mr. Chafe/Mr. Devin/ Ms. Fiske Heger/Mr. Kokoros/

Ms. Naughton/Mr. Ringius/Mayor Sullivan

Time Entered: 8:35 p.m.  
Time Returned to Public Session: 8:45 p.m.

VIII. CONTRACT RATIFICATION: Consideration of Ratification of a Memorandum of Agreement between the Maintenance Association and the Braintree School Committee.

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY: Upon a motion by Mayor Sullivan and seconded by Mr. Devin to accept and ratify the recommended contract between the Maintenance Association and the Braintree School Committee with increases of 2%, 2.5% and 2.5% from July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2019.

ROLL CALL: AYES – 7

Mr. Chafe/Mr. Devin/ Ms. Fiske Heger/Mr. Kokoros/  
Ms. Naughton/Mr. Ringius/Mayor Sullivan

IX. ADJOURN

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY: Upon a motion by Mayor Sullivan and seconded by Mr. Kokoros to adjourn.

ROLL CALL: AYES – 7

Mr. Chafe/ Mr. Devin/ Ms. Fiske Heger/Mr. Kokoros  
Ms. Naughton/David Ringius/Mayor Sullivan

Time Adjourned: 8:57 p.m.



George Kokoros  
Recording Secretary