

MINUTES
MEETING OF THE BRAINTREE SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Thursday May 23, 2016

7:00 PM

Liberty Elementary School

School Committee Present: Cyril Chafe/Thomas Devin/Lisa Fiske Heger/George Kokoros(8:05pm)/Kate Naughton/Mayor Joseph Sullivan

Administration: Superintendent of Schools – Dr. Frank Hackett
Assistant Superintendent of Schools – Ms. Jennifer Fay-Beers
Business Manager – Mr. Edward Cronin

Recorder: Diane Intravaia

I. CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Fiske Heger called the meeting to order at 7:09 p.m.

II. ROUTINE MATTERS

A. Communication and Commendations:

1. SEMSBA Jr. & Sr. Music Festival/BPS Jazz Night/BHS Chorus/Concert Choir/Girls Group, Guys Group and Show Choir Participants
2. An appreciation letter for the Morrison School Staff was distributed.
3. Introduction & Welcome of New Principals & Recognition of Search Teams

Dr. Hackett thanked the members of the Principal Search Committees for both Ross and Liberty Elementary Schools for their time and effort in the search process. There was a strong pool of applicants. He expressed his appreciation for the work Assistant Superintendent Fay-Beers did in coordinating the searches and the consideration and time all members of the committees put forth. Dr. Hackett introduced each of the new principals and they came forward individually.

a) Liberty Elementary School: Tara Boening

Ms. Boening introduced herself and provided a brief background. She is originally from New York and her teaching experience brought her from Williamsburg in Brooklyn to Mattapoisett in Massachusetts. In Mattapoisett she served in a dual role as a classroom teacher and a Head Teacher, which contains an administrative aspect to it. From Mattapoisett she moved into an Assistant Principalship in Mansfield of a K-2 building with approximately 700 students. Ms. Boening is excited to become Principal at Liberty Elementary in Braintree.

b) Ross Elementary School: Frank McGourty

Mr. McGourty introduced himself and also provided a brief background. He indicated he was a career changer upon his children attending school. He worked evenings and whenever possible he volunteered at his children's school and quickly realized the atmosphere within the school was where he wanted to be. Mr. McGourty went on to teach in Holliston for 9 years and has been an Assistant Principal in the Town of Sherborn for 3 years. He is excited for the opportunity to be Principal at Ross Elementary School.

Mayor Sullivan thanked the Principal Search Committee members and all the administration, teachers and parents who stepped up and participated in such an important processes within BPS. Mayor Sullivan realizes the process is not all about just finding a qualified candidate but a candidate who is going to be a good fit in Braintree. He expressed gratitude to both newly appointed principals and wished them both well in their positions.

Ms. Fiske Heger also thanked the Principal Search Committee members. She recognizes serving on such committees is a lot of work and a large commitment.

4. MDPH Regional Consultant Grant Award to BPS, Laurie Melchionda, Director of Nursing

Dr. Hackett was happy to report Braintree is the recipient of the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) Regional Consultant Grant. He asked Ms. Melchionda to come forward to provide a brief overview of the grant. Ms. Melchionda stated the Regional Consultant Grant is from the Essential School Health Grant, which Braintree has been the recipient of since 2000. Essentially, the DPH Regional Consultant Grant allows for a consultant to come to Braintree. A regional consultant will enhance the nurse leadership, the educational opportunities, and the Professional Development opportunities. The consultant is an individual with a lot of experience as a nurse leader and as a consultant. Part of the consultant responsibility is to network, collaborate and communicate with other regional health experts. Ms. Melchionda stated it is a \$120,000 grant and there is no cost to Braintree. The consultant will come on board in September 2016.

Dr. Hackett thanked Ms. Melchionda for tracking down the grant and applying for it. Mayor Sullivan noted Ms. Melchionda has once again demonstrated her value in BPS and thanked her for her efforts. In response to a question from Mayor Sullivan, Ms. Melchionda stated the grant is continuous (not a one-time grant) up until the DPH is no longer able to fund it. She confirmed the benefits of the grant reach beyond BPS into other communities. Ms. Melchionda stated it is a good time for her to reassess her partnerships with other local schools (private) with whom BPS does or does not currently partnership with.

III. PRESENTATIONS:

A. First Reading FY17 Lunch Prices, Meghan Ahrenholz, Director of Food Services

Dr. Hackett introduced Ms. Ahrenholz the Director of Food Services and stated this is the first reading of the FY17 lunch prices for consideration and that it will be on the agenda at the next School Committee meeting in June for consideration of approval. Ms. Ahrenholz came forward to recommend a price increase of \$.25 per lunch for students and adults for FY17. This request is to comply with the federal paid lunch equity requirement, section 205 of the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 (Public Law 111-296). Increasing the prices of student and adult meals by \$.25 for school year 2016-2017, would result in the following lunch prices for FY17:

Elementary:	\$2.75
Middle	\$3.00
High	\$3.00
High (salad bar)	\$3.25
Adults	\$4.00

The new prices will enable us to comply with the law with a new weighted price of \$2.88, and it would also help support the increased costs the school food services department will incur in

providing more fresh fruits and vegetables and more whole grains for Braintree's students, as well as anticipated repairs and replacement of aging equipment.

In addition to increasing lunch prices, Ms. Ahrenholz is also recommending an increase in student and adult breakfast's prices by \$.25:

All student breakfast meals: \$1.25
All adult breakfast meals: \$1.50

Ms. Ahrenholz would anticipate that the \$.25 increase in lunch and breakfast prices for FY17 would keep the FY17 weighted price above the required weighted price for FY18, which would mean the next lunch price increase would not be necessary until FY19.

Mayor Sullivan highlighted the benefits of meal increase proposal; more fresh fruit, more whole grains and in general the ability to have a stronger focus on healthier foods. Ms. Ahrenholz confirmed for Mayor Sullivan, overall districtwide approximately 44% of students buy lunch. Of the 44% approximately 22%-24% receive some form of assistance for purchasing lunch. Increases in small increments (i.e. \$.15 – 1st year and \$.10 – 2nd year) creates difficulty at the point of service in providing change to students. Ms. Ahrenholz meets monthly with Mr. Cronin and reviews the budget in addition to updates on aging equipment. Mr. Devin requested copies of reports on aging equipment and the replacement prices in an effort to support the proposal of increasing the lunch/breakfast prices by \$.25.

B. Consideration of Approval: Trip to Italy & Switzerland, BHS English Department

Ms. Emily Rodd of the English Department at Braintree High School (BHS) and Cristina Roffo of the Language Department at BHS came forward to seek approval of a nine day, eight night trip to Italy and Switzerland encompassing Lucerne, Venice, Florence, Pisa and Rome. The trip would take place after school on Wednesday, April 12, 2017 and returning Friday, April 21, 2017. Students must be in good academic and disciplinary standing and have recommendations from teachers in order to attend.

All students wishing to attend the trip to Italy and Switzerland must compose a 450-500 word essay, responding to a specific prompt and submit it to the Director of English and Reading.

The approximate cost of the trip is \$3,300 per student, including current airfare, breakfast, dinner, lodging, program fees, and all-inclusive payable to EF educational tours, plus approximately \$200 for gratuities and lunch. The English Department will offer several fundraising opportunities to help offset the cost. There will be one teacher for every six students.

Ms. Naughton confirmed the trip would take place over Easter. She inquired as to if a student desired would they be able to practice their faith and attend a place of worship. Ms. Rodd stated in this situation a chaperone would accompany students to their place of worship while other chaperone(s) stay behind at the hotel with other students.

Mayor Sullivan thanked Ms. Rodd and Ms. Roffo for running this trip. He feels exploration is a key factor in education and having life experiences is something that cannot be taken out of a book and he feels this is a worthwhile adventure for students. Mayor Sullivan noted the world changes so rapidly these days, a question he has is between now and April if something was to take place and parents/students have already put down a deposit - what rights do the parents/students have to change their mind? Dr. Hackett replied in stating the travel companies (EF Tours in this case) are

quite strict in the timeframes in which deposit funds and payments can/will be returned. It is clearly spelled out by the travel companies that there are risks and policies for refunds are communicated to parents.

Ms. Fiske Heger confirmed the only other European trip for 2017 is the France trip from the Art Department.

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY: Upon a motion by Mayor Sullivan and seconded by Mr. Devin to approve a nine day, eight night trip to Italy and Switzerland encompassing Lucerne, Venice, Florence, Pisa and Rome. The trip would take place after school on Wednesday, April 12, 2017 and return Friday, April 21, 2017.

ROLL CALL: AYES -5

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

C. First Reading and/or Consideration of Approval of CATS Academy Pursuant to MGL c. 76 § 1: Steven Bliss, Head of School, CATS Academy

Dr. Hackett introduced Mr. Steven Bliss, Head of Schools, CATS Academy of Boston. Mr. Bliss is here tonight seeking approval under MGL c.76 § 1, as the School Committee has the authority to approve a private school that is entering town.

Mr. Bliss thanked Dr. Hackett personally for reaching out and allowing the communication that has taken place between the two of them over the past few months, as well as Mayor Sullivan for hosting various meetings that have taken place and being so willing and support of CATS Academy. Appreciation was also extended to all members of the School Committee, community members and especially all the neighbors for being so patient during the construction phase.

Mr. Bliss stated the academy is approximately 32 days out from the move-in date. The complex at 2001 Washington St. is a phenomenal campus. It is a 200,000 square foot parcel, comprised of 3 residence halls, an academic building which connects to a gymnasium. CATS Academy currently has 298 students and 30 countries are represented. Mr. Bliss noted a great deal of their efforts are directed towards recruiting domestic students.

Mr. Devin inquired with Mr. Bliss how he sees future synergy among CATS Academy students and BHS students. Mr. Bliss sees a strong opportunity within the Professional Development area. There is a strict requirement that has been imposed among private schools with respect to English Language Learners and certification requirements for public school teachers. CATS Academy has a 10 person strong highly skilled ESL Department that he feels can be a benefit to BPS. On the flip side CATS Academy feels they have room to grow on the technology end and with Braintree's recent growth in that area, Mr. Bliss feels there is a lot of great information that can be shared around technology and curriculum.

Mayor Sullivan feels CATS Academy is going to be an enriching experience for not only the students that attend but also with the right level of communication and compatibility it will be complimentary for Braintree. Mayor Sullivan noted in or around June 15th there will be an open house at the academy. He also noted CATS Academy is a private school for profit which means the academy will pay taxes. Mayor Sullivan is very excited for CATS Academy to start its academic year come this fall.

Mr. Bliss expressed his heartfelt appreciation to Mayor Sullivan for his leadership and his advocacy for education, without it Mr. Bliss feels the project would not have come to fruition.

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY: Upon a motion by Mayor Sullivan and seconded by Mr. Devin to approve CATS Academy to operate in Braintree as provided under MGL c.76 § 1.

ROLL CALL: AYES -5

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

Mr. Kokoros arrived at 8:05 p.m.

A. Liberty School 2015-2016 School Improvement Plan, Ilana Bebchick

Ms. Bebchick provided a presentation of the Liberty School Improvement Initiatives for 2015-2016. She began by highlighting there are 443 students at Liberty of which 33 students receive ELL services; 24 FLEP students, 79 students receive Special Education services. The students and their families at Liberty come from 23 countries. She proceeded by reviewing what steps have been taken to narrow the proficiency gap; Use of formative and summative assessments to guide instructional practices, Data Team meetings, RTI groupings, differentiated instruction, student success team, PARCC tutoring program.

Ms. Bebchick reviewed the MCAS Data from 2015:

- Liberty ranked in the 96th percentile state wide
- Level 1 school
- Average CPI from 2015 PARCC tests:

	<u>English Language Arts</u>	<u>Math</u>
○ Grade 3	95.2	95.2
○ Grade 4	90.1	87.0
○ Grade 5	98.5	93.9

Ms. Bebchick discussed in detail how the School Improvement Goals were being achieved. The goals are as follows: Differentiating Instruction in a Wireless Classroom, Differentiating Instruction for Advanced Learners, Supporting Monatiquot Kindergarten Center & Liberty Kindergarten students, Effective Teacher collaboration Models. In addition, she spoke to the school climate/safety and health and wellness initiatives within Liberty School. She concluded by highlighting and praising Liberty School’s parent and community involvement through communication, volunteering, community service, PTO support and events.

Ms. Bebchick thanked the School Committee and the Liberty School district for all of the support provided. Mayor Sullivan expressed appreciation to Ms. Bebchick for her last 3 years of service and her passion for education. Ms. Fiske Heger and the Committee wished Ms. Bebchick all the best.

IV. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

A. Gifts to Schools

Ross Elementary School Donation

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY: Upon a motion by Mr. Devin and seconded by Ms. Naughton to accept as a gift to schools a check in the amount of \$1,500.00 from Tian Ann Jih Der Sheng Daw Yuan Temple to be used for unrestricted funds for the Ross Elementary School.

ROLL CALL: AYES -6

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

Highlands Elementary School Donation

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY: Upon a motion by Mr. Kokoros and seconded by Mr. Devin to accept as a gift to schools a check in the amount of \$128.80 from Highlands PTO to be used as needed in supporting the educational needs at Highlands School.

ROLL CALL: AYES -6

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

Liberty Elementary School Donation

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY: Upon a motion by Mr. Devin and seconded by Mr. Kokoros to accept as a gift to schools an amount of \$5,133.67 from the Liberty School PTO to be used to purchase seven Elmo document cameras and a color printer with ink.

ROLL CALL: AYES -6

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

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY: Upon a motion by Mr. Kokoros and seconded by Mr. Devin to accept as a gift to schools a check in the amount of \$77.50 from Elizabeth Rowe, a Liberty School parent, to purchase software for a set of IPADS for the Liberty School.

ROLL CALL: AYES -6

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

Monatiquot School Kindergarten Center Donations

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY: Upon a motion by Ms. Naughton and seconded by Mr. Devin to accept as a gift to schools a check in the amount of \$119.00 from the Pens, Stickers, Excuse Pads and Cookbooks Fundraiser to be used at the Monatiquot School 'K' Center.

ROLL CALL: AYES -6

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

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY: Upon a motion by Mr. Devin and seconded by Mr. Kokoros to accept as a gift to schools a check and cash in the amount of \$180.00 from the Morris Press Cookbook Fundraiser to be used at the Monatiquot School 'K' Center.

ROLL CALL: AYES -6

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

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY: Upon a motion by Ms. Naughton and seconded by Mr. Devin to accept as a gift to schools a check in the amount of \$774.50 from the Box Tops for Education Program to be used at the Monatiquot School 'K' Center.

ROLL CALL: AYES -6

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

Morrison Elementary School Donation

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY: Upon a motion by Mr. Devin and seconded by Mr. Kokoros to accept as a gift to schools a check in the amount of \$2,049.60 from the Morrison PTO to be used to purchase six docking stations.

ROLL CALL: AYES -6

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

B. Update on East Middle School Project

1. MSBA Enrollment Certification for Design

Dr. Hackett was pleased to report the MSBA was happy to see BPS was in line with their projected enrollment numbers. He reiterated once the enrollment number is locked in it becomes the number used for design and build. Once certified, work will begin with the architects and the project manager through to the Building Committee. Dr. Hackett feels we are well within the window of trying to get in for a September 2019 opening. In addition, he was able to express that BPS submitted a Statement of Interest (SOI) for South Middle School. MSBA was receptive in understanding the South Middle School project is part of a bigger more comprehensive effort to manage BPS's enrollment growth. Dr. Hackett noted the Building Committee will need to reconvene soon.

2. Transition Team, Assistant Superintendent Fay-Beers

Ms. Fay-Beers stated historically, BPS has serviced grades 6-8 in its middle schools. As we begin to implement the plan to incorporate grade 5 students within our middle schools, we are looking to gather input from a variety of stakeholders. With this in mind, a Middle School Transition Team (MSTT) will be established.

The goal of the MSTT will be to develop and support a plan for the transition of our middle schools from our current grade 6-8 model to a grade 5-8 configuration. The MSTT will focus on a variety of components for a comprehensive, grade 5-8 middle school plan.

PTOs will be asked to forward the names of 2 parents (one member and one alternate) to Ann Zopatti by Thursday May 26th.

The MSTT will be chaired by the Assistant Superintendent of Schools and its members will include; elementary and middle school students, parents, teachers, and guidance, directors and principals. Additional members may be brought in to address specific topics, such as technology, visual arts, transportation and food services. This is at least a 2 year commitment with meetings, once a month (on Wednesdays), from 3:00-5:00 p.m. Two meetings over the summer will also be planned. The first organizational meeting will be held on June 8th, at 3:00 p.m. at the Colbert Building.

Ms. Fiske Heger confirmed each elementary school will be represented on the MSTT. Dr. Hackett clarified this is not only about East Middle, it is about the whole 5-8 plan for both middle schools.

V. SCHOOL COMMITTEE

A. Policy Subcommittee: Consideration of First Reading: Flexible Boundary Zones

Mr. Kokoros spoke about the Flexible Boundary Zones. He stated the School Committee is looking to attempt to manage growth going forward. As new students move into areas that are in a middle point between two schools, BPS would have the opportunity, based on class size and growth, to assign one of the two schools. Mr. Kokoros stated a map defining the zones is still being worked on. Dr. Hackett noted BPS is growing and the growth can at times be disproportionate in different sections in town. The intent is to develop flexible boundaries for all elementary schools. This would apply to all incoming enrolling students and families who currently have no siblings enrolled in BPS schools. Once a family in an elementary buffer zone

has been assigned a school for one child, other siblings who follow will also be enrolled in that elementary school. Dr. Hackett stated this prevents a potential redistricting situation that may arise in the future. This policy would allow BPS to manage growth over time.

Ms. Fiske Heger clarified this policy would apply to enrollment of students new to BPS and the School Committee is hoping this will take effect July 1, 2016.

B. Peterson Pool Update, Mayor Sullivan

Mayor Sullivan provided documentation to the School Committee. The first being a DRAFT of the Parking Agreement between the Town of Braintree School Committee and the developer for the Peterson Pool/Skating Rink Project. In addition a second document was provided from the Planning Department of a Parking Facilities & Demand Overview. The Planning Department has completed a large amount of analysis with input from Dr. Hackett and Mr. Lee, Headmaster of BHS regarding parking at the proposed site. The analysis looked at peak demand usage versus daily usage of the proposed facility. Mayor Sullivan feels it is critically important to realize the Town of Braintree, specifically the School Committee, has the responsibility and the ownership of the parking. Mayor Sullivan indicated the Parking Agreement clearly stipulates should there ever be any type of conflict (conflict meaning a large BHS event versus a large event at the proposed pool) BPS has the priority. Mayor Sullivan stated throughout the document there are a number of places "whereas" is mentioned as to protect the Town of Braintree's interest and prioritizes the fact it is clear the Town of Braintree has ownership.

The project is at a point where it has recognized it will be necessary to coordinate on particular large event days, but with regard to the day to day usage, the shared Parking Proposal is in fact a viable option. Additional parking for the proposed facility is still being looked at. Mayor Sullivan wants to be 100% clear the Town of Braintree is not building this facility. The facility is being built by a private developer. The Town of Braintree is the owner of the property. A land lease agreement will be worked out as the project moves forward. The Town of Braintree's contribution to the project, which is estimated close to \$20 million, is \$1.5 million as well as the land value. The \$1.5 million contribution is part of the proceeds gifted to the Town of Braintree back in 1964. Mayor Sullivan indicated the Planning Board and the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) are engaged on this project and there continues to be a series of oversight on the project. The next Planning Board Meeting is June 14th. The School Committee meets again on June 13th on this topic. Mayor Sullivan noted within the Parking Facilities & Demand Overview there is a map indicating possible locations in and around the proposed facility and BHS for additional parking.

Mr. Scott Lacey, the attorney representing PSC Partners (the developer), and Mr. Kenneth Graham, the Town of Braintree's Traffic Engineer came forward. Mr. Lacey indicated Mayor Sullivan covered most of where PSC Partners stand with regards to the permitting. He acknowledged the one thing currently before the ZBA is the parking. PSC Partners is going to be required to provide parking for the entire proposed facility. The actual variance being requested by the ZBA is for all of the parking for the facility. The zoning bylaw indicates 835 parking spots. Mr. Lacey stated in reality for a facility like this with its ebbs and flows 835 parking are not needed in actuality far less are needed. The ebbs and flow analysis indicates as expected the facility is busy before school and after school lets out. But during the actual school day, the number of parking spots projected to be needed is under 150 parking spots. Mr. Lacey stated it will not interfere with the operations of the school on a given school day. He indicated it is in the evening and weekends when the facility will be the busiest. The materials provided to the Mayor's office and the permitting board indicates how the facility will coexist with the BHS.

Mr. Kokoros asked Mr. Lacey and Mr. Graham if they are comfortable if at peak times the egress from the facility is sufficient. Mr. Kokoros stated with BHS getting out for the day there is congestion at surrounding intersections and corridors. Mr. Lacey indicated for something such as a state tournament they would consider it a special event and with any special event a specific traffic mitigation plan would be setup and put in place.

Mayor Sullivan stated the issue being raised is that of average daily use of the facility versus a special event at the facility. He went on to state at any special event he wants to be sure there is traffic flow, safety, and coordination and that will require a police detail. Based on his professional experience, Mr. Graham confirmed for Mayor Sullivan the proposed facility with its daily use can be managed with the high school (which is the primary use of the property).

Mr. Devin sees a bottle neck when it comes to the entrance and exit curb cuts in the plan. He believes the current plan does not allow for long enough road way to stack cars up in preparation for getting them out onto the major road ways and therefore not allowing the traffic lights to cycle the cars through. He stated a police detail will be necessary. He would like the town to take a look at possibly creating an exit at the back of the BHS. In addition, he noted on the plan the potential of 61 additional parking spots in front of the school. Mr. Devin does not believe we have the luxury of not looking at everything in an effort to mitigate the potential parking issue. He feels overall this is a great project and the facility will prove to be a gem for the town of Braintree.

Mr. Kokoros stated the largest parking area noted on the plan (the current BHS student parking lot) does not have a good traffic flow. He feels the future use of cones or such will need to help facility a better flow of traffic within the parking lot.

Mr. Chafe noted on the Parking Facilities & Demand Overview the teachers' parking lot located at the rear of BHS states Future: 170 spaces. Mr. Lacey confirmed there is no plan at this time to expand that lot. The lot currently has 170 spaces and will remain 170 in the future. Mr. Lacey went on to say the current plan only calls for an addition 31 parking spots at the North Parking lot/Area (the current BHS student parking lot with regards to the future if it was necessary to add parking spots.

Mayor Sullivan noted the Parking Facilities & Demand Overview is a DRAFT document for discussion purposes only. The Overview document is a conceptual plan. Mayor Sullivan, Dr. Hackett and Mr. Lee recognize for quite some time now there has been a need for a redesign of the parking flow at BHS. As part of the conceptual planning there has been discussion with regards to bringing some of the BHS parking tighter to the building and utilizing some of the space located in the back of BHS. Mayor Sullivan pointed out by redirecting some parking to the back of BHS there is ample parking particularly at night time which would allow for easy access to the BHS gym and night school and still allow for parking in the front of BHS for the facility. Overall, Mayor Sullivan feels if we can make the other parking lots located around BHS more useable then we may be able to achieve a better traffic flow. Mayor Sullivan confirmed they need to continue to look at parking at the facility but in addition and equally important the circulation and management of traffic needs to be addressed. He noted the focus for the School Committee is the shared DRAFT of the Parking Agreement between the Town of Braintree School Committee and the developer for the Peterson Pool/Skating Rink Project. Mayor Sullivan indicated support is needed on the agreement to move the project forward.

Ms. Naughton clarified the focus of the shared DRAFT of the Parking Agreement between the Town of Braintree School Committee and the developer for the Peterson Pool/Skating Rink Project

for this evening's purposes is focused on adding 34 parking spots at point 'A' on the map referring to North Parking Lot/Area. In addition, Ms. Naughton questioned who would be responsible for the snowplowing of the parking lot. Mayor Sullivan indicated within the Agreement there is a statement that requires the developer to be responsible for the snowplowing and obtaining insurance to indemnify the Town of Braintree. Ms. Naughton went on to inquire about bus parking and turnarounds. Mr. Lacey stated as part of the proposal there is a location planned for bus drop-off and turnarounds off of Granite St.. Bus parking will be located either in the main parking lot or the back parking lot behind BHS if an event is on the weekend. Dr. Hackett noted it is not unusual for buses to find offsite parking during an event and return to the facility when needed. Ms. Naughton asked if possible could the signage with regards to all parking at BHS and the proposed facility be updated.

Dr. Hackett thanked Mayor Sullivan for including him in the discussion of the parking for the proposed facility. He went on to note the parking at BHS in the student lot is more than sufficient for day time use. He indicated there have been numerous student parking car counts conducted over the past months and the counts have not exceeded 220. In terms of daily operations, BHS is only using approximately half of the available parking. Dr. Hackett noted most of the parking at BHS is far removed from the building itself. Going forward he would like to consider rethinking, recommunicating and planning more usage of the parking at the back of BHS for evening events at BHS. Parking at the back of BHS might promote more flow onto the access road onto Franklin St., therefore spreading out the in and outgoing traffic at BHS and the proposed facility.

Mayor Sullivan senses the ZBA is looking for some direction and comfort level by the School Committee with regards to the usage of the property before moving forward on their end. The School Committee meets again on June 13th. There are three steps which still need to be finalized; a School Committee endorsement, a Planning endorsement, and a ZBA endorsement.

VI. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

Ms. Kimberly Leib a parent from Hollis came forward. She feels Braintree is a good district but wonders what can be done to make it better. Ms. Leib quoted many statistics in reference to the number of children that are affected by such areas as; adoption, allergies, mental illness, psychotropic medications, sexual abuse, physical abuse, drug abuse, economically disadvantaged, disabilities, and domestic violence. She is concerned about the training our educators have in areas such as child psychology, mental health, medications, first aid/CPR, special education and the law, etc. She proposes BPS adopts the National Alliance on Mental Illness Educate the Educators Program, an in-service day with South Shore Mental Health.

Ms. Leib feels the Baystate Textile fundraiser is not a good fundraiser for Braintree and would like to see this fundraiser removed and Braintree Families should be directed to support Sunny Shaw and The Closet. She feels the district is lacking spaces and is concerned what will happen when the state of Massachusetts requires full-day kindergarten. Additionally she would like to see more funds be spent on Professional Development. She believes there is a large movement of parents who are opting out of testing. Ms. Leib would like the district to stand up and take a stance on NO more testing. She would like to see changes to Aspen that would allow parents to get notified every time their child receives a 70% or lower.

Lastly, Ms. Leib is concerned about the process is for filing a formal complaint against an educator. Ms. Leib concluded with stating grades are not the only indicator of a child's success.

Ms. Fiske Heger stated the next School Committee meeting is June 13th at 7:00 p.m. at the Hollis School. The summer meetings are on July 11th at 7:00 p.m. at the Colbert School and August 15th at 7:00 at the Colbert School as well.

- VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION: Consideration to Enter Executive Session pursuant to Chapter 30A, Section 21 (a)(3), to discuss strategy for the negotiation of Collective Bargaining and Personal Services Contracts as an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the legal position of the School Committee, as declared by the Chair.

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY: Upon a motion by Mr. Devin and seconded by Mr. Kokoros to adjourn to Executive Session for the purpose of discussing strategy for the negotiation of Collective Bargaining and Personal Services Contracts and the Committee will not reconvene in Open Session.

ROLL CALL: AYES – 6

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

- VIII. ADJOURN

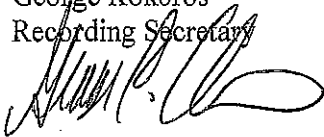
VOTED UNANIMOUSLY: Upon a motion by Mr. Devin and seconded by Mr. Kokoros to adjourn.

ROLL CALL: AYES – 6

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

Time: 9:43 P.M.

George Kokoros
Recording Secretary



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