

## MINUTES OF SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING – OCTOBER 15, 2018

A regular School Committee meeting was held in the Learning Commons of Joseph Case High School on Monday, October 15, 2018.

Members Present: Tina Bell, James Carvalho, Eric Graham, Scott Rowland, Joseph Salpietro.

Superintendent of Schools John J. Robidoux, Assistant Superintendent Elizabeth White, and Student Representative Chloe Shea were in attendance.

Visitors included: Robert Silveira, Cheryl Reis, Sherry Reis, Sonya Barbosa, Craig Warner, Debbie Kelley (videographer), and Bill Hall of The Spectator.

Chairman Rowland opened the meeting at 5:30 p.m. Special Town Meeting to start at 7 p.m.

He announced that, in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 30A, Section 20(f), anybody in attendance who wanted to record any portion of the meeting must notify the Chairman. The School Committee is recording audio and visual. School Committee meetings are broadcast live and recorded for broadcast on Sunday at 10 p.m., Monday at 6 p.m., Tuesday at 2 p.m., Wednesday at 10 a.m., Thursday at 10 p.m., Friday at 6 p.m., and Saturday at 2 p.m. on Swansea Cable Access Channel 15. Meetings can also be accessed over the internet at [swansecabletv.com](http://swansecabletv.com). There was no executive session.

Mr. Graham led in the Pledge of Allegiance. Mrs. Bell offered a moment of silence for all those affected by Hurricane Michael.

Chairman Rowland established a Consent Agenda consisting of #4 Personnel, #5 Correspondence, #6 Informational Items, #9 Approval of Bills. #8 Approval of Minutes was deferred until the next meeting for correct spelling of Chairman Rowland's name.

### DISCUSSION ITEMS

#### 2019 Joseph Case Junior High School Eighth Grade Trip to Washington, D.C./Philadelphia, MA

Mrs. Cheryl Reis and Ms. Sherry Reis explained the itinerary. It is similar to last year's. They will leave on Monday, June 3, to try to avoid traffic. The first couple of days are spent touring. They will go to Hershey Park all day on Wednesday. Students are fundraising. The Christmas wreaths are very popular.

Mr. Salpietro thanked them for doing this. It involves a lot of hours planning. He noted his daughter will be going this year. He will abstain from voting.

Mrs. Bell said this is an amazing trip and something the kids talk about.

Mr. Graham said students look forward to this trip and will remember it for a lifetime.

Mr. Carvalho said they do a great job.

Supt. Robidoux also mentioned the number of hours spent on planning. The trip creates memories for the kids.

Asst. Supt. White said they get to see history. It will have a lasting impact.

Chairman Rowland said both his children went on this trip and they still remember it. He thanked Mr. Silveira for supporting it.

Mr. Silveira said he went for the first time last year. They had a great time. He said the teachers do a tremendous amount of work and several volunteers from the junior high school helped.

### **Report on School Buildings, Major Capital Improvement Needs and Student Enrollment**

Supt. Robidoux said that Mrs. Arruda and he prepared the information. Each school is on a separate sheet.

The Brown School was built in 1956. It doesn't have a library. Major Capital Improvement projects are: main entry canopy at \$147,000; drop ceiling phase III in rooms 8, 11, 12 at \$10,560; prep, mill, patch, overlay asphalt main lot \$46,058; front circle remove and replace new asphalt \$24,981; boiler #2 replacement \$80,000.

Gardner School was built in 1924 with addition in 1962. Capital Improvement projects include: pointing brick old section south, east & west sides cornerstone restoration and visitor parking lot lighting (no bids); generator \$75,000 and AC in main office \$8,650.

Hoyle School was built in 1992. There are self-contained classrooms and pre-k. Capital Improvement projects are phase II energy management \$82,350, front/north gravel lot binder \$20,700; front/north gravel lot binder & top complete \$28,820.

Luther School was built in 1931, addition 1961. There are two self-contained classrooms. Capital Improvement projects include: boiler replacement \$150,000; air conditioning in gymnasium \$24,350; Univent repair; window replacement \$53,195, pointing bricks, south and east sides \$24,000.

Joseph Case High School was built in 1975. Capital Improvement projects include: installation of 2 high efficiency boilers and disposal of existing (working with OMP and design team), bleachers need repairs; roof restoration \$715,000; classroom carpet replacement.

Joseph Case Junior High School was built in 1927 with addition & annex in 1952. Capital Improvements include cafeteria A/C \$24,050, Univent repair; pointing bricks, chimney \$39,000; crack fill and total seal rear drive from mid lot, rear loop & east drive \$9,600.

Mr. Graham thanked Supt. Robidoux for the report.

Mrs. Bell would like to see capacity of each school.

Supt. Robidoux said he is nervous about the junior high school. It is tight.

Mr. Salpietro agreed that they have got to keep an eye on capacity. This report is the first step. He suggested this information should be shared with the A & F Committee. He asked about MSBA funding for the high school roof.

Supt. Robidoux said roofs are not eligible for MSBA funding.

Mr. Salpietro asked about the new sound system for the high school.

Supt. Robidoux said the cost is about \$15,000. He is trying to figure out how to do it.

Mr. Salpietro thanked Supt. Robidoux for the report. He said it should be shared with the public. People need to know they are doing the best they can to maintain the buildings.

Chairman Rowland also thanked the Superintendent. He agreed the report should be put out there to the public. It is important for folks to understand what the school system is up against.

Ms. Shea said she is involved with the sound system at the high school.

#### Overview of MCAS Results – Grades 3-12

Asst. Supt. White presented the scores. There are two ratings. Swansea is in the category without required assistance. Each school can earn points in different areas. The state will look at chronic absenteeism. Eighteen days or over is considered to be chronic absenteeism. Not enough was explained by the state. This is just an overview.

Mr. Salpietro said if the state could agree on one test and have it for an amount of time he would take it for what it is.

Mrs. Bell said it looks like Swansea is doing well compared to the state.

Mr. Graham talked about science in grades 5 and 8.

Mr. Carvalho felt there are too many tests.

Chairman Rowland said over the five years he has been on the School Committee, he still doesn't understand this.

Asst. Supt. White said scores are better every year.

Supt. Robidoux said the tests do provide focus areas.

Ms. Shea said the test becomes annoying.

Proposed Superintendent Evaluation Goals for School Year 2018-2019

Supt. Robidoux provided an overview of the four goals.

Mr. Graham and Mrs. Bell will help to make sure he meets his goals.

Mr. Salpietro liked the community involvement. He liked the idea of asking local businesses to conduct mock interviews with high school students.

Chairman Rowland liked the fact that goals are revolving.

ACTION ITEMS

Vote to Approve 2019 Joseph Case Junior High School Eighth Grade Trip to Washington, D.C./Philadelphia, PA

A motion was made by Mr. Carvalho, seconded by Mr. Graham, and it was

**VOTED:** 4 Ayes; 1 Abstention; To approve the 2019 Joseph Case Junior High School eighth grade trip to Washington, D.C./Philadelphia, PA from June 3–6, 2019.

The vote: Mr. Carvalho- Aye; Mr. Graham – Aye; Mrs. Bell – Aye; Chairman Rowland – Aye; Mr. Salpietro – Abstained.

Vote to Accept Proposed Superintendent Evaluation Goals for School Year 2018-2019

A motion was made by Mr. Graham, seconded by Mr. Carvalho, and it was unanimously

**VOTED:** To accept the Proposed Superintendent Evaluation Goals for school year 2018-2019.

NEW BUSINESS: FUTURE DISCUSSIONS BY SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS,  
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS, ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS,  
STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

Mr. Carvalho loved the theatre company's production of "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat." He appreciated the theater company's recognition of his recent award in the Playbill.

Mr. Graham congratulated the football team. He also loved the play.

He mentioned the Committee needs to elect a delegate for the MASC Conference coming up in November.

Mrs. Bell said the production was amazing.

Mr. Salpietro said staff members were involved in the production on Thursday night. He questioned how many schools in this area would be able to have a football coach, principals, staff members be part of this. It speaks volumes about the school community. It is awesome.

Chairman Rowland commented on the involvement of the staff at all levels in the drama program.

He congratulated the football team – Southcoast Conference champions.

Supt. Robidoux said Mr. Silveira stole the show at the play. It was good to see students from all grades involved.

He urged people to wear pink on October 18 - Breast Cancer Awareness Day.

He mentioned the different fall sports teams.

Asst. Supt. White also enjoyed seeing the students from all grade levels in the play. She congratulated the two retirees – Barbara Corey and Barbara McLeod. She also congratulated Rebecca Proulx who was recognized by MettaStudents, org for her outstanding kindness.

Ms. Shea said the show was so much fun. At least one student from every school was involved. She also mentioned Ms. Proulx's acts of kindness.

NEXT MEETING

The next regular School Committee meeting was scheduled for Monday, October 29, 2018, at 6 p.m. at the Administration Building.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. Graham, seconded by Mr. Carvalho, and it was unanimously

**VOTED:** To adjourn at 6:58 p.m.

The vote: Mr. Graham – Aye; Mr. Carvalho – Aye; Mrs. Bell – Aye; Mr. Salpietro – Aye;  
Chairman Rowland – Aye.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Gamer  
Secretary

Items Distributed at the October 15, 2018 School Committee

Itinerary for Joseph Case Junior High School 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Trip to Washington, DC/Philadelphia

Repairs needed at various schools

MASC Test Result – Spring 2018

Superintendent's Proposed Goals

Barbara A. Corey - Letter of retirement as Grade 3 teacher

Barbara N. McLeod – Letter of retirement as school nurse

Supt. Robidoux's letter to Town Planner John Hansen re: concerns about the solar field site plan for Wood Street Map 7 Lot 7

Bi-County Collaborative – Quarterly Information and Activities – September 28, 2018

Metta Students Award – Presented to Rebecca Proulx for outstanding kindness especially with ARCH Buddies

Luther Pride – Volume 5, Issue 2 – October 1, 2018

E. S. Brown School – Newsletter – October 2018 – Volume 3, Issue #1