

**Tewksbury School Committee
Regular Meeting #10.
Wednesday, March 20, 2019
Tewksbury Memorial High School, LGI 1
320 Pleasant Street, Tewksbury**

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Krissy M. Polimeno, Chairperson
Arthy S. Bennett, Vice-Chairperson
James A. Cutelis, Clerk
Dennis G. Francis, Member
Keith M. Sullivan, Member

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT

Christopher J. Malone, Superintendent
Brenda T. Regan, Assistant Superintendent
David A. Libby, Business Manager

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Polimeno called the March 20, 2019 Regular School Committee meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Ms. Polimeno announced the School Committee will be convening an Executive Session to continue discussion relative to collective bargaining with employee groups and the strategy to be followed and/or continued ongoing litigation. The School Committee will reconvene in Open Session for the Budget Workshop at 6:30 p.m.

Mr. Francis moved, seconded by Ms. Bennett, to enter into an Executive Session to continue discussion relative to collective bargaining with employee groups and the strategy to be followed and/or continued ongoing litigation.

Roll Call Vote - Voting Yes: Mr. Sullivan, Ms. Bennett, Mr. Francis, Mr. Cutelis and Ms. Polimeno. All Aye. No Opposed. Unanimous Vote. Motion carried 5-0.

At 6:30 p.m., Mr. Francis moved, seconded by Ms. Bennett, to adjourn the Executive Session and reconvene the Regular School Committee meeting. All Aye. No Opposed. Unanimous Vote. Motion carried 5-0.

Public Budget Hearing

At 6:34 p.m., Ms. Polimeno opened the March 20, 2019 Public Budget Hearing, announcing the public is welcome to ask questions and/or comments relating that all comments and/or questions should be directed to the Chair. Ms. Polimeno reported that the School Committee will not respond to questions this evening.

Mr. Libby addressed the School Committee presenting the FY20 Public Budget Hearing reporting that this is the third budget presentation relating the budget has been presented to the Tewksbury Finance Committee. Mr. Libby reported the District Strategy is the driving force behind budget decisions in the district.

He reported the budget is made up of four areas, three are managed by the district, salaries, operating costs, and Capital Outlay, and fixed costs are shared with the town. Mr. Libby reported he met with the principals and the leadership team looking at common areas of focus: technology, building improvements, and personnel. He reported the district is looking at a 2.83% increase which is in-line with the Town Manager's recommended budget for the district. Mr. Libby reported that changes have been made to the bottom line due to enrollment at Shawsheen Technical High School and the Valley Collaborative, as well as adjustments to Circuit Breaker budget due to the Governor's budget. He reported that adjustments expected to salary figures due to personnel decisions. He stated that the school department is requesting a 1.92% overall increase to fixed cost and \$948,000 in Capital Outlay for technology infrastructure upgrades. Mr. Libby reported the Tewksbury Public Schools is eligible for \$384,000 through the E-rate funding relating that the district has to have the projects fully budgeted to qualify. Mr. Libby presented the capital and maintenance projects throughout the district and presented the grant funding three year history. He reported the district has seen cuts in Title 1; the costs had to be absorbed into the regular budget. He reported the next steps are to continue discussion with principals, department heads and town officials to assess needs, to look at our focus areas, and to refine numbers as we approach the May Town Meeting. Mr. Libby feels the district can work within the budget of \$62,000,000.

Mr. Libby addressed questions and comments from the School Committee and the audience.

At the recommendation of Ms. Polimeno, Mr. Francis moved, seconded by Ms. Bennett, to close the Public Budget Hearing for the 2019-2020 school year budget. All Aye. No Opposed. Unanimous Vote. Motion carried 5-0.

The Committee took a five minute break and returned to the Regular School Committee meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENT

At 7:05 p.m., Ms. Polimeno announced that the March 20, 2019 Regular School Committee meeting will be televised and recorded. Under the Open Meeting Law, the public is permitted to make an audio or video recording of an open session at a public meeting. At this time, Ms. Polimeno asked that if anyone is recording tonight's meeting to please identify himself/herself. No one present was recording the meeting this evening.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Ms. Polimeno asked the honored guests to lead the School Committee in the Pledge of Allegiance.

RECOGNITION

2019 Patriot Pen - Tewksbury VFW Post 8164

Mr. Malone invited VFW Commander Vincent Oliva up to introduce the 2019 Patriot Pen Essay winners. Mr. Oliva reported that the national essay contest is about patriotism and that this year they had the most applications than over the past five years relating that the top three winners of the Patriot Pen, at the District level, are Tewksbury students. Mr. Oliva introduced Brooke Bunyan, second place winner, presenting her with a Certificate of Merit and a check. Brooke read her essay to the School Committee and community. Mr. Oliva introduced Morgan Kelly, the first place winner, presenting her with a Certificate of Merit and a check. Morgan read her essay to the School Committee and the community. The third place winner, Ava Konaxis, was not able to attend tonight. The students were presented with Resolutions of Recognition from the School Committee.

Mr. Oliva reported that Tewksbury's Patriot Pen participation is due in part to the efforts Kathleen Anderson, teacher at the John Ryan Elementary School. He reported the VFW Post 8164 nominated Ms. Anderson for the Teacher of the Year award.

2019 Ginsburg Family Award

Mr. Malone asked Marc and Leisa Ginsburg, and their family to join him in recognizing and presenting the annual Ginsburg Family Award. Andrea Ginsburg announced that Donna's Donuts is the recipient of the 2019 Ginsburg Family Award, inviting Mr. Bill Wilson, Jr., and his family up to accept the award. The Wilson's received an engraved trophy as well as a monetary donation from the Ginsburg family which is to be donated to the Tewksbury Public Schools in the name of the Wilson's. Mr. Wilson accepted the award stating that they would like for the donation to go music and arts at the Tewksbury Public Schools.

School Committee Member Recognition

The School Committee and community recognized Krissy Polimeno and Arthy Bennett as they are not seeking reelection to the Committee. Marc Ginsburg thanked Krissy Polimeno and Arthy Bennett for their years of service on the School Committee.

Josh Bilodeau, President of the Tewksbury Teachers Association, and members Lisa Zullo, and Julie Taggart thanked Krissy Polimeno and Arthy Bennett for all their hard work and dedication to the Tewksbury Public Schools relating that it is has been a pleasure working with them. The TTA presented Ms. Polimeno and Ms. Bennett with flowers.

Mr. Malone, Ms. Regan and School Committee members Mr. Sullivan, Mr. Cutelis, and Mr. Francis recognized Krissy Polimeno and Arthy Bennett for their dedication and impact they have made to the Tewksbury Public Schools. On behalf of the students and staff, Mr. Malone thanked Arthy and presented a video recognizing Arthy. Ms. Bennett was presented with gifts from the Robotics Team and flowers from the district and the Committee. Ms. Bennett addressed the Committee and the community thanking them for the opportunity to serve Tewksbury. The Committee thanked Krissy Polimeno for serving on the Committee and for her leadership. Mr. Malone presented Krissy with flowers and for her involvement in the basketball program, she received an autographed basketball. Ms. Polimeno was presented with the first annual Krissy Polimeno Educator award. Ms. Polimeno addressed the Committee relating that she has enjoyed last nine years, she is proud of everything accomplished, and believes in the Tewksbury Public Schools.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

Grace Morris presented the Notes From Tewksbury Memorial High School:

SADD continues to work on their mass media project.

Robotics did very well in their competition this previous weekend in Reading. They were ranked 2nd with a record of 10-1-1, and they won the Quality Award sponsored by Motorola Solutions Foundation. This weekend they are competing in Revere at another district competition.

Best Buddies went to the Bruins game on March 7th with 40 students and saw a great game. The next big event is the Best Buddies birthday bash on April 6th at the Bedford Doubletree Hotel.

Book Buddies are going to the Dewing this week.

International Club, especially freshman and sophomore members, helped to set up the Culture Fair yesterday. They helped hang up flags, decorate and they worked the welcome table. International Club would like to thank Ms. Polimeno, Ms. Regan, Dr. Osborne, and Ms. Hodgson for attending and interacting with the students, as it validates the work that the students put into their project.

JCL had a great time at the Culture Fair last night. They had several visitors participating in toga wrappings, and enjoyed traditional Mediterranean snacks. They are still working on planning their field trip to the Worcester Art Museum.

Student Council, this past month, sent several student council members to attend the MASC, the state student council conference where they learned many new leadership skills. The spring district conference, NEMASC is coming up in April. They are also gearing towards helping to plan Mr. TMHS. Math Team will be competing in Lynnfield tomorrow for their final meet of the year.

She's the First attended a social justice conference last Thursday at Sutton high school with the GSA, and they had an amazing experience. They are starting to collaborate to host an equity conference at TMHS in the fall. They put up posters in the cafeteria of famous women in math and science. Lastly, they had a successful fudge fundraiser for Valentine's Day, and their goal is to send \$1,000 towards scholarships to first generation women attending higher education in developing nations.

DECA- Colby Brown, Victoria Shille, and Rebecca Defrancesco qualified for Nationals in entrepreneurship and innovation plan, in which they placed FIRST. Ryan Bennett and Matthew Fronduto qualified for Nationals, finishing in 5th place in Integrated Marketing Campaign for Services. Mihir Bagul finished in the top 10 and will be going to the National Conference along with Marissa Ladderbush for leadership. The State Competition was an overall great experience, and they are looking forward to the National Competition in Orlando.

NHS Induction Ceremony went very well last Tuesday. The E-board would like to thank the school committee members that attended. The juniors had their first official meeting, and will be electing a president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer next Tuesday. Seniors are finishing up all of their NHS requirements, and they will be taking a field trip to Boda Borg in April.

Puerto Rico - Lastly, the Puerto Rico trip is over April break. The students and staff attending are very excited, and they would like to thank the School Committee for always supporting their adventures.

PRESENTATIONS

None

Mr. Malone requested to take New Business, item #1, 2020 Wynn Middle School 8th Grade Washington, D.D. Overnight Field Trip, out of order inviting Mr. Gillespie to present the highlights of the Washington, D.C. trip.

2020 Wynn Middle School 8th Grade Washington, D.C., Overnight Field Trip Request

At the recommendation of Ms. Polimeno, Mr. Francis moved, seconded by Ms. Bennett, to approve the 2020 Wynn Middle School 8th Grade Washington, D.C., overnight field trip.

Roll Call Vote - Voting Yes: Mr. Sullivan, Ms. Bennett, Mr. Cutelis, Mr. Francis, and Ms. Polimeno. All Aye. No Opposed. Unanimous Vote. Motion carried 5-0.

CITIZEN'S FORUM

Ms. Polimeno inquired if there was anyone in the audience wishing to speak on any item on the agenda. Seeing no one, Ms. Polimeno moved to the Approval of Minutes.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Cutelis moved, seconded by Mr. Francis, to approve the February 27, 2019 Regular Meeting minutes. All Aye. No Opposed. Unanimous Vote. Motion carried 5-0.

SUBMISSION OF PAYMENT OF BILLS

Mr. Cutelis moved to approve the payroll period ending March 7, 2019, to be approved and certified in the amount and categories as shown \$1,307,179.27, seconded by Mr. Francis.

Roll Call Vote: Voting Yes: Mr. Sullivan, Ms. Bennett, Mr. Cutelis, Mr. Francis, and Ms. Polimeno. All Aye. No Opposed. Unanimous Vote. Motion carried 5-0.

SUPERINTENDENT & STAFF REPORTS

Mr. Malone reported Channel 5 recognized two students from Tewksbury Memorial High School that will be going to Kenya to volunteer. Mr. Malone reminded the School Committee and community members that Alphabest will be working with families on summer programming and enrichment opportunities. They are holding a staff recruiting event at the Wynn Middle School tonight and will be communicating out information regarding to parents and guardians. He reported that he and Kristen Vogel attend a youth vaping institute regarding vaping issues, they looked at models from other schools relating that data shows how dangerous the epidemic is for children. Mr. Malone presented sports updates reported the TMHS Girls Basketball team and the Boys Hockey Team reached the Division finals this year and the Girls Hockey team won the Division 1 State Championship at TD Gardens. Mr. Malone reported the School Committee will recognize them at the April meeting.

Ms. Regan, Assistant Superintendent

Ms. Regan reported that March 4th through March 14th, 76 students completed voter registration applications at Tewksbury Memorial High School, thanking TMHS senior, Roslyn Impink, and Brian Aylward, for continuing to bring this opportunity to TMHS. Ms. Regan reported that she attended the Cultural Fair on March 26th and 27th, thanking the Foreign Language Department. She reported on March 26th & 27th, 10th graders will be taking English Language Arts (ELA) Next Generation online MCAS testing. Grades 9th, 11th, and 12th grade students will have a full day of school. On March 26th Jessica Minahan will provide a full-day professional development workshop for our administrator teams and select service providers an BCBA's.

David Libby, Business Manager

Mr. Libby reported the district continues to work with transportation vendor improving the "Where is the Bus" application for parents and guardians. He remarked that the district is working to improve bus services for parents in order to alleviate traffic issues.

CONSENT AGENDA

Ms. Polimeno asked if anyone would like to remove any item from the Consent Agenda. Seeing none, Ms. Polimeno asked for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda.

Mr. Francis moved, seconded by Ms. Bennett, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. All Aye. No Opposed. Unanimous Vote. Motion carried 5-0.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Elementary School Building Committee (ESBC)

Mr. Francis reported the ESBC schematic design end on May 6th Town Meeting vote. Mr. Francis announced the latest activities and reported on the Project Scope. Mr. Francis reported the next meeting will be held on April 4, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. Next Tuesday, March 26th, the ESBC will be making a presentation at the Tewksbury Board of Selectmen meeting relating that all other boards in the town were invited to attend the presentation. He reported the ESBC continues to remain focused on their mission statement and working with neighbors.

Mr. Francis announced that the Friends of Tewksbury School Building Project is messaging out information related to the progress of the new elementary school building project. Mr. Francis and Mr. Cutelis reminded the community of the importance of the upcoming vote.

Tewksbury Education Foundation

Ms. Bennett had nothing to report.

Wellness Advisory Committee

Mr. Sullivan reported that Elaine Walsh presented an update on the Stop the Bleed program, Maria Ruggerio talked about the Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD) program and he reported the Bike Rodeo will be held on June 9th relating that there will not be a health fair this year. Mr. Sullivan reported the next Wellness Advisory Committee meeting will be held on May 20th.

POLICY CHANGES, PROPOSALS, AND ADOPTION

Recommended Revisions to Tewksbury Public Schools' Policies on second and Final Reading (File)

AC-Non-discrimination; **BEDG**-Minutes; **GBA**-Equal Employment Opportunity; **GBEBD**-Appropriate Language; **GCF**-Professional Staff Hiring; **JB**-Equal Educational Opportunities; **JFBB-1**-School Choice
Ms. Bennett reported these policies are presented on second and final reading.

Ms. Bennett moved, seconded by Mr. Francis, to approve the above mentioned policies on second and final reading as presented. All Aye. No Opposed. Unanimous Vote. Motion carried 5-0.

JEB-Entrance Age For Kindergarten and Elementary Grades

Ms. Bennett reported policy JEB, Entrance Age for Kindergarten and Elementary Grades, is presented on second and final reading.

Recommended to Adopt Policy Upper Age Admissions

Ms. Bennett reported that the district developed a new policy, Upper Age Admissions. The policy is presented on informational reading.

Ms. Regan reported the policy will address students 18-21 years of age seeking admission to Tewksbury Memorial High School. Ms. Bennett added that comments and input may be sent to Ms. Bennett and/or Ms. Polimeno.

OLD BUSINESS

2019-2020 School Calendar Draft

Ms. Regan pointed out an update to the 2019-2020 school calendar reported the May workshop day was moved from Friday, May 7th to Thursday, May 6th. Another edit was made to adjust the early release end time for some schools reporting that a student day is 6 hours 20 minutes across the district, the half-day is 3 hours 10 minutes. A vote from the School Committee was needed to accept the changes to the 2019-2020 school calendar.

Ms. Bennett moved to approve the updates to the 2019-2020 school calendar, seconded by Mr. Sullivan, to move the Workshop day to May 6, 2020 and to adjust the early release hours for the Ryan Elementary School, the Wynn Middle School, and at Tewksbury Memorial High School.

NEW BUSINESS

Committee Appointment to Tewksbury North and Trahan School Reuse Committee

Ms. Polimeno asked for a nomination to appoint a member of the Tewksbury School Committee to the Town's Tewksbury North and Trahan School Reuse Committee. Mr. Francis moved to appoint Mr. Sullivan to the Tewksbury North and Trahan Reuse Committee, seconded by Mr. Cutelis. Ms. Polimeno asked if there were any other nominations, seeing none Ms. Polimeno called for a Roll Call vote.

Roll Call Vote - Voting Yes: Mr. Sullivan, Ms. Bennett, Mr. Cutelis, Mr. Francis, and Ms. Polimeno. All Aye. No Opposed. Unanimous Vote. Motion carried 5-0.

Mr. Sullivan reported the Committee is formed to solicit input from all community members and to find the best solution.

Day on the Hill - Massachusetts Association of School Committees (MASC) Legislative Advocacy File

Ms. Regan reported the MASC Day on the Hill event is scheduled on May 1, 2019. The event is for district leaders and students to meet with our Legislatures in Boston. Ms. Polimeno encourages School Committee members in attending the event and to please notify Mr. Malone.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MATTERS OF INTEREST

Mr. Sullivan reported that Jack Stadtman, freshman at Tewksbury Memorial High School, placed third in the roll play of Principles of Finance, at the State Level DECA competition. Mr. Sullivan reminded the community that April 6th is Election Day.

Ms. Bennett thanked everyone for letting her serve on the School Committee and reminded the community to vote on April 6th. Mr. Francis reported that he attended the National Honor Society induction at TMHS relating it is great seeing students recognized. He stated he attended the boys and girls hockey championship games relating that the games were tremendous and there was great support from Tewksbury. Ms. Polimeno thanked the Committee for the support of her and wish nothing but the best for the Tewksbury Public Schools.

Ms. Bennett asked the Committee to take under consideration to recognize top academic students at the May School Committee meeting.

FUTURE MEETING

April 10, 2019 Reorganization Meeting and Regular Meeting; May 15, 2019 June 12, 2019

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

ADJOURN

At 8:37 p.m., Ms. Polimeno adjourned the March 20, 2019 School Committee meeting with a motion from Ms. Bennett, seconded by Ms. Polimeno. All Aye. Unanimous Vote. Motion carried 5-0.