

Tewksbury School Committee
Wednesday, August 16, 2023
Regular School Committee Meeting #2, 5:45 PM
Tewksbury Memorial High School
Large Group Instruction Room #1
320 Pleasant Street, Tewksbury, MA 01876

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Bridget Garabedian, Chair
Kayla Biagioni-Smith, Vice-Chair
Kaitlyn Anderson, Clerk
Nicholas Parsons, Member
Richard Russo, Jr., Member

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT

Brenda Theriault-Regan, Superintendent
Lori McDermott, Assistant Superintendent
David Libby, Business Manager

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Garabedian called the August 16, 2023 Regular School Committee meeting to order at 5:45 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Ms. Garabedian entertained a motion to convene an Executive Session. Ms. Biagioni-Smith moved, seconded by Mr. Russo, to enter into the Executive Session to discuss the July 19, 2023 Executive Session minutes; and to discuss Collective Bargaining pertaining to the TTA (teachers) and the Superintendent.

The Committee will reconvene the Regular School Committee meeting in Open Session following the Executive Session.

Roll Call Vote - Voting Yes: Ms. Biagioni-Smith, Mr. Parsons, Mr. Russo, Ms. Anderson and Ms. Garabedian.
Unanimous Vote. Motion carried 5-0.

At 6:09 p.m., Ms. Garabedian entertained a motion to adjourn the Executive Session. Ms. Biagioni-Smith moved, seconded by Ms. Anderson, to adjourn the August 16, 2023 Executive Session and reconvene in Open Session.

Roll Call Vote - Voting Yes: Ms. Biagioni-Smith, Mr. Parsons, Mr. Russo, Ms. Anderson and Ms. Garabedian.
Unanimous Vote. Motion carried 5-0.

RECOVERED REGULAR SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

At 6:14 p.m., Ms. Garabedian reconvened the Regular School Committee meeting.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Ms. Garabedian asked all to rise for the Pledge of Allegiance.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Ms. Garabedian announced that the August 16, 2023 Regular School Committee meeting will be televised and recorded and may be viewed live on Comcast Channel 22, Verizon Channel 34, or YouTube.com/TewksburyTV. Under the Open Meeting Law, the public is permitted to make an audio or video recording of an open session at a public meeting. Ms. Garabedian asked if anyone in the audience was recording tonight's meeting to please identify themselves. No one was recording the meeting.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Ms. Garabedian called for a Moment of Silence in remembrance of Alison Hayes. Alison was a School Psychologist at the Wynn Middle School and a lovely part of our school community.

RECOGNITIONS

TMHS Girls Track Relay Team

Mr. Drouin introduced the TMHS Girls Track Relay team and Coach Francis Cusick. Team members Jayani Santos, Amanda Ogden, Cassidy Paige, and Kimsan Nguyen are the Division 4 State Champions in the 4x100 Relay and finished 6th overall in the State. Jayani Santos is the 200 meter All State Champion and Jayani Santos is the Boston Herald and Boston Globe All Scholastic.

TMHS Boys Track Team

Mr. Douin introduced the TMHS Boys Track team and Coach, Scott Wilson. In the two D4 Meets, the team finished 2nd Place at the State Relays, 2nd Place at the State Meet, and finished 5th at the MVC Meet beating all the small school scores. Ryan Cuvier and Alex Arbogast are the Lowell Sun All Stars. Team members: Elijah Acholonu, Kyle Adams, Paul Allen, Nicholas Alvarado, Ervin Aneus, Alexander Arbogast, Matthew Beggan, Albert Bosworth, David Bourque, Robert Branchaud, Miller Brooks, Jack Callahan, Joshua Carlino, Salvatore Catanzano, Maddox Chretien, Brandan Cohen, Brandon Contardi, Ryan Cuvier, Alan Dang, Nicholas Degloria, Michael Donahoe, Brian Donnelly, Dante Dunac, Kyle Ernewein, William Eskenas, Evan Festa, Dayton Fisher, Peter Georgacopoulos, Devin Gnerre, Mason Gomes, Paxton Green, Payton Haines, William Humphrey, Luc Jodoin, Sean Kocsmiersky, Nathanael Laboy, Njila Lantum, Romyn Lorick, Reverenceworth Loubowah, James Maloney, Sean Maloney, Austin Mannetta, Nathan Marsden, Brady Mcdermott, Colby Mengata, Manuel Mengata, Shea Moynihan, Anthony Naghibi, Steven Oppedisano, Benjamin Piccolo, Justin Quartarone, Deven Ricci, Clyde Roberts, Vincent Rodriguez, Mario Ruiz Perez, King Shakes, Edison Sok, John Sternlight, Collin Todd, Mason Veits, Bavly Youssef. At the D4 State Relays, 18 different athletes medaled, at the MVC Championship Meet, 11 athletes placed, and at the D4 State Meet three athletes were named State Champions and there were 12 State Placers.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

Notes from Tewksbury Memorial High School

No summer report.

PRESENTATIONS

No presentations; AlphaBEST was not able to attend the meeting tonight.

CITIZEN'S FORUM

Ms. Garabedian asked if there was anyone in the audience that wished to speak on anything on the agenda and if so to please state their name, address, and the specific agenda item that they would like to speak on this evening. Seeing no one, she moved on to approval of the minutes.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ms. Anderson moved to approve the July 19, 2023 Regular Meeting minutes, seconded by Ms. Biagioni-Smith. Unanimous vote. Motion carried 5-0.

SUBMISSION OF PAYMENT OF BILLS

Ms. Anderson moved, seconded by Ms. Biagioni-Smith, to approve the payroll period ending July 20, 2023, to be approved and certified in the amount and categories as shown, \$1,341,645.79. Roll Call Vote - Voting Yes: Mr. Parsons, Mr. Russo, Ms. Biagioni-Smith, Ms. Anderson and Ms. Garabedian. Unanimous vote. Motion carried 5-0.

Ms. Anderson moved, seconded by Mr. Russo, to approve the payroll period ending August 3, 2023, to be approved and certified in the amount and categories as shown, \$1,392,940.72. Roll Call Vote - Voting Yes: Mr. Parsons, Mr. Russo, Ms. Biagioni-Smith, Ms. Anderson and Ms. Garabedian. Unanimous vote. Motion carried 5-0.

SUPERINTENDENT & STAFF REPORTS

Superintendent's Report

Ms. Regan presented a brief update reporting that there are two weeks left of summer break, staff will return on August 28th and students on August 30th. All breakfast and lunch meals will be free for all students this year. The Tewksbury Police Department offered a Junior Police Academy for students for a week during the summer. The Aspen rollover has been completed. AlphaBEST will be back for the 23/24 school year at the Heath Brook, Dewing, and Center Schools. Ms. Regan gave a staffing update. She reported that the Mentor programming for new teachers kicks off next week. She extended an invitation to the School Committee members to attend the mentor training luncheon on August 23rd. As a result of the storm on August 8th, the Heath Brook School had severe flooding resulting in the need to move the school programs to another facility by the next day. She offered thanks for all that made it possible to relocate the summer programs to the Ryan Elementary School. Mr. Libby reported on the damages that occurred as the result of the flood. Ms. Regan reported that she received a late fundraiser-raffle request from the Dewing PAC adding it to the Consent Agenda.

Assistant Superintendent's Report

Ms. McDermott presented an update on the Professional Development (PD) offered over the first two days back for teachers. Stating that staff worked on Curriculum Units and Dual Enrollment courses at the high school. Several teachers took part in Frog Street and EL training and others continued work on Standard Based Report Cards. We are planning on training teachers on the new report cards in October and we are planning a parent information night in October as well. She thanked Kelly Cracchiolo for kicking off the PD sessions for EL Education for grades K-2 and grades 3-6 adding that the district is launching EL Education as the new curriculum for ELA in grades K-6. Ms. Dermott reported that the Summer School programming information is in the Consent Agenda adding that she will share more information next month once we have the participation totals. She reminded families that there is still a little time left for students to complete their summer reading.

Business Manager's Report

Mr. Libby gave an update on the clean-up at the Heath Brook School due to the flooding from the torrential rains we had last week. He thanked the custodians and staff that helped clean-up the school along with the assistance and support by our insurance company and Wakefield Moving who had packing crates delivered by the next morning. He presented a transportation update relating that bus routes have been completed and paired up with the schools. Tewksbury Transit will assign the drivers to the routes and once we receive the bus numbers we will have the information on the website.

Mr. Libby responded to questions from the School Committee.

CONSENT AGENDA

Ms. Garabedian asked if any member had questions and/or comments on any item on the Consent Agenda. Seeing none, she asked for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Mr. Russo moved, seconded by Mr. Parsons, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Unanimous Vote. Motion carried 5-0.

Correspondence

- a. Massachusetts Makes School Meals for All Permanent
- b. Welcome Back Professional Development Days: August 28, 2023 & August 29, 2023
- c. Summer School Program Update
- d. Summer 2023 Service Learning & Enrichment

PERSONNEL ITEMS

New Hires - Michelle Addario, Spanish Teacher, TMHS, effective August 28, 2023; Taylor Anderson, School Adjustment Counselor, Center Elementary School, effective August 28, 2023; Edwin Baez, Building Custodian, Ryan Elementary School, effective September 1, 2023; Vanessa Chambers, Unified Arts Support Teacher, Center Elementary School, effective August 28, 2023; Caitlin Fehr, Math Teacher, Wynn Middle School, effective August 28, 2023; Rylee Fennelly, Education Support Personnel Aide, Dewing Elementary School, effective August 28, 2023; Margaret Flaherty, English Teacher, TMHS, effective August 28, 2023; Tiffany Floria, Science Teacher, Wynn Middle School, effective August 28, 2023; Deborah Guttadauro, Education Support Personnel Aide, Dewing Elementary School, effective August 28, 2023; Rebecca Heathman, 10-month Secretary, Ryan Elementary School, effective August 28, 2023; Vincent Maxwell, Computer Science & STEM Integration Teacher, Wynn Middle School, effective August 28, 2023; Erica Randall, Moderate Special Needs Teacher, Center Elementary School, effective August 28, 2023; Julie Serino, Moderate Special Needs Teacher, Ryan Elementary School, effective August 28, 2023; Caroline Spinali, Grade 2 Teacher, Center Elementary School, effective August 28, 2023; Olivia Sullivan, Education Support Personnel Aide, Heath Brook School, effective August 28, 2023; Meagan Welch, Special Education Teacher, Dewing Elementary School, effective August 28, 2023; Katelin Westaway, Special Education Teacher, Dewing Elementary School, effective August 28, 2023; Vance Winchell, Digital Literacy/Computer Science Teacher, Dewing Elementary School & Heath Brook School, effective August 28, 2023

Retirements - None

Reappointments - None

Acceptance of Grants - None

Acceptance of Donations - None

Fundraisers/Raffles - Dewing PAC Fundraiser and 50/50 Raffle, October 5, 2023

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Elementary School Building Committee

Mr. Russo reported that the Elementary School Building Committee will be meeting tomorrow; he will have a report for the next School Committee meeting.

Tewksbury SEPAC

Ms. Biagioni-Smith reported the Tewksbury SEPAC held an engagement event last week at the Tewksbury Fire Department. The next Business Meeting is scheduled on September 21st at 7:00 p.m., at Tewksbury Memorial High School.

Wellness Advisory Committee

Mr. Russo reported that the next Wellness Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled on September 6, 2023. He will provide a report next month.

Policy Sub-Committee

Ms. Garabedian added that the next Policy Sub-Committee meeting is scheduled on August 18, 2023.

POLICY CHANGES, PROPOSALS, AND ADOPTIONS

Informational Reading: Policies reviewed and recommended to revise

ECE, TMHS Student Parking

First Reading: Policies reviewed and recommended to revise

JIC, Suspension; IJNDD, Facebook and Social Networking Websites

Second & Final Reading: Policy reviewed and recommended to revise

CM, School District Annual Town Report

Ms. Biagioni-Smith moved, seconded by Mr. Russo to approve revisions to policy CM, School District Annual Town Report, as presented on second and final reading. Unanimous vote. Motion carried 5-0.

OLD BUSINESS

Tewksbury School Committee Ethics & Protocols

Ms. Garabedian asked for a motion to approve the Tewksbury School Committee Ethics & Protocols. Ms. Biagioni-Smith moved to approve the School Committee's Ethics & Protocols, seconded by Ms. Anderson. Unanimous vote. Motion carried 5-0.

2023-2024 School Calendar Update

Ms. Regan reported on the time changes at the Ryan Elementary School and the Wynn Middle School noting that the change has been updated on the School Calendar legend. This is for informational purposes only and does not require a vote.

Buses & Transportation Update

Mr. Libby presented the update during the Business Manager's report. Ms. Regan announced that the plan is to publish the bus routes next week.

Transfer of Properties: North Street School & Trahan School

Ms. Garabedian opened a discussion regarding the transfer of the North Street School and the Trahan School to the Town. Ms. Regan reported the district has no use for the Trahan School however the North Street is still used for sports and activities requesting that the School Committee take a little more time before making a decision to transfer that property. She recommends that the School Committee vote on the properties separately. Ms. Garabedian asked the Committee members if they would like to take the topic together or to take each school as a separate consideration. Mr. Russo inquired if the Center Elementary School gymnasium will be ready at the start of the school year for public use. Mr. Libby gave an update on the Center gym floor

relating that there are still issues with the floor but we have been told it may correct itself over time. Ms. Regan commented that we will keep the Committee abreast of when and how the outside groups will be able to utilize the Center School gym.

Mr. Russo recommends for the Committee to vote on the use of the North Street and Trahan schools separately since the Center gym is not ready for outside use. The Committee members were in agreement to take the schools separately. Ms. Garabedian hopes the playgrounds would be of use as well. Ms. Biagioni-Smith added that if we continue use of the North Street School that it be used equitably for all groups.

Transfer of Trahan School Property

Ms. Garabedian opened a discussion on the transfer of the property of the Trahan School to the Town of Tewksbury. The Committee agrees that the Trahan School is no longer needed by the district.

Mr. Russo motioned, seconded by Ms. Biagioni-Smith, for a determination and notification to the Tewksbury Select Board forthwith, according to M.G.L. chapter 40 section 15A, that the Trahan School property, located at 12 Salem Road, Tewksbury, is no longer needed for the school purposes and thus the Tewksbury School Committee hereby relinquishes such property to the Town of Tewksbury.

Roll Call Vote - Voting Yes: Ms. Biagioni-Smith, Mr. Parsons, Mr. Russo, Ms. Anderson and Ms. Garabedian. All Aye. Motion carried 5-0.

Transfer of North Street School Property

The Committee discussed use of the North Street School and a timeframe to revisit the decision on the North Street.

Ms. Garabedian recommends for the School Committee to table the transfer of the North Street School property. Ms. Biagioni-Smith motioned, seconded by Mr. Russo, to postpone the decision on relinquishing the North Street School property to the Town of Tewksbury. All Aye. Motion carried 5-0. The topic will be added to the November School Committee meeting agenda.

Superintendent Contract

Ms. Garabedian reported that the School Committee discussed the financial impact of the Superintendent's contract for 2023-2026 in Executive Session. She asked if the School Committee members had any further questions or comments. Seeing none, Ms. Garabedian asked for a motion to approve the contract as presented.

Mr. Parsons moved, seconded by Ms. Anderson, to approve a contract for Superintendent Regan for the 2023-2026 school years.

Roll Call Vote: Roll Call Vote - Voting Yes: Ms. Biagioni-Smith, Mr. Parsons, Mr. Russo, Ms. Anderson and Ms. Garabedian. Unanimous Vote. Motion carried 5-0.

NEW BUSINESS

2023-2024 Back to School & Orientation Information

Ms. McDermott reported that the back to school and orientation information is included in the agenda packet. This is for information only, no vote is required by the School Committee. Ms. Garabedian thanked the PACs for all the opportunities and events they provide for the schools.

2023-2024 District Goals & School Committee Goals

Ms. Regan summarized the purpose of holding the School Committee/Administrator Workshop reporting that the workshop is the opportunity for us to present the highlights from the 2022-23 school year and for the district and schools and the School Committee to present their 2023-2024 goals. She reported that the district developed five new goals, updated the Theory of Action and a new District Strategic Plan. These will be published and sent out to the school community. Ms. Garabedian thanked Ms. Regan and the entire district leadership team. Ms. Garabedian commented on the School Committee goals and bringing the School Committee members together. Mr. Parsons reported the Committee held a workshop this past year to work on and develop School Committee goals. The goals will be posted on the website.

Salary Adjustment Hourly Personnel

Ms. Regan reported that the salary adjustment for hourly personnel will require a Roll Call vote. She recommends that the School Committee vote to increase the hourly rate to \$20 per hour for part-time secretaries across the district.

Mr. Russo moved to approve a salary adjustment for hourly personnel (part-time secretaries) to \$20.00 per hour, seconded by Ms. Anderson. Roll Call Vote: Roll Call Vote - Voting Yes: Ms. Biagioni-Smith, Mr. Parsons, Mr. Russo, Ms. Anderson and Ms. Garabedian. Unanimous Vote. Motion carried 5-0.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MATTERS OF INTEREST

Ms. Garabedian announced that Sunday is the annual Safety Night put on by the Tewksbury Police Department and the Tewksbury Fire Departments. The event will be held at Tewksbury Memorial High School at 6:00 p.m. Ms. Garabedian will visit the AlphaBEST program inviting the Committee members to join her if they would like. Mr. Parsons announced that Doreen Healey passed on July 27th. Ms. Healey was an advocate for many parents in the district.

FUTURE SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING DATES

September 20th; October 11th, November 15th, December 6th

FUTURE FUTURE SUB-COMMITTEE & ADVISORY MEETING DATES

*Elementary School Building Committee: August 17, 2023; TSEPAC Business Meeting: September 21, 2023
Wellness Advisory Committee: September 6, 2023; Policy Sub-Committee (10 AM): August 18, 2023*

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

November 15, 2023: Discussion to move forward on the transfer of the North Street School.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:35 p.m., Ms. Garabedian adjourned the August 16, 2023 Regular School Committee meeting with a motion from Mr. Russo, seconded by Ms. Anderson. Unanimous vote. Motion carried 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted,
Gail Johnson, Recording Secretary
List of documents and exhibits used (GL c.30A, sect 22(a)):

AGENDA ITEM #	DOCUMENT
1	School Committee Meeting Agenda: Regular Meeting August 16 ,2023
2	Executive Session Agenda August 16, 2023
8	Recognitions: TMHS Girls Track Relay Team & TMHS Boys Track Team
12	Minutes: July 19, 2023
13	Submission Of Payment Of Bills: July 20, 2023 & August 3, 2023
15	Consent Agenda: Correspondence; Personnel Items
17	Policy: CM; JIC; IJNDD; ECE
18	Old Business: Tewksbury School Committee Ethics & Protocols; 2023-2034 School Calendar Update; Buses & Transportation Update; Discuss Transfer of Properties: North Street & Trahan Schools; Superintendent Contract
19	New Business: 2023 Back to School & Orientation Information; 2023-2024 District Goals & School Committee Goals; Salary Adjustment Hourly Personnel