

Uxbridge School Committee Meeting

May 5, 2021

6:30pm

(Meeting via Zoom platform)

REC'D UXB TOWN CLERK
2021 OCT 27 PM 3:05

Attendees:	Present	Not Present
Matt Keane, Chair	X	
Paul Paulino, Secretary	X	
Kim Cirrone, Member	X	
Brett Pomeroy, Member	X	
Holly Black, Member	X	
Debbie Stark, Member	X	

- 1. Call to Order 6:30pm by Matt Keane**
- 2. Public Comment:**

Matt Keane read the attached email regarding the bussing policy, and residents' proximity to the school buildings, into public comment.

Paul Paulino shared positive feedback received regarding professionalism and integrity of School Committee, and thanked committee members for their collaboration and commitment.

3. Superintendent Update

Dr. Tiano recognized the (3) Uxbridge school Principals for their hard work, effort and dedication to their students, and acknowledged and thanked teachers during Teacher Appreciation Week.

District received report on NEASC (New England Association of Schools and Colleges) visit to Uxbridge High School two years ago; school was commended on 22 items with only 3 recommendations for improvement.

Jennifer Ramsdell shared highlights from Special Education recap:

297 in-district students receiving Special Education services, and 21 out of district students.

Special Education department currently working on tiered focus monitoring through DESE; currently in phase of conducting self-assessments and providing evidence to state around special education standards and civil rights standards.

SEPAC is very active, working to re-align bylaws and goals; setting big plans for next year including trainings for families and professional development.

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ESY (Extended School Year) planning is in full swing; Ms. Ramsdell is interviewing and hiring.

Preschool Social Skills Camp over April break was a big success, there are plans to hold another in June after school year is done.

Committee members inquired if teacher applicants for ESY are from within district or outside of district, and if there are the same number of students being considered for participation in ESY as previous years; Ms. Ramsdell shared that applicants are teachers from within, and outside the district, and student numbers are comparable to recent years. There is a full remote option available for ESY.

Debbie Stark requested information of number of students receiving IEP services for last 3-5 years.

Dr. Tiano shared update regarding documents provided outlining ESSER II grant funds usage for programming interventions for summer and next school year.

\$947,000 ESSER II funds available to be used through FY24; funds intended to support student needs due to Covid and are in addition to already budgeted needs. Yet to be determined funds will also be coming in through ESSER III grant

Plans to determine spending is based on analysis of data provided in many areas of development; data is used to ascertain where needs can best be met.

Matt Keane asked if School Committee needs to make motion to approve specific usage of ESSER II funds; no motion necessary.

Dr. Tiano updated committee on two parts of summer programming: Summer Learning Academy, a program that is academic and enrichment for highest need students with greatest risk factors, will target up to 30 students per grade and run for about 3 weeks; and an Orientation program aimed at assisting students in transition grades (going into grade 4 and going into grade 8) to develop relationships and become acclimated with new school buildings, staff and processes. Transition program will run 2-4 consecutive days for 3-6 hours per day.

Wendy Phillips updated committee on metrics that were chosen to be indicators of success during summer programming. Program Coordinators will be hired for each site of Summer Learning Academy to oversee hiring of staff, implementation of programs, and dissemination of progress reports.

Summer Learning Academy being developed based on guidance from state, observation of what other local districts are doing, and curriculum research. Families will know by end of May/early June if their child is being invited to participate.

Plans for Orientation program to run at different time from Summer Learning Academy in case there are overlap students.

Dr. Tiano spoke to spreadsheet that detailed use of ESSER II monies for next year; funds for interventions based on the three Tiers: Tier 1 which encompasses 80-85% of students and focuses on regular education situations; Tier 2 which addresses academic and social/emotional learning for about 10-15% of the student population; and Tier 3 which provides significant interventions (top 3-5% of students).

Committee discussed specific positions being created to address intervention needs, based on tiers, such as Grade 2 teachers, and a District Social Worker. These roles, plus counselor salaries will come out of ESSER II monies.

Dr. Tiano shared update on progress of District Improvement Plan; Matt Keane indicated that District Improvement Plan needs to be approved in May, so School Improvement Plans can be implemented. Next meeting will feature line item review and approval of District Improvement Plan.

Job description for Dean position at High School is being revised; any questions should be sent to Dr. Tiano or Principal Rubin in advance of special meeting where description will be approved.

4. FY21 Budget Update

Matt Keane recommended that committee will go over full update at next meeting, but will entertain questions.

5. SY21/22 Fees

Athletic Fees – Brian Hyde shared that athletic fees will remain the same for upcoming year (\$75 for Uxbridge High School sports, \$50 for Whitin School).

Committee discussed reducing or eliminating fees.

Motion to set athletic fees to \$0 for Uxbridge High School and the Whitin School for SY21-22 by Debbie Stark, seconded by Paul Paulino. Vote: 6-0. Approved.

Preschool Tuition – Will also stay the same for upcoming year.

Motion to approve SY21-22 preschool tuition fees of approximately \$9.00/hr. by Debbie Stark, seconded by Kim Cirrone. Vote: 6-0. Approved.

Daycare Fees – Will remain same as elevated rate (25% above original fee) approved in February.

Motion to approve SY21-22 daycare tuition fees as they stand for SY20-21 by Paul Paulino, seconded by Kim Cirrone. Vote: 6-0. Approved.

6. Old/New Business

Old Business:

Capital & Facilities Subcommittee had a meeting with Facilities Department re: ongoing doors project, and upcoming roofing project.

Request that at next meeting of School Committee Matt Keane appoint a Chair for Capital & Facilities Subcommittee; Mr. Keane will provide a charge.

Volunteers for Capital & Facilities Subcommittee interested in participating in beautification projects at any of the schools should contact Principal of particular school.

New Business:

Paul Paulino will present an update on status of Uxbridge Boosters' Light Up "The U" campaign at next meeting.

Motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss union contract negotiations and Superintendent contract negotiations with no business to follow by Debbie Start, seconded by Kim Cirrone. Vote 6-0. Approved.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Matthew Keane

Matthew Keane, Chair

Paul Paulino, Secretary

Kim Cirrone, Member

Deb Stark, Member

Holly Black, Member

Brett Pomeroy, Member

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