

REC'D UXB TOWN CLERK
2023 MAR 15 PM 5:11

Uxbridge School Committee Meeting

December 12, 2022

6:30pm

Uxbridge High School Library and via Zoom

Attendees:	Present	Not Present
Patrick Tuer, Chair	X	
Christine Pezzullo, Vice Chair	X	
Debbie Stark, Member		X
Barry Desruisseaux, Member	X	
Tiffany Bashaw, Member		X
Jonathan Rota, Member	X	

1. Call to Order 6:31 pm by Vice Chair Christine Pezzullo

2. Public Comment

No public comment.

3. Gift Receipt

Co-President Emily Costa of the Uxbridge Spartans Athletic Booster Club presented the Uxbridge School Committee with a check for \$86,060.44 toward the purchase and installation of lights at the turf field at the Uxbridge High School.

Motion to accept the Uxbridge Spartans Athletic Booster Club donation in the amount of \$86,060.44 for the Light Up the U project by Barry Desruisseaux, seconded by Jonathan Rota.

Vote: 4-0 Approved. (JR-Y, BD-Y, CP-Y, PT-Y)

4. Reorganization

Vice Chair Christine Pezzullo announced that Chair Matt Keane has resigned from the committee. She thanked him for his 7.5 years of service to the Uxbridge School Committee and noted that his accomplishments will be recognized at a future meeting.

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Motion to appoint Patrick Tuer Chair of the Uxbridge School Committee by Barry Desruisseaux, seconded by Christine Pezzullo Vote: 4-0 Approved. (JR-Y, BD-Y, CP-Y, PT-Y)

Christine Pezzullo will remain Vice Chair; subcommittee reassignments will be discussed at a future meeting.

S. Reports

Interim Superintendent

Dr. Baldassarre shared an update on the open positions within the school district, and the status of the searches to fill those roles.

There are 31 substitutes utilized by the district but not all are available every day; Administration continues to do outreach to find quality substitutes.

Solutions to staff absences (sick and personal days) are being discussed so there are plans in place for anticipated winter absences.

Dr. Baldassarre will look into whether increased substitute pay rate has made a difference in recruitment.

Grants have been awarded to the Uxbridge School District for FY2023; Dr. Baldassarre will share those amounts at a future meeting for committee approval.

Assistant Superintendent

Dr. Dwyer provided information on the Bullying Intervention Plan, which is posted on the district website, and reviewed some anti-bullying curriculums used at each school, including Second Step and PBIS (Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports), both of which are used at Taft Early Learning Center and the Whitin Intermediate School.

Uxbridge High School does not have an anti-bullying curriculum; however the School and Adjustment Counselors are all available to students who need assistance.

The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education deemed Uxbridge's program to be excellent when it did its review of practices and procedures.

Dr. Dwyer reported that while each school keeps track of individual incidents on a daily basis, there is no current upward trend in bullying at any of the district schools.

The functionality of the anonymous on-line tool to report bullying through the district's website will be checked and made operational.

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Business Office

Mr. Alcardi shared that the End of Year Report for FY2022 was filed at the end of October; DESE had some questions but all are being addressed.

The Taft and Whitin roof projects are almost completed and the Whitin building façade project is in the works. Quotes are being gathered with the intent that the power washing and painting will occur in the spring.

New doors and locks have been ordered for several places at both Taft and Whitin, but supply chain challenges are holding up their delivery and installation.

The Light Up the U project is in the final stages of redesign, it will then be put out to bid for an installation company.

Mr. Alcardi will be working with Kelly Haley, Food Service Director, to create a list of expenditures for the Food Service department; plan is to use excess balance in School Nutrition department.

Pupil Services

Dr. Baldassarre updated the group on five out of district placements that result in unexpected expenditures, as a result this line item will be \$158,667.00 over the projected budget number. Administration and Director of Pupil Services Ann Knapp will work together to determine ways to recoup some of that overage.

A proposal is being finalized for a therapeutic program at Taft Early Learning Center which will exist to identify and service students from the beginning stages of an extra needs situation. Programs already exist at Whitin School and Uxbridge High School; goal is to keep students in district for their entire schooling career by being able to offer them services continuously.

Uxbridge Public Schools Administration sent out a questionnaire to determine/confirm that all families who have requested a special education evaluation have received one in a timely manner.

6. Minutes Approval

Motion to approve the Uxbridge School Committee meeting minutes for October 19, 2022, October 26, 2022, November 2, 2022, November 7, 2022, November 9, 2022, and November 17, 2022 by Barry Desruisseaux, seconded by Christine Pezzullo. Vote: 4-0 Approved. (JR-Y, BD-Y, CP-Y, PT-Y)

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7. Future Agenda Planning

Pat Tuer will inform Select Board of vacancy on School Committee; once post is made interested candidates will be able to apply, and there will then be a joint meeting between Select Board and School Committee during which a new member will be selected.

8. Executive Session

Motion to enter into Executive Session with no new business to follow by Barry Desruisseaux, seconded by Christine Pezzullo. Vote: 4-0 Approved. (JR-Y, BD-Y, CP-Y, PT-Y)

Respectfully submitted,

Deirdre Thomson

Recording Secretary

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Patrick Tuer

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Patrick Tuer, Chair

DocuSigned by:

CPezullo

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Christine Pezzullo, Vice Chair

DocuSigned by:

Tiffany Bashaw

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Tiffany Bashaw, Member

DocuSigned by:

Jonathon Rota

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Jonathon Rota, Member

Debbie Stark, Member

DocuSigned by:

Barry Desruisseaux

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Barry Desruisseaux, Member

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