

REC'D UXB TOWN CLERK
2022 MAY 9 AM 8:07

Uxbridge School Committee Meeting
March 16, 2022
6:30 pm
Uxbridge High School Library and via Zoom

Attendees:	Present	Not Present
Lisa Mobley, Chair	X	
Paul Paulino, Member	X (via Zoom)	
Kim Cirrone, Member	X	
Brett Pomeroy, Member	X (via Zoom)	
Debbie Stark, Member	X	
Matt Keane, Member		X
Patrick Tuer, Member	X	

1. **Call to Order 6:36 pm by Lisa Mobley**
2. **Public Comment**

Peter DeMers, Select Board Member, noted his support for the idea of no fees for Uxbridge non-profit organizations to use school facilities, and shared an anecdote about a school in Georgia where students are not allowed to have cellphones during the school day.

Ben Reardon, student representative for the School Committee, provided an update on school happenings, including that the upcoming drama production is Cinderella (performances March 18th, 19th and 20th); the Student Council's Spring Fling dance is April 9th; and students are currently beginning their course selection process for next school year.

3. **Student Recognition – Uxbridge Art Student Earns MAEA President's Choice Award – Zoe Wojnowski**

Dr. Dillon congratulated Uxbridge High School student Zoe Wojnowski who has been chosen as a recipient of the Massachusetts Art Education Association's President's Choice Award, one of 12 such winners in Massachusetts. Zoe and her parents were welcomed and commended for her talent.

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4. **Presentation – Andy Paquette, President & CEO of TMS – supports for school district financial leadership/oversight needs TMS-Supports**

Dr. Dillon introduced Andy Paquette, the President & CEO of TMS, an organization that helps school districts and municipalities maintain their business management services, in the interim of hiring financial professionals. Mr. Paquette presented his co-workers Vice Presidents Judy Houle and Andy Brown.

Business Manager Brian Hyde is retiring at the end of the month and TMS could assist with transition. UPS would be assigned two individuals; a primary contact and a secondary contact who would spend on-site and remote time, supporting in areas the district deems most necessary.

School Committee requested references from TMS.

5. **Assistant Superintendent Contract**

Motion to approve two (2) year contract for Dr. Karen Dwyer as Assistant Superintendent of Uxbridge Public Schools by Patrick Tuer, seconded by Kim Cironne. Vote: 6-0
Approved. (KC-Y, PT-Y, BP-Y, DS-Y, PP-Y, LM-Y)

6. **HS School Improvement Plan Update**

Mike Rubin, Principal of Uxbridge High School, shared updates on how the school and students are doing, based on the School Improvement Plan, and how UHS goals are faring in relation to Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent goals.

Principal Rubin introduced Matthew Bertrand, Assistant Principal, and Dean of Students David Moura.

Three main buckets of review were Curriculum and Instruction, Social and Emotional Supports, and Partnerships (Internships with community partners). Principal Rubin highlighted areas of improvement, and next steps for each area.

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7. Superintendent Update

Dr. Dillon provided an update on Covid 19 numbers, including that there have been only 4 new cases since school resumed after February break, and that both staff and student absences are down significantly.

Friday, March 18th is opening day for the spring drama Cinderella; Music Teacher Kathleen Penza and English Teacher Adam Levine were congratulated for coordinating production. School Committee members are invited to a special showing at 9:15am Friday morning, with free lunch to follow.

Uxbridge High School received national recognition this week for being featured in The Prepared Project, a study focused on lessons learned during the pandemic

Dr. Dillon continues to work with Police Chief Montminy and an outside company to provide a no cost evaluation on district safety practices; questionnaire was sent by company for purpose of advance data collection

A Communication survey was sent out to help determine how the school district can better work with families and the community in general.

Administration continues to review companies that help make dashboards for district websites; staff and administrators are putting together requirements for dashboard functionality.

Capital meeting was last week; 1.3 million dollars of expenditures was recommended by the Capital Improvement Subcommittee; will go to Town Meeting for approval.

Uxbridge Town Manager confirmed support of a feasibility study for a secondary egress at the high school; study tentatively scheduled for June.

Dr. Dillon shared positive update on Social Emotional progress of students, and successful utilization of resources.

Search committee for Director of Finance and Business Operations position has held its first meeting; there is a light candidate pool.

Dr. Dwyer, Principals Rubin, DeMarco and Bellville, Patrick Mistler, and Barbara Emerick are all diligently working on branding for the upcoming Blackstone Valley Educator Job Fair.

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8. Assistant Superintendent Update

Equity Committee has been formed; the first meeting is next week and the agenda will include discussion about what outcomes are desired from equity audit, process of/and hiring of an Equity consultant, and what questions to ask candidates.

Professional Development committee to meet next week; will meet once a month to discuss and plan all professional development for the upcoming year.

Dr. Dwyer is still reviewing companies to provide the data analytics dashboard; looking to make decision by June at the latest.

Dr. Dwyer is meeting with the ELL team to translate the registration packet on the website into Arabic, Portuguese, and Spanish.

Summer programming, and 4th and 8th grade orientations that happen over the summer are being preliminarily discussed.

Dr. Dwyer is working with Carrie Stack on developing a Health & Wellness survey that will go out to staff; once feedback is collected professional development can be planned that incorporates responses.

9. Reorganization of Committee/Liaison Positions

- a. Capital Sub-committee
- b. Policy Committee
- c. Equity Committee Liaison

No changes to current committee assignments.

10. Policy First Readings

- a. First Reading – Review of Policy AC Non-Discrimination Policy including Harassment and Retaliation

Moved to second reading; will be added to agenda for next meeting.

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b. Food Service Policy, Meal Charge Policy

Kelly Haley, Food Service Director, spoke to changes in Meal Charge policy.

School Committee recommends policy change to indicate family has six (6) months to withdraw funds if student leaves district; will be rewritten and reviewed in second reading at the next meeting 4/6.

11. Facility Fee Discussion

New committee will be created with plan to meet to discuss reviewing facility fee policy; Patrick Tuer, Paul Paulino, and Lisa Mobley will be on this committee. Will be put on agenda for May meeting.

12. Minute Approval

March 2, 2022 Meeting minutes will be edited to add Debbie Stark to be in attendance.

13. Old/New Business

New Business

Patrick Tuer shared information on available scholarships for Uxbridge students; details and forms available on town website.

14. Executive Session

Motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss Non-union contract strategy, with no new business to follow by Patrick Tuer, seconded by Kim Cirrone. Vote: 5-0 Approved. (KC-Y, PT-Y, BP-Y, DS-Y, LM-Y)

Meeting adjourned at 8:19pm.

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Matthew Keane, Chair

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Lisa Mobley

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Dr. Lisa Mobley, Member

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Brett Pomeroy

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Brett Pomeroy, Member

Paul Paulino, Secretary

Kim Cirrone, Vice Chair

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Debbie Stark, Member

DocuSigned by:

Patrick Tuer

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Patrick Tuer, Member

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