

Uxbridge School Committee Meeting

September 21, 2022

5:45pm

Taft Early Learning Center Library

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

1. Call to Order 5:47 pm by Debbie Stark

REC'D UXB TOWN CLERK
2023 OCT 3 AM 10:57

2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Tour of Taft Early Learning Center

The School Committee took a tour of the interior and exterior of the Taft Early Learning Center.

Public aspect of the meeting resumed at 6:32pm

4. Public Comment

No Public Comment.

5. Recognition

Dr. Baldassarre and Principal Jenn Belleville recognized two Taft Early Learning Center educators, Beth Riker and Amanda Gallerani.

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Beth Riker spent 22 years as a Kindergarten teacher before going back to school to become a Librarian. Principal Bellville shared that in the short time she has been Head Librarian she has connected with the students and staff, and already transformed the library environment.

Amanda Gallerani willingly became a remote 3rd grade teacher during the pandemic and has aimed to achieve the recognition for Taft's STEAM program that the higher grade level schools receive, with innovations such as 3D printing. Ms. Gallerani has been acknowledged by the Town of Uxbridge and state officials for her and her students' work in the community at Pout Pond.

6. Reports

Superintendent Report

Interim Superintendent Baldassarre and Assistant Superintendent Dwyer shared an update on the Title I, II and IV grants, including how much funding the district receives and where it will be allocated in 2023.

Title I funding provides for areas of the district that are underperforming and the amount awarded is based on how many low income students a district has.

Title II money is intended to be for mentorships and professional development; opportunities that increase and advance teacher and staff development.

Title IV funds support well-rounded educational opportunities, technology advancements, and the health and safety of students.

7. New Business

a. School Improvement Plans

Dr. Baldassarre introduced Principal Mike Rubin, who spoke about Uxbridge High School's School Improvement Plan, and the goals that have been set for this year. Principal Rubin indicated that educators are focused on (4) areas: student academic performance, Social-Emotional curriculum, continuing to offer and increase skill development for post-secondary use through pathways, and equity with respect to school programs (ex. field access, use of a late bus).

Principal Jenn Belleville shared that the Taft ELC School Council is undergoing a rejuvenation and she is excited with their progress, including in the work on the Taft School Improvement Plan. Goals being set at the elementary level include reading and math achievements and growth,

social-emotional learning (which also incorporate staff culture and wellness), and parent communication and community engagement.

School Committee members heard from Principal Leanne DeMarco that the Whitin School's School Improvement Plan involves four similar goals: reading achievement, math achievement, social and emotional learning, and community and family engagement. When creating the School Improvement Plan, the Whitin School Council used a template provided by Dr. Baldassarre and utilized recommendations from the DESE report on the Uxbridge Public Schools. They clarified goals in order to make them measurable and decreased the number of goals in order to focus on those that remained.

Debbie Stark requested that each School Improvement Plan include the names of that school's School Council members.

b. Interim Superintendent Goals SY22-23 Draft

Dr. Baldassarre shared the process and presented the first draft of his Interim Superintendent Goals for SY22-23; created using the Department of Education's Professional Educator Evaluation. The four intended goals involved: student performance in mathematics and ELA; improved methods of two way communication (and subsequent action with respect to any presented concerns); therapeutic crisis intervention trainings, as a result of Dr. Baldassarre's continued certification; and learning activities for administrative team based on Trust and Inspire leadership model.

The School Committee requested goals outline action steps so there is a measurable way to determine success.

c. Board of Directors Appointment to SWCEC (Southern Worcester County Educational Collaborative)

Motion that the Uxbridge School Committee appoint Dr. Baldassarre to the Board of Directors for SWCEC (Southern Worcester County Educational Collaborative) for the 2022-23 school year by Debbie Stark, seconded by Christine Pezzullo. Vote: 6-0 Approved. (JR-Y, TB-Y, CP-Y, PT-Y, MK-Y, DS-Y)

8. Future Agenda Items

Handbook

Superintendent goals (second draft)

School Improvement Plans (SIPs)

Review of draft School Committee calendar

Update on Staffing

Status of bussing issues

Subcommittee(s) meeting reports

SEPAC collaboration update

Status of student representative to School Committee

Minute approval

Debbie Stark requested that documents that will be reviewed at School Committee meetings be sent to the committee prior to the Friday before the meeting date.

9. Next meeting will be October 5, 2022 at Whitin Intermediate School Library at 5:45pm.

10. Executive Session

Motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss strategy for preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel, with no new business to follow, by Debbie Stark, seconded by Christine Pezzullo. Vote: 6-0 Approved. (JR-Y, TB-Y, CP-Y, PT-Y, MK-Y, DS-Y)

Regular session meeting was adjourned at 8:10pm.