

Uxbridge School Committee Meeting

March 3, 2021

6:30pm

(Meeting via Zoom platform)

REC'D UXB TOWN CLERK
2021 OCT 27 PM 8:05

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

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

Matt Keane read the attached email regarding the transition from the hybrid setting to a full time in-person schedule, into public comment.

Matt Keane read the attached email regarding the guidelines for bringing students back into the school buildings full time, into public comment.

3. Superintendent Update

Dr. Tiano shared an update on the plan to bring students in Grades 2&4, and grade 7 back into the school buildings full-time.

Public School educators and staff will be eligible for the Coronavirus vaccine on Thursday, March 11th.

Uxbridge Public Schools has been accepted into a pool testing program for Covid testing for participants back in the school buildings. Tara Schiller, School Nurse for Uxbridge High School, answered questions regarding the pool testing process:

Testing will be done early in the morning and results should be returned in 24-48 hours. Anyone who has tested positive for coronavirus previously will not be eligible to participate.

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Wendy Phillips (Director of Curriculum), Jennifer Bellville (Principal at Taft) and Leanne DeMarco (Principal at Whitin School) provided an update on how they have been evaluating data from assessments to update programs.

STAR Assessments just completed at Taft and Whitin Schools, measured Achievement (student's academic performance measured against standards at a place in time) and Growth (a student's individual growth and progress).

Data is used to develop Tier 1 curriculum needs.

Curriculum Department has also been conducting a Math review; process helped for future curriculum development.

Next Steps for math: begin K-5 curriculum adoption process; and conduct self-study of grades 6-12 course sequence. Work being done to be able to make recommendation on new math curriculum by June.

Ms. Phillips introduced OpenSciEd, an open-source science curriculum for grades 6-8, using phenomenon-based instruction that is student driven. It is available through a 3-year grant provided by One8 Foundation and MassStemHub.

Committee requested more specific data about individual grade levels for the past few years.

Discussion surrounding which specific math curriculums are currently being used in each grade, and what is driving need to update/switch math curriculum. There was a request from committee for teacher feedback regarding student performance & participation.

Ms. Phillips will send email with top 6 choices for new math curriculum. She shared timeline of process to narrow down choices. review materials and potentially field test option(s) before final choice.

4. Whitin Outdoor Classroom

Bethann Lafontaine answered questions about initial development of space at Whitin School, in anticipation of full proposal review at next meeting. Request for full proposal to include details about gradation, maintenance and upkeep, etc.

5. SY21-22 Calendar Approval

No changes to previously approved SY21-22 calendar.

Motion to Approve SY21-22 calendar as presented in the second reading by Kim Cirrone, seconded by Debbie Stark. Vote: 6-0. Approved.

6. Facilities/Capital Planning Sub-Committee

Matt Keane proposed to create a sub-committee to spearhead Facilities and Capital Planning, work with administration, be community liaison, etc.

Motion to create a Facilities and Capital Planning Sub-Committee and to appoint Debbie Stark, Brett Pomeroy, and Kim Cirrone to serve on that sub-committee by Debbie Stark, seconded by Brett Pomeroy. Vote: 6-0. Approved.

7. Old/New Business

Old Business:

Follow-up on request for student capacity numbers based on amount of space between students in classroom (4', 5' and 6'). District meeting on topic will occur March 11th.

New Business:

Depending on outcome of determination of student capacity numbers, Hybrid Plan might need to be revised and reapproved.

Question about district policy regarding personal use of school vehicles (storage during off hours).

Discussion regarding softball transportation and facilities access at Whitin School.

Clarification of status of capital funding projects, and role new sub-committee will have in helping to facilitate these projects.

Motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss Union contract negotiations and Non-Union contract negotiations by Brett Pomeroy, seconded by Paul Paulino. Vote: 6-0. Approved.

8. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 9:07pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Matthew Keane

Matthew Keane, Chair

Paul Paulino, Secretary

Kim Cirrone, Member

Holly Black, Member

Deb Stark, Member

Brett Pomeroy, Member

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