



Georgetown School Committee
Tuesday, June 30, 2020 6:30PM
Virtual ZOOM Meeting
Regular Session Minutes

Barbie Linares, Chairman
Michael Hinchliffe, Vice Chairman
Cheryl Lachendro, Clerk
Pamela Lundquist
Suzanne MacDonald

Virtual Attendance:

Barbie Linares	Superintendent Jacobs	Jack Tiano
Michael Hinchliffe	Suzanne Sutherland	Margaret Maher
Cheryl Lachendro		Dan Richards
Pam Lundquist		Collin MacDonald
Suzanne MacDonald		

This meeting was conducted using ZOOM Technology. Chair Linares called the meeting to order at 6:32PM.

1. Call To Order:

Barbie Linares - present
Michael Hinchliffe - present
Suzanne MacDonald - present
Cheryl Lachendro - present
Pamela Lundquist - present

2. Consent Agenda

Chair Linares read the items included in the Consent Agenda for June 30, 2020 which were the Regular School Committee Minutes of 3/23/20, 3/26/20, 4/7/20, 4/30/20, 5/7/20, and 5/20/20 and Executive Session Minutes of 5/7/20 and Acceptance of Warrant ##53V20 and #52P20.

MOTION: Suzanne MacDonald (C. Lachendro second) motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Roll call vote was taken.

Barbie Linares - yes
Michael Hinchliffe - yes
Suzanne MacDonald - yes
Cheryl Lachendro - yes
Pamela Lundquist - yes
Motion carried (5-0)

The Chair began the meeting by commenting on how wonderful the graduation ceremony was. She said it was a collaborative effort and everything went very smoothly. In addition, the parade at the end was a wonderful send off for the students.

5. Administrative Reports

- a) Superintendent's Report
- Reopening Schools – State Guidance

Superintendent Jacobs began with reviewing with the Committee the state guidance that was just released from DESE's office. In this guidance, there was an outline of (1) goals for fall return, (2) health & safety requirements, (3) reopening plans, and (4) upcoming comprehensive DESE guidance. Superintendent Jacobs said that the Commissioner wants all districts to submit 3 models, in-person learning, hybrid model and full remote model. He stated that they are heavily working with the medical community and a Return to School working group. They are looking at medical research first before giving their recommendation and final guidance the end of July. There has not been any guidance yet on athletics, band and chorus. The Superintendent added that the major factors that need to be met before reopening are: 1. Face masks/coverings, 2. Social distance (6' ideal but 3' min), 3. Hand washing/sanitizing, 4. Stay home when sick. The Superintendent added that the custodians have added to their cleaning scheduled and will sanitize and fog all areas in the school every day. In addition, although Penn Brook has sinks in each classroom, portable sinks will be added to the MHS. And although the State is not recommending taking students temperature before entering the building, they are recommending everyone receive a flu vaccine since the symptoms for the flu are very similar to COVID. Each district is required to submit their models for reopening by the end of August. They are also discussing limiting the number of days for students from 180 to 177, but this all needs to be negotiated. The Superintendent explained the process they are using for developing the reopening plan. They will begin meeting with task forces that consist of union leaders, teachers, staff and parents. Members of the Committee asked questions regarding the requirements and the metrics that force a district to shut down. Also, questions regarding what are the expectations of the teachers with all the new online learning software. The Superintendent said that unfortunately they do not have all the answers at this time, but they are working on it. Questions will also asked regarding PPE and if we are responsible to provide it for who doesn't have it. Suzanne Sutherland responded that the CaresMoney will be used for PPE and supplies that we will need to provide for safety.

- Equity Petition

The Superintendent, Principals and School Committee members received a petition urging the Georgetown Public Schools to take actions to support students of color and Black lives everywhere. They are requesting that GPS implement anti-racist policies through its entire educational system. The petition included a list of actionable demands and signed by 345 alumni and students. The Superintendent noted that she would like to share this with the staff and make them aware of the concerns. There is already an Equity Committee that was originally set up to look at inclusiveness and she said there will be discussion on what the plans are going forward. The list that the petition included is all reasonable demands and the district will be following up and working with the committee to meet all these demands. Chair Linares added that she read through the comments and testimonials and thought they were very concerning. The Superintendent said what most concerned her is that these issues were never brought to anyone's attention, but she plans on making sure that these issues are brought up with the Equity Committee, which includes teachers, administrators, parents. This Committee was started in September 2019 and met 3 times before the school closure. The hope is to make sure that all the protected classes have the same opportunities as the other classes. Chair Linares welcomed Mr. Bahar to contact her regarding scheduling a meeting and having a conversation regarding the petition.

- Summer Projects – Mike Anderson

Mike Anderson, Director of Facilities gave an update on all of the projects that the custodians and maintenance crew have been working on. Most items were pertaining to the safety and sanitizing of the buildings. Other items were yearly updates to painting, floor replacement, and repairs. In addition, they are finishing installing the basketball court at the Perley.

7. Financial Report

a) Food Services Bad Debt Transfer

Finance and Operations Director Suzanne Sutherland informed the Committee that there would be a need for a transfer to cover bad debt in the food services revolving account in the amount of \$2,429.65 from the general fund budget.

MOTION: Michael Hinchliffe (C. Lachendro second) motion to approve the transfer from the general fund budget to the food services revolving account in the amount of \$2,429.65 as presented by the Director of Finance and Operations Suzanne Sutherland.. Roll call vote was taken.

Barbie Linares - yes

Michael Hinchliffe - yes

Cheryl Lachendro - yes

Pamela Lundquist - yes

Suzanne MacDonald - yes

Motion carried (5-0)

10. New Business

a) Acceptance of Donations from Anonymous Donor for Food Services

We continue to receive generous donations to be used towards our food services program from an anonymous donor. These donations amount to \$430.

MOTION: Suzanne MacDonald (M. Hinchliffe second) motion to accept the generous donation from an anonymous donor in the amount of \$430 for the food services program, with gratitude. Roll call vote was taken.

Barbie Linares - yes

Michael Hinchliffe - yes

Cheryl Lachendro - yes

Pamela Lundquist - yes

Suzanne MacDonald - yes

Motion carried (5-0)

b) COVID-19 Funding Resolution

This resolution was recommended by MASC Board of Directors. This resolution addresses funding for the expenses related to COVID-19, including supplies and equipment needed to help schools open safely. This resolution guarantees each district full reimbursement for COVID-19 expenses that are required to follow state mandates.

MOTION: Cheryl Lachendro (S. MacDonald second) motion for Georgetown School Committee to approve the COVID-19 State Funding Resolution, as presented. Roll call vote was taken.

Barbie Linares - yes

Michael Hinchliffe - yes

Cheryl Lachendro - yes

Pamela Lundquist - yes

Suzanne MacDonald - yes

Motion carried (5-0)

c) Anti-Racism Resolution

This resolution was recommended by MASC Board of Directors. This resolution ensures that all school districts in the Commonwealth must guarantee that racist practices are eradicated and diversity, equity and inclusion is embedded and practiced for the students, families, faculty and staff.

MOTION: Suzanne MacDonald (C. Lachendro second) motion for Georgetown School Committee to approve the Anti-Racism Resolution, as presented. Roll call vote was taken.

Barbie Linares - yes

Michael Hinchliffe - yes

Cheryl Lachendro - yes

Pamela Lundquist - yes

Suzanne MacDonald - yes

Motion carried (5-0)

d) School Committee Self Evaluation

The Chair explained the School Committee Self Evaluation that is done on a yearly basis. The Chair noted that everyone rated themselves between a #1 to 2, which is considered a strongly agree/agree. She added that everyone works very well together and they enjoy the work they do.

e) Superintendent's Evaluation Process

Chair Linares stated that this evaluation is done every year. The process was different this year due to the closure. This is the 13th year for the Superintendent. The Chair announced that the Superintendent has received a proficient in her rating. Several members spoke and gave their remarks.

MOTION: Pam Lundquest (C. Lachendro second) motion to adjourn at 9:26PM. Roll call vote was taken.

Barbie Linares - yes

Michael Hinchliffe - yes

Cheryl Lachendro - yes

Pamela Lundquist - yes

Suzanne MacDonald - yes

Motion carried (5-0)

*Respectfully Submitted,
Nancy Weiss, School Committee Secretary*