

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

JULY 21, 2022

A meeting of the School Committee was held at 4:00 P.M. on Thursday, July 21, 2022 at the Central Middle School Media Center with the following members present: David Maurer, Chair, Melanie Fiore, Jaime Wallace, Nicole Nial (Remote) and Betty Chu Pryor. Also present was John Macero, Superintendent (Remote), David Ljungberg, Acting Superintendent and Kathy Martin, Assistant Superintendent.

Chair D. Maurer called the meeting of the School Committee to order at 4:00 P.M.

A. Pledge of Allegiance

B. Approval of Minutes

ACTION: A motion was made by J. Wallace and seconded by B. Pryor to approve the minutes of June 9, 2022. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call.

The minutes of June 9, 2022 Executive Session, June 22, 2022 and June 29, 2022 Executive Session were tabled to the August 25, 2022 meeting.

C. Public Comment

None

D. Approval of Warrant

Leia Secor presented the final warrants of FY22: 2253 and 2253A. J. Wallace had questions regarding an invoice for spring flag football and asked that the invoice be removed from Warrant 2253A.

ACTION: A motion was made by J. Wallace and seconded by B. Pryor to approve Bill Warrant #2253A in the amount of \$241,260.57 less the invoice for spring flag football. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call.

ACTION: A motion was made by J. Wallace and seconded by B. Pryor to approve Bill Warrant #2253 in the amount of \$216,607.73. The motion was approved 4-0-1 by roll call with N. Nial abstaining.

Leia Secor also reported on the FY22 Budget showing a year end balance of \$82,308.30 which is reserved for any outstanding and unexpected invoices that come in.

E. High School Handbook Approval

Principal Bryan Lombardi was present at the meeting to request approval of the updated 2022-2023 High School handbook. Mr. Lombardi reported that, in addition to revisions in mid-year and final exams, cell phone usage and detention, updates were made to staff, calendar and daily schedules.

ACTION: A motion was made by J. Wallace and seconded by M. Fiore to approve the updated High School handbook. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call.

F. Chromebook Policy – Second Reading/Approval

ACTION: A motion was made by J. Wallace and seconded by M. Fiore to waive the second reading of the Chromebook Policy. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call.

Yusuf Guller, Director of Technology, was present at the meeting and gave a brief Power Point presentation of the policy. The Committee discussed changes in charging students for replacing a defective charger and requested changes to gender neutral.

ACTION: A motion was made by M. Fiore and seconded by J. Wallace to approve the Chromebook Policy with the edits that were discussed. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call.

The Chair moved Agenda #10 Acceptance of Gift to next on the agenda.

G. Approval of Gift – Memory Tree at Duff Park

Jeanne Craigie, a member of the Al Duff Park restoration committee, requested acceptance of a tree in memory of Morgan Gerrior who passed away in the spring. Morgan was the daughter of Joe Gerrior who is active in the community and has contributed to the park restoration.

ACTION: A motion was made by J. Wallace and seconded by M. Fiore to accept the memory tree at Al Duff Park. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call.

H. Approval to Set-up Technology Revolving Account

ACTION: A motion was made by J. Wallace and seconded by B. Pryor to set up a revolving account for technology. This account will be funded with charges made for lost or damaged technology equipment as outlined in the Chromebook Policy. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call.

I. Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA) Letter of Support

D. Ljungberg recommended School Committee support of a letter to Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority for the proposed Better Bus Network Redesign. Chair D. Maurer read the letter.

ACTION: A motion was made by J. Wallace and seconded by B. Pryor to support the letter for the proposed Better Bus Network Redesign. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call.

J. Outsourcing of Before/After School Childcare Programs

D. Ljungberg requested permission from the Committee to move forward with the RFP to outsource the before and after school childcare programs. Enrollments have been going up the past several years and the burden becomes larger on administration overseeing the program; with no one in charge, the burden falls on the secretary or principal. Proposals would keep the program on site and request the use of our staff if possible; if not possible, the program would not start until January so the staff would have plenty of notification.

ACTION: A motion was made by J. Wallace and seconded by M. Fiore to move forward with the RFP to outsource the before and after school childcare programs. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call.

K. Web Design – Update

M. Fiore reported that the web design survey listed the school calendar as the number one priority, followed by the school lunch.

L. School Building Committee

D. Ljungberg reported that, at their July 11, 2022 meeting, the Stoneham School Building Committee voted to approve the following list of Proprietary Specifications developed by the architect Perkins & Will and recommended approval by the School Committee as the elected body:

- Auditorium Orchestra Pit Vertical Platform Lift
- Networking Hardware
- Theatrical Lighting Fixtures
- Theatrical Lighting Controls
- Security System
- Sprinkler Heads
- Stormwater Treatment
- Building Management System

ACTION: A motion was made by M. Fiore and seconded by J. Wallace to approve the list of proprietary specifications as developed by Perkins & Will. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call.

N. Nial reported on the Gibney Mural and the request to house the mural at the new High School. The mural was saved from the Bank of America on Main Street where it had been since the 1960's. When the building closed, the mural was donated to the Stoneham Historical Society and is now looking for a new home. The mural is 45 feet long and comes in 3 sections and captures the history of Stoneham. The Building Committee is looking for feedback from the School Committee whether this is an appropriate piece of art to display at the High School. The Committee discussed the history and nature of the mural and the responsibility of the mural if it were to get vandalized, as well as the funding to maintain it and insure it. N. Nial will bring the Committee's concerns back to the Building Committee.

J. Macero reported on the neighborhood meeting where neighbors were informed what would happen in regards to the blasting that was scheduled to begin August 22 and go through mid-September.

D. Ljungberg reported that Representative Day has shared good news and announced ARPA funds totaling \$500,000 have been specifically marked for district offices, 300,000 has been marked for the outside amphitheater and \$500,000 for High School building costs. Funds must be spent as earmarked.

M. Superintendent's Report

D. Ljungberg reported on the following:

- Kindergarten and preschool registration numbers

- Attendance at the new superintendent's induction program
- Update on negotiations: agreements have been made with the STA and custodial union and have started negotiations with the support groups.
- Planning for the administrative retreat in August
- Summer school programs update
- Free lunch program for next year

Discussion/Correspondence/New Items

N. EXECUTIVE SESSION

ACTION: A motion was made J. Wallace and seconded by B. Pryor to enter into Executive Session per MGL Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(3): To discuss strategy with respect to litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call at 6:13 P.M.

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED
DAVID LJUNGBERG, ACTING SUPERINTENDENT**

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
AUGUST 29, 2022

A meeting of the School Committee was held at 7:00 P.M. on Monday, August 29, 2022 at the Central Middle School Media Center with the following members present: David Maurer (Remote), Chair, Melanie Fiore, Jaime Wallace (Remote), Nicole Nial and Betty Chu Pryor. Also present was John Macero, Superintendent (Remote), David Ljungberg, Acting Superintendent and Kathy Martin, Assistant Superintendent.

Vice Chair M. Fiore called the meeting of the School Committee to order at 7:00 P.M.

A. Pledge of Allegiance

N. Nial asked for a moment of silence for Kathy Driscoll, a long time beloved teacher at South School who passed away this week.

B. Approval of Minutes

ACTION: A motion was made by B. Pryor and seconded by J. Wallace to approve the Executive Session minutes of June 9, 2022, June 29, 2022, July 21, 2022 and August 10, 2022 to remain confidential. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call.

ACTION: A motion was made by B. Pryor and seconded by N. Nial to approve the minutes of June 22, 2022 and July 21, 2022. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call.

C. Public Comment

None

D. Financial

ACTION: A motion was made by B. Pryor and seconded by N. Nial to approve Warrant #2305 in the amount of \$259,647.34. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call.

ACTION: A motion was made by N. Nial and seconded by B. Pryor to approve Warrant #2307 in the amount of \$261,631.85. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call.

D. Ljungberg reported that the FY22 year end budget ended \$80,000 in the black. \$20,000 paid off outstanding invoices and \$60,000 was turned back to the Town's free cash.

D. Ljungberg also reported that the FY23 budget is in the black – there are still a lot of moving pieces with open positions.

E. Central Middle School Handbook Approval

T. Sallee and N. Clark were present at the meeting to request approval of the Central Middle School Handbook.

Changes included updates to personnel, pronouns were changed to gender neutral, corrections to typos, minor revisions to grammar, formatting revisions and moving sections to flow better.

Language changes included:

- #8 – revised description of homeroom and added phrasing
- #9 – language changed to kid friendly, rephrased lunch language
- #10 – changes to policies no longer in effect: dismissal notes go to secretary not teachers, gym uniforms omitted and replaced with guidelines, visitors language/security updated.

ACTION: A motion was made by N. Nial and seconded by J. Wallace to approve the Central Middle School Handbook. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call.

F. Fall 2022 COVID-19 Guidance/Update

D. Ljungberg reviewed the DESE and Department of Public Health joint memo aligned to the new CDC Covid-19 guidance that was released last week. There are no mask mandates and no testing requirements. Students and staff are free to mask if they wish.

G. School Opening Report

Brian McNeil, Director of Facilities, reported on the work that was done over the summer, including: Robin Hood stage repair, refinishing/sanding gym floors, safety inspections, routine cleaning and repairs, landscaping and replacing the old Central School roof. Upcoming projects include replacing a section of the Middle School roof, consulting with engineer to redesign the South School outside area, replacing the High School generator and heating units in the gym. Mr. McNeil also reported that they have hired Partner Solutions to conduct night cleaning at the High School and Middle School and are hiring a new craftsman position.

D. Ljungberg reported on new teacher orientation and current openings. All five special education coordinator positions have been filled. Mr. Ljungberg also reported on current kindergarten and preschool enrollment numbers.

K. Martin reported on Safety and Security. Several meetings were held over the summer to discuss safety drills and accounting for people in the buildings, and included Chris Banos, Officer Collotti, principals, and members of the police and fire department. Changes to security include: always asking visitors their name and purpose, distributing visitor badges, escorting visitors to and from their destination, entering and exiting through the front door only and signing in and out of the building. Exercises will be conducted at each building.

D. Ljungberg reminded the community of what our protocols are in regards to the safety of students. There will be police presence the first couple of days at the schools, and at the High School helping with the traffic flow through the construction site. He reported that he has met with Chief McIntyre and Chief Grafton and discussed regular visibility and presence and also bringing back ALICE training.

D. Ljungberg also reported that school lunches in Massachusetts are again free to all students. Students are required to log in with their pins as we need to report specific counts. Robin Hood, South, Middle School and High School also qualify for free breakfast, which will be tracked by the cafeteria staff. Mr. Ljungberg also gave an update on the registrations for the Before and After School Program and the Bus Program for Robin Hood and South School.

H. Custodial Contract Ratification

J. Wallace reported that they came to a tentative agreement with the custodians in early summer; the custodians have now ratified that agreement which is a three year agreement and included a 6% increase over three years.

ACTION: A motion was made by J. Wallace and seconded by N. Nial to ratify the three year contract with the custodians. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call.

I. Policy Updates

K. Martin reviewed the revised 3-9.A Organizational Chart for a first reading. The chart has been simplified and is much easier to follow. It will be brought back to the next meeting for approval.

J. Acceptance of Donation

D. Ljungberg recommended acceptance of a \$4,500 donation from StonehamBank to fund the Central Middle School Math Team.

ACTION: A motion was made by J. Wallace and seconded by N. Nial to accept the donation from StonehamBank to support the Central Middle School Math Team. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call.

K. Superintendent's Entry Plan

Christine McGrath from Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents (MASS) and a coach with the New Superintendent Induction Plan, gave an outline and objectives of the induction program.

D. Ljungberg highlighted his entry plan that included envisions of what the year ahead will look like. The plan will be posted on our website.

Jaime Wallace joined the meeting in person at 8:15 PM

L. Committee Liaison Reports

M. Fiore reported that the website committee is still working on the website.

M. School Building Committee

N. Nial reported that there have been significant overages that required financial cuts to stay on time and on budget. In addition to administration offices being removed, the field house was cut at the last meeting. The Building Committee will be requesting additional funds at Town Meeting to put back some of the cuts that have been made.

The Building Committee will be at Town Day on September 17 and will also be present at the back to school nights at all schools.

N. Superintendent's Report

D. Ljungberg reported on the following:

- Brush fires at Robin Hood School – the first was intentionally set but it appears the second one was from smoldering from the day before.
- Town Day is September 17. The School Committee will have a tent along with the Building Committee.
- Blasting has started at the High School – there will be up to two blasts a day for the next 7-8 weeks. All safety measures are in place.
- Veterans' week – K. Martin is soliciting student volunteers
- *BeSmartforKids.org* information is included in packets. It is a non-political organization that promotes safe storage of fire arms.
- We have received a \$50,000 mental health grant – info is included in packets. The Boys and Girls Club has also awarded nine mini mental health grants to various areas of Stoneham Public Schools.

D. Ljungberg also reported that there was a request from D. Pignone for a JV Field Hockey and a JV Girls Soccer that was received last week. Typically, this is a committee vote but because of the time restraints, the Chair approved it. According to MIAA, waivers need to be approved by the School Committee Chair, Superintendent and Athletic Director. The Committee discussed the process and agreed that it should be approved by the whole committee and be requested in a timely manner.

O. Discussion/Correspondence/New Items

None

P. EXECUTIVE SESSION

ACTION: A motion was made J. Wallace and seconded by N. Nial to enter into Executive Session per MGL Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(3): To discuss strategy with respect to litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call at 8:48 P.M.

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED
DAVID LJUNGBERG, ACTING SUPERINTENDENT**

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

SEPTEMBER 8, 2022

A meeting of the School Committee was held at 7:00 P.M. on Monday, September 8, 2022 at the Central Middle School Media Center with the following members present: David Maurer, Chair, Jaime Wallace, Nicole Nial and Betty Chu Pryor. Also present was David Ljungberg, Superintendent and Kathy Martin, Assistant Superintendent.

Chair D. Maurer called the meeting of the School Committee to order at 7:00 P.M.

A. Pledge of Allegiance

B. Approval of Minutes

ACTION: A motion was made by J. Wallace and seconded by B. Pryor to approve the minutes of August 29, 2022. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call.

ACTION: A motion was made J. Wallace and seconded by B. Pryor to approve the Executive Session minutes of August 29, 2022 to remain confidential. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call.

C. Public Comment

None

D. Financial

ACTION: A motion was made by B. Pryor and seconded by N. Nial to approve Warrant #2309 in the amount of \$200,581.79. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call.

E. Policy – Second Reading/Approval

ACTION: A motion was made by and seconded by to waive the second reading of Policy 3-9.A Organizational Chart. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call.

The Committee recommended minor changes to clarify the flow chart.

ACTION: A motion was made by N. Nial and seconded by J. Wallace to approve the Policy 3-9.A Organizational Chart, with minor changes. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call.

F. EF High School Exchange Year

Emily Eakins was virtually present at the meeting to outline the EF High School Exchange Year Program and what they offer in terms of services for their exchange program. There is a local family who would like to host an exchange student this year.

The Committee discussed Visa responsibility, support for the student, emergency quarantines and medical emergencies.

The Committee agreed to hold on approving this request until they could get more feedback from staff and administration, as well as surrounding towns that have sponsored this program. They also felt it would be better to wait until next year to consider this request due to construction, etc.

G. HR Overview/Update – Ana Veras

Ana Veras, Director of Human Resources, reported on the start up of the Human Resources Department. The Department opened up in March and hit the ground running with contract negotiations, retirements, resignations, recruiting and hiring. They have also attending training for implementation of software for records, onboarding and electronic attendance tracking. We currently still have openings for three special education teachers, two psychologists and several ESP positions.

H. Committee Liaison Reports

None

I. School Building Committee

N. Nial reported that the Building Committee has not met since the last School Committee meeting. They will attend all back to school nights as well as Town Day.

J. Superintendent’s Report

Superintendent Ljungberg reported on the following:

- Summit Meeting scheduled for September 13
- TriBoard Meeting scheduled for September 19
- Capital Committee scheduled for September 13 – Brian McNeil will present roof replacement projects
- DESE Update: The Commissioner has raised the minimum score needed to pass MCAS

K. Discussion/Correspondence/New Items

- J. Wallace requested reviewing and streamlining the paperwork that parents need to complete at the beginning of each school year. K. Martin responded that the administration is aware of it and is looking into different options.
- J. Wallace also requested reviewing the residency policy and the possibility of reaffirming residency every year or every other year.
- B. Pryor suggested that all paperwork going home be changed from mother/father to parent/guardian/caregiver language.

L. EXECUTIVE SESSION

ACTION: A motion was made J. Wallace and seconded by B. Pryor to enter into Executive Session per MGL Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(3): To discuss strategy with respect to litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call at 7:42 P.M.

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED
DAVID LJUNGBERG, SUPERINTENDENT**

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

SEPTEMBER 22, 2022

A meeting of the School Committee was held at 7:00 P.M. on Thursday, September 22, 2022 at the Central Middle School Media Center with the following members present: David Maurer, Chair, M. Fiore (joined the meeting at 7:05 PM), Jaime Wallace, Nicole Nial (joined the meeting at 7:10 PM) and Betty Chu Pryor. Also present was David Ljungberg, Superintendent and Kathy Martin, Assistant Superintendent.

Chair D. Maurer called the meeting of the School Committee to order at 7:00 P.M.

A. Pledge of Allegiance

B. Approval of Minutes

ACTION: A motion was made by J. Wallace and seconded by B. Pryor to approve the minutes of September 8, 2022. The motion was approved 3-0.

ACTION: A motion was made J. Wallace and seconded by B. Pryor to approve the Executive Session minutes of September 8, 2022 to remain confidential. The motion was approved 3-0.

C. Public Comment

None

D. Student Representatives

None

E. Financial

ACTION: A motion was made by J. Wallace and seconded by M. Fiore to approve Warrant #2311 in the amount of \$249,390.88. The motion was approved 4-0.

F. Boys and Girls Club

Anthony Guardia, Adam Rodgers and John Brinkman from the Boys and Girls Club were present at the meeting to report on the summer Step Up program in partnership with the United Way and the Department of Early Education. The program was held at Robin Hood School and was open to incoming preschool, kindergarten and first grade students. There was no cost to students and included lunch from the school cafeteria. This program focuses on enrichment rather than academic. There were 148 students served and survey results rated the program 82% excellent and 18% good. 100% of caregivers said their child was more prepared for school in the fall. Funding for the program is year to year but all felt that because Stoneham was a model program, they will be welcomed into the program next year if the funding exists.

G. Out of State Field Trip – DC/NYC

Bryan Lombardi, Principal of the High School, and Kurt von Sneidern, Social Studies teacher, were present at the meeting to request approval for two out-of-state field trips.

The trip to New York City is a one day trip for seniors on Friday, March 24, 2023. The cost is \$230 per person and is about 911 and exposing our seniors to what happened that day.

ACTION: A motion was made by J. Wallace and seconded by M. Fiore to approve the senior trip to New York City. The motion was approved 4-0-1 with N. Nial abstaining.

The trip to Washington D.C. is a five-day trip for sophomores during April vacation. The cost is \$1,500 per student. It is the same itinerary as in past years and is tied to the curriculum.

ACTION: A motion was made by J. Wallace and seconded by M. Fiore to approve the sophomore trip to Washington D.C. The motion was approved 4-0-1 with N. Nial abstaining.

H. Negotiation Update

J. Wallace reported that two out of the six units have come to an agreement. Of the remaining four units, two are very close to an agreement. The goal in settling these contracts was to really look at where our staff was as compared to surrounding towns; progress was made and hopefully the next bargaining term we will be able to get everyone where they should be.

I. Committee Assignments

School Committee Organization/Member Assignments 2022-2023			
		2021-2022	New 2022-2023
Chairperson	elect	Jaime Wallace	David Maurer
Vice Chairperson	elect	David Maurer	Melanie Fiore
Secretary	policy	Superintendent	Superintendent
COMMITTEES			
Local Education Foundation (SBCEF)	appoint	D. Maurer	D. Maurer
<u>Collective Bargaining</u> Teachers Teaching Assistants Secretaries Custodians/Maint. Craftsmen Cafeteria Administrators	appoint	On Hold	All
Hall of Fame Committee	appoint	J. Wallace	J. Wallace
Health and Wellness/IPM Committee	appoint	M. Fiore	M. Fiore
Middlesex Partnership for Youth	appoint	B. Chu Pryor	B. Chu Pryor
Special Education PAC	appoint	M. Fiore	M. Fiore
Capital Committee	Appoint: By law:	J. Wallace Superintendent	J. Wallace Superintendent
SEEM Collaborative	appoint	Superintendent	Superintendent
Stoneham Community Access	appoint	Superintendent	Superintendent
Stoneham Substance Abuse Coalition	appoint	D. Maurer	D. Maurer
Tri-Chair Meetings	Chair	J. Wallace	D. Maurer
Stoneham Alliance Against Violence	Appoint	N. Nial	N. Nial
JLMC CBA Stipends Evaluations			N. Nial and J. Wallace
ASSIGNMENTS			
<u>PTO Liaisons</u> High School Middle School Colonial Park Robin Hood South School	Appoint	N. Nial J. Wallace & M. Fiore N. Nial J. Wallace & M. Fiore N. Nial	N. Nial J. Wallace & M. Fiore N. Nial J. Wallace & B. Chu Pryor N. Nial
Superintendent Evaluation	Appoint	B. Chu Pryor N. Nial	B. Chu Pryor N. Nial
Long Term Financial Review	Appoint	J. Wallace & D. Maurer	J. Wallace & D. Maurer
Policy Review	Appoint	M. Fiore	M. Fiore

J. District Offices

Superintendent Ljungberg reported that the goal is to have someplace secured and in place for district offices for July 1, 2024. A committee is being formed to vet spaces and options of rental or ownership and to do site visits. N. Nial volunteered to sit on the committee. Superintendent Ljungberg also stated that Representative Day has earmarked \$500,000 for the relocation of district offices; the state legislature has authorized this but it is still waiting for the governor's signature.

K. Policies

M. Fiore reported that she has reviewed the policy book and the majority of policies need to be reviewed and/or updated. MASC offers a service where you can pay them to review your whole policy book. MASC also provides model policies when new DESE regulations come out that we can use to make our own. M. Fiore will get cost and information and requested that this be put on the October agenda.

J. Wallace suggested tabling the first two policies on the agenda until after M. Fiore investigates the feasibility of having MASC review the manual.

ACTION: A motion was made by J. Wallace and seconded by B. Pryor to table the discussion of Policy 5-8 Raising and Soliciting Funds and Policy 8-32 Tutoring. The motion was approved 5-0.

D. Ljungberg summarized Policy 2-37 Participation by the Public. Sections A through E refer to procedures, recognition from the floor, addressing the School Committee and time limitations. The addition of Section F would be more specific and clearer language. D. Maurer read Section F and suggested requiring signing up to speak be changed to sign-up may be required, change shall not exceed 15 minutes to timing set by chair and that all comments be addressed through the chair of the Committee. The policy will be placed on a future agenda for a first reading.

Chair Maurer gave a first reading of Policy 6-31 Observations of Special Education Programs and made the following recommendations:

- 5 days – school days?
- Number of observers may be limited – by whom?

L. Committee Liaison Reports

M. Fiore reported that SEPAC will have their first meeting next Thursday, September 29.

M. School Building Committee

N. Nial reported that we are getting close to architects 90% complete and there will be tough decisions to make. The Committee will be requesting a special town meeting in January to help put back some items that were cut from the project. The reason for waiting until January is that we are hoping we will have a better number of the amount to ask for and will have the drawings complete. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 26th.

N. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Ljungberg reported on the following:

- The Design Team will bring a drone tomorrow afternoon for project renderings for the Town.
- April Lanni, Procurement, will be releasing a RFP for the South School play area
- To date we have received 404 signed Chromebook Policies. J. Wallace suggested the protection plan be sent next year with instructions to return whether accepting or declining the plan.
- Most asked question at Town Day: “When can we register for preschool”

O. Discussion/Correspondence/New Items

None

P. EXECUTIVE SESSION

ACTION: A motion was made J. Wallace and seconded by B. Pryor to enter into Executive Session per MGL Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(3): To discuss strategy with respect to litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call at 8:37 P.M.

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED
DAVID LJUNGBERG, SUPERINTENDENT**

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
OCTOBER 6, 2022

A meeting of the School Committee was held at 7:00 P.M. on Thursday, October 6, 2022 at the Central Middle School Media Center with the following members present: David Maurer, Chair, M. Fiore, Jaime Wallace, Nicole Nial and Betty Chu Pryor. Also present was David Ljungberg, Superintendent and Kathy Martin, Assistant Superintendent.

Chair D. Maurer called the meeting of the School Committee to order at 7:00 P.M.

A. Pledge of Allegiance

B. Executive Session

ACTION: A motion was made M. Fiore and seconded by J. Wallace to enter into Executive Session per MGL Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(3): To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call at 7:02 P.M.

The Committee returned to open session at 7:32 P.M.

C. Approval of Minutes

ACTION: A motion was made by J. Wallace and seconded by B. Pryor to approve the minutes of September 22, 2022. The motion was approved 5-0.

ACTION: A motion was made J. Wallace and seconded by B. Pryor to approve the Executive Session minutes of September 22, 2022 to remain confidential. The motion was approved 5-0.

D. Public Comment

None

E. Student Representatives

None

F. Financial

ACTION: A motion was made by J. Wallace and seconded by M. Fiore to approve Warrant #2313 in the amount of \$729,704.32. The motion was approved 5-0.

G. Special Education Update – Anne Zernicke

Anne Zernicke, Director of Special Education, shared updates on the Special Education Department that included:

- Special education department office staff
- Special Education Department goals

- Make up of special education department and staff
- Accomplishments in 2021-2022 including summer programs
- Current updates –
 - Special education coordinators
 - Specialized classrooms and programming
- Update on IEP process
- Priorities for 2022-2023 school year

H. Athletics – David Pignone

David Pignone, Director of Athletics, requested approval of an 8th grade waiver for both gymnastics and girls' basketball due to low sign-up numbers.

ACTION: A motion was made by J. Wallace and seconded by M. Fiore to approve an 8th grade waiver for gymnastics. The motion was approved 5-0.

ACTION: A motion was made by N. Nial and seconded by M. Fiore to approve an 8th grade waiver for girls' basketball. The motion was approved 4-0-1 with J. Wallace abstaining.

D. Pignone also reported that he may need to return to the committee in the spring for approval of an 8th grade waiver for softball. There has also been discussion of turning the baseball field at Robin Hood into a softball field to be used by youth softball and baseball.

D. Pignone requested direction from the Committee regarding the school logo. The girls soccer team has purchased their own warm up suits and have designed their own logo that does include the school's official logo. Mr. Pignone felt that if the suits were worn at a game, they should include the official logo. In the absence of a policy and because the school does not supply warm up suits as part of the uniform, the School Committee felt there was nothing to enforce the use of the team logo when they are purchasing with their own money; noting that the suits must be respectful and in good taste.

I. English Language Learners - Enrollment

Assistant Superintendent K. Martin reported that our ELL numbers have increased by a third since last year. We currently have 104 students. Eighteen languages are represented with the majority being Portuguese, followed by Spanish. The increase of 22 students have put pressure on our current ELL staff that includes 6.4 FTE teachers plus a .6 coordinator – we will need to post for a part time ELL tutor to help with the increase of students. K. Martin also reported that we currently fall under the Title III Grant with the SEEM Collaborative and get a portion of the grant based on our numbers, but because our numbers have increased to over 100 we most likely will need to submit our own Title III Grant which would be a big increase of work for the administration.

J. Old Central School - Discussion

Superintendent D. Ljungberg brought to the Committee's attention a report he received from Director of Facilities, Brian McNeil. An assessment has been completed on the five chimneys and there is considerable damage and cracking of the infrastructure. The roof has just been replaced so and we want to avoid the chimney(s) collapsing onto the new roof; a decision needs to be made on how to address the disrepair – whether they should be restored or removed from the building. The cost to restore could run anywhere from \$650,000 to \$1,000,000. The

building falls under the purview of the School Department and the Historic Commission holds an interest in the building.

The Committee agreed that before making any decisions, they would like get more accurate cost estimates for the removal of the chimneys. They would also like to invite the Historic Commission to attend a future meeting.

K. MCAS Public Release

Superintendent Ljungberg reported that DESE released MCAS results last week and shared the accountability. There are a lot of changes due to COVID and it will take a while to dive into the data. District results can be found on the DESE website. Student reports were received today and will be mailed out next week.

L. Establishment of a Drama Program Revolving Account

Superintendent recommended approval of a Drama Program Revolving Account with funds being used towards expenses for the program.

ACTION: A motion was made by J. Wallace and seconded by M. Fiore to approve the establishment of a Drama Club Revolving Account. The motion was approved 5-0.

M. Policies

6-31 Observations of Special Education Programs

ACTION: A motion was made by M. Fiore and seconded by J. Wallace to waive the second reading of Policy 6-31. The motion was approved 5-0.

ACTION: A motion was made by J. Wallace and seconded by M. Fiore to adopt policy 6-31 Observations of Special Education Programs. The motion was approved 5-0.

Policy Manual Review

M. Fiore reported that most of our policies have not been reviewed since 2002 and summarized the service offered by MASC to review our policy manual and recommend updates. The cost would be \$3500 a year for 3 years. For an additional \$3500 a year they will continually update our policies and post on their website. The committee discussed the liability of being out of compliance and agreed to enroll in the three-year plan to update our policy book.

ACTION: A motion was made by J. Wallace and seconded by M. Fiore to approve enrolling in the three-year policy update service for a total of 10,500 over a three-year period. The committee discussed what budget line item this could come from. J. Wallace withdrew her motion and requested this be included in the FY24 budget under School Committee expenses or contracted services.

N. Committee Liaison Reports

M. Fiore reported that SEPAC met last week and a survey has been emailed to all parents/guardians of students who receive services.

O. School Building Committee

N. Nial reported that the Building Committee met on Monday, September 26. 100% of the drawings will be submitted to MSBA in December. At the Special Town Meeting in January the Building Committee will request additional funds to put back items that were cut from the project due to inflation. It is still hoped that funding may be coming back to projects like ours that were started and then were hit hard with project cuts.

N. Nial and D. Ljungberg will look at possible places for district offices tomorrow because when the current building is demolished, we will need at least a temporary place until we find something permanent.

P. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Ljungberg reported on the following:

- Enrollment numbers total 2287 which is an increase of 40 students from last year.
- Early release day tomorrow for professional development
- Schools and offices will be closed October 10 for the holiday
- We have hired a craftsperson who will begin employment October 11th.
- Heating systems have been rented for the High School gymnasium since only 1 in 4 of our current systems are operational.

Q. Discussion/Correspondence/New Items

D. Maurer reported that a reopening ceremony will be held at Duff Park on Friday, October 21st.

R. EXECUTIVE SESSION

ACTION: A motion was made M. Fiore and seconded by J. Wallace to enter into Executive Session per MGL Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(3): To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call at 9:32 P.M.

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED
DAVID LJUNGBERG, SUPERINTENDENT**

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
OCTOBER 20, 2022

A meeting of the School Committee was held at 7:00 P.M. on Thursday, October 20, 2022 at the Central Middle School Media Center with the following members present: David Maurer, Chair, M. Fiore, Jaime Wallace and Nicole Nial. Also present was David Ljungberg, Superintendent and Kathy Martin, Assistant Superintendent.

Chair D. Maurer called the meeting of the School Committee to order at 7:00 P.M. and opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

A. Approval of Minutes

At the request of M. Fiore, Chair Maurer tabled the approval of the October 6, 2022 regular meeting minutes and the October 6, 2022 executive session minutes.

B. Public Comment

None

C. Student Representatives

None

D. Financial

ACTION: A motion was made by M. Fiore and seconded by N. Nial to approve Warrant #2315 in the amount of \$596,862.36. The motion was approved 3-0-1 with J. Wallace abstaining.

E. Senior Privilege – Senior Class Officers

Class Officers, Sabrina Pacheco, Kelsey Doherty and Julia Mazmanian represented the Senior Class and requested approval for Senior Privilege to leave the building at the beginning of Flex. The students showed a Power Point presentation that covered the following topics: Construction, after school traffic, athletics, work schedules and the benefits of granting this privilege.

The Committee discussed their concerns that included safety of the students and knowing who is in the building at all times. The Committee felt that setting the grade at 68% (D) in order to participate was a bit low. The Committee also asked whether the police chief and fire chief have signed off on this.

The Committee thanked the students for their presentation and told them they would invite them back to a meeting once they discussed it with the fire chief and police chief.

F. Elementary Handbook 2022-2023

Kerry Robbins, Assistant Principal at South School, reviewed the Elementary Handbook for 2022-2023. The elementary assistant principals worked together to update the handbook and

revisions included staff updates, dismissal times, schedules, medical information and bringing items to school from home. They will update policies for visiting once Policy 6-31 is approved.

G. Policy 6-31 Observation of Special Education Programs - Revision

Anne Zernicke, Director of Special Education, requested a revision to Policy 6-31 that was approved by the Committee on October 6, 2022. This revised policy lines up with our current procedure and guidelines as well as M.G.L. 71B:3.

J. Wallace read the proposed revision.

After discussion, the Committee recommended the following clarifications:

- #1 - add: Current program or potential placement
- #2 - add timeline: within five school days
- #4 - change limit to one hour to stated in advance
- #8 - add: with the exception of parents/guardians

The policy will be brought back to the November 10 meeting for second reading and consideration of approval.

H. Out of State Conference - Approval

This agenda item was no longer needed because the deadline to register for the conference has passed.

I. Preschool Update - Tuitions

Superintendent Ljungberg informed the Committee that over \$32,000 is in arrears. Final letters have been mailed informing the families that students will be unenrolled if payments are not made or arrangements have not been made to pay. Mr. Ljungberg encouraged anyone with delinquent accounts to contact the school to get it resolved so that you do not lose your spot in the preschool program.

J. Budget Timeline

M. Fiore reported that she attended the last the Tri-Chair meeting. The chairs composed a list of upcoming meetings. The Committee discussed meetings they would need to participate in. Chair D. Maurer voiced his concern that all School Committee members are spread thin with negotiations, building committee, etc. and adding more meetings is a burden we cannot shoulder right now and need to be selective on what meetings we need to attend.

Superintendent Ljungberg added that he will present the school budget for FY24 at the December 1st meeting and will invite other boards to attend this meeting.

K. MCAS Update

This item was tabled to a future meeting.

L. Committee Liaison Reports

M. Fiore announced that the next SEPAC meeting is scheduled for next Tuesday, October 25 at 7:00 P.M.

M. School Building Committee

N. Nial reported that the Building Committee will come up with their final number on December 19th to present to the TriBoard at their December 20th meeting, in preparation for the special town meeting in January.

N. Superintendent's Report

Kathy Martin announced that the safety night planned for October 27th has been postponed to a date to be determined due to conflicts with other events.

O. Discussion/Correspondence/New Items

D. Maurer named J. Wallace as the delegate for Stoneham at the MASS/MASC Conference in November, N. Nial volunteered to be the alternate.

J. Wallace voiced concern over the high enrollment numbers at Robin Hood and asked whether we should consider closing enrollments at Robin Hood. Superintendent Ljungberg said that he would review the numbers with the principal and report back at the November 10th meeting.

P. EXECUTIVE SESSION

ACTION: A motion J. Wallace and seconded by M. Fiore to enter into Executive Session per MGL Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(3): To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call at 9:06 P.M.

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED
DAVID LJUNGBERG, SUPERINTENDENT**

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
NOVEMBER 10, 2022

A meeting of the School Committee was held at 7:00 P.M. on Thursday, November 10, 2022 at the Central Middle School Media Center with the following members present: David Maurer, Chair, M. Fiore, Jaime Wallace, Betty Pryor and Nicole Nial. Also present was David Ljungberg, Superintendent Kathy Martin, Assistant Superintendent and Leia Seccor, Budget Manager.

Chair D. Maurer called the meeting of the School Committee to order at 7:00 P.M.

ACTION: A motion was made J. Wallace and seconded by N. Nial to enter into Executive Session per MGL Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(3): To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call at 7:00 P.M.

The Committee returned to open session at 7:30 and Chair Maurer opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

A. Approval of Minutes

ACTION: A motion was made by M. Fiore and seconded by B. Pryor to approve the minutes of October 6, 2022. N. Nial requested minutes be revised under Building Committee Update to clarify that the drawings will be submitted to the MSBA in December. The motion was approved 5-0.

ACTION: A motion was made M. Fiore and seconded by B. Pryor to approve the Executive Session minutes of October 6, 2022 to remain confidential. The motion was approved 5-0.

ACTION: A motion was made by M. Fiore and seconded by N. Nial to approve the minutes of October 20, 2022. The motion was approved 4-0-1 with B. Pryor abstaining.

M. Fiore requested that the minutes of October 20, 2022 Executive Session be tabled until the December meeting.

B. MASS Superintendent's Award – Jessica Hom

Superintendent Ljungberg announced this year's recipient of the MASS Superintendent's Award that recognizes academic excellence, community service and other activities that distinguish high school students. This year's recipient is Jessica Hom.

Chair Maurer called for a five-minute recess. The Committee returned to open session at 7:18 P.M.

C. HR Process Update – School Attorney Rosann DiPietro

Rosann DiPietro, School Attorney, was present at the meeting to speak about the investigation process that is underway regarding a teacher at Central Middle School.

On Monday, October 24, 2022 the individual was placed on leave and the Department of Education was notified. The Superintendent has hired an outside investigator. The investigator chosen, Dan Bennett, has no prior relation with the school and is independent.

The scope of the investigation is as follows:

- Allegations unbecoming to a teacher
- Other employment
- Any Stoneham incidents

- Investigations of organizations
- Review hiring and vetting of employees
- Stoneham response to investigation that came to light in 2017
- Ascertain Department of Education's actions in issuing MA license in 2014
- Investigating the individual and the school itself
- 30-60 day window to complete the investigation
- Any information relative to the above topics, please contact Dan Bennett at 508-314-6515 or email dbennett46@icloud.com

Ms. DiPietro also explained that in 2017 the district learned that this teacher was licensed in Florida and lost his license for two years. He eventually moved to Massachusetts and applied for and received a Massachusetts teaching licensee. The Department of Education knew about Florida and deemed him fit to teach in Massachusetts. At this time, he was not terminated on advice of counsel. Information that was recently shared on social media was not available at the time.

Ms. DiPietro emphasized that the law prohibits releasing of personnel information. If concerning information is posted on social media and brought to the attention of administration, it will be investigated. She also stated that the rumors on social media regarding serious allegations against a high school teacher were untrue and urged the public to be careful what you post.

D. Student Representatives – Sydney Vallone and Maddie DiLeo

None

E. Public Comment

Chair Maurer outlined the ground rules for public comment. Each speaker will have two minutes, unless extended by the Chair. All comments are addressed to the board, no one else. All speakers must be respectful.

Chair Maurer opened the floor to comments on the information covered by School Attorney Rosann DiPietro. There was no public comment on this topic.

Chair Maurer opened the floor to comments on Special Education.

Erin Alicon and Kyla Malladi, Co-Chairs of SEPAC (Special Education Parents' Advisory Council) spoke on the lack of ESP support, speech services and OT services staffing throughout the district. They also voiced concerns regarding the RISE-2 program and instances of bullying at Central Middle School. The parents said that they have met with Mrs. Zernicke and look forward to moving forward with the planning that was discussed.

Friends of SEPAC and several parents also spoke about Special Education concerns.

Alessandra Chirichiello spoke on behalf of the many Robin Hood teachers who were in attendance. This year has brought many new and unexpected challenges. Class sizes and shortage of support staff is a big concern as well as a safety issue for staff and students. Teachers were also concerned for the general education classes who deal with the disruptive students throughout the day. They requested that enrollment be closed at Robin Hood.

F. Special Education/Kindergarten Programming

Anne Zernicke requested consideration for a PreK-K classroom, a transitional kindergarten classroom that would provide a more authentic program and provide more seamless opportunities to provide services (e.g. speech, OT) and integrate with general education classrooms. We are receiving a steady number of referrals from early intervention and would like to have this in place for January

2023. If approved, a working group will be established – comprised of principals, parents, teachers (preschool and kindergarten), special education coordinator and director.

Superintendent Ljungberg supported this proposal and asked the Committee to give this serious consideration. The Town is growing unexpectedly, space is limited, we have staff shortages, we have more students with severe needs and our teachers and support staff are tired.

ACTION: A motion was made by J. Wallace and seconded by M. Fiore to approve the addition of a PreK-K classroom. The motion was approved 5-0.

G. Policy 6-31 Observations of Special Education Programs – Second Reading

Anne Zernicke presented the revised policy, which has been reviewed by special education counsel. Chair Maurer read the revised policy.

The Committee requested the following changes:

- #8: Adding back “does not apply to parents” regarding written reports being provided after an observation
- Updating the policy to gender neutral
- #6: limit to the number of observers should not be one or it will preclude both parents being able to observe. Use the language from the Agreement for Observers – “The number of observers may be limited at any one time in order to minimize disruption of class routines.
- Agreement for Observers #2: would like this to mirror the language in #4 of the Observation Policy “the actual length of observation will be determined on an individual student basis”

The policy will be revised and brought back to the December meeting.

H. School and Grade Level Enrollment

Superintendent Ljungberg reported the current overall enrollment, the grade level enrollments and the elementary enrollments by school and classrooms and recommended to close enrollment at Robin Hood School.

ACTION: A motion was made by J. Wallace and seconded by M. Fiore to close enrollment at Robin Hood. The motion was approved 5-0.

I. Acceptance of Gifts/Donations

ACTION: A motion was made by J. Wallace and seconded by N. Nial to open a gift account for the Albert J. Duff Memorial Park with monies remaining from the renovation project. The motion was approved 5-0.

ACTION: A motion was made by M. Fiore and seconded by B. Pryor to accept the give of \$2,698.41 from the remaining funds in the Albert J. Duff Memorial Park renovation project. The motion was approved 5-0.

ACTION: A motion was made by J. Wallace and seconded by B. Pryor to accept the gift of clarinets from Tina Maurer to the music department. The motion was approved 4-0-1 with D. Maurer abstaining.

J. Financial

ACTION: A motion was made by B. Pryor and seconded by J. Wallace to approve Warrant #2318 in the amount of \$207,622.82. The motion was approved 5-0.

Leia Secor presented a budget update that included:

Five-year forecast for the Town

- Current and long-term budget pressures
- Five-year financial forecast
- Current stabilization funds compliance with fiscal policies and guidelines
- Free cash and stabilization comparisons
- SP rating rationale
- Five-year financial forecast
- Five-year financial forecast with 3% growth model
- Five-year financial forecast with 4.5 growth model
- Revenue allocation by percentage

School related spending in the general fund

- General fund/chapter 70
- Attention areas – risks to budget

Budget update:

- operating account from FY20 to FY21
- Chapter 70 comparisons
- FY23 expense budget as of 11/3/22
- FY23 payroll budget as of 11/3/22
- Budget challenges FY23

K. School Improvement Plans

Central Middle School

- Accomplished in 2021-2022
- Curriculum and student achievement
- Communications and community relations
- Update on 21-22 goals
- New Goals for 2022-2023
 - Reinstate the student support team model for student referrals and to manage the RTI process
 - Begin the implementation of RTI periods, such as WIN blocks, using the existing activity period structure
 - Pilot the concept of advisory with staff and students this year with a focus on belonging and connectedness
 - Continue implementing Universal Design for Learning initiative with all staff members
 - Support stronger student social-emotional health in the post-pandemic years through monthly SEL activities
 - Establish a new routine for communication that includes a monthly “smore” newsletter and the establishment of social media sites
 - Build a school-wide culture of positive energy and spirit through various activities and celebrations
 - Create a new system for transitioning students from one grade to the next, with a particular focus on the transition from Grade 4 to Grade 5
 - Continue to expand our partnership with Stoneham Veterans organizations around Veterans Day and Memorial Day

High School

Timelines 2021-2024 and Progress

- Goal 1: Establish Inclusive Practice/UDL Principals within Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment 2021-2024
- Goal 2: Establish Inclusive Practice/UDL Principals within systemic structures of SHS 2022
- Goal 3: Establish Inclusive Practice/UDL Principals within SHS School Culture 2022

L. Overnight Field Trip Transportation – Bryan Lombardi

Principal Bryan Lombardi reported that there is a problem with the bus transportation for the DC Trip and that no company has the availability to provide two buses with relief drivers which is needed for the 85 registered students. The option is to either cancel the trip or seek alternate transportation from buses, trains and flights or reconfigure the trip itinerary. Mr. Lombardi is recommending Option #1.

1. Two buses from Sunday to Thursday without relief drivers. We would change the itinerary to accommodate no relief drivers by dividing the NYC itinerary. Day 1 would be NYC, Day 2 and 3 would be DC and days 4 and 5 would be NYC. No amusement park.
2. Fly to DC, fly to NYC and fly to Boston. Additional cost to the trip. Have not confirmed flights yet. Maybe include an amusement park depending on costs.
3. Fly to DC for all the days and then fly home (no NYC). Include amusement park.

This update was informational only and did not require approval.

M. Committee Liaison Reports

M. Fiore announced that she is stepping down as the liaison to SEPAC. J. Wallace volunteered to step in as the liaison.

N. School Building Committee

N. Nial reported that the next meeting of the School Building Committee is scheduled for Monday, November 14.

O. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Ljungberg reported that he attended the MASS/MASC Annual Conference last week along with School Committee members and that it was both information and helpful to network with other districts.

P. Discussion/Correspondence/New Items

None

Q. EXECUTIVE SESSION

ACTION: A motion was made J. Wallace and seconded by N. Nial to enter into Executive Session per MGL Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(3): To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call at 10:22 P.M.

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED
DAVID LJUNGBERG, SUPERINTENDENT**

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

DECEMBER 1, 2022

A meeting of the School Committee was held at 5:30 P.M. on Thursday, December 1, 2022 at the Central Middle School Media Center with the following members present: David Maurer, Chair, M. Fiore, Jaime Wallace, Betty Pryor and Nicole Nial. Also present was David Ljungberg, Superintendent and Kathy Martin, Assistant Superintendent.

Chair D. Maurer called the meeting of the School Committee to order at 5:30 P.M. and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

A. Approval of Minutes

ACTION: A motion was made J. Wallace and seconded by M. Fiore to approve the Executive Session minutes of October 20, 2022, October 26, 2022 and November 10, 2022 to remain confidential. The motion was approved 5-0.

ACTION: A motion was made by J. Wallace and seconded by M. Fiore to approve the minutes of November 10, 2022. The motion was approved 5-0.

B. Public Comment

Cheryl Zurbrick, a Colonial Park parent, commented that Colonial Park parents were unhappy that they were omitted from the Search Committee to review the RFP's for the Before and After School Programs due to a breakdown in the communication systems where only five or six parents were notified.

C. Student Representatives – Sydney Vallone and Maddie DiLeo

Sydney Vallone reported on the football team playing in the Super Bowl at Gillette Stadium this weekend, winter sports are underway, after school clubs are in full swing, the Drama Club is rehearsing for the production of Noises Off the weekend of December 9, 2022, and the Winter Concert will be held on December 15th.

D. Financial: Consideration of Warrant

ACTION: A motion was made by J. Wallace and seconded by B. Chu-Pryor to approve Warrant #2320 in the amount of \$583,241.97. The motion was approved 5-0.

E. School Improvement Plans - Elementary

Elem principals were present at the meeting to present their elementary improvement plans.

District Goals: Rosa Flynn, Principal of Colonial Park, presented the three district goals that all elementary schools share:

1. Increase literacy outcomes with a focus on foundational literacy skills and the science of reading at the elementary level.
2. Increase access to Universal Design for Learning (UDL), acceleration, and co-teaching to support the use of evidence-based practices that support all learners in inclusive and inclusionary settings.
3. Redesign schedules, staffing, and materials to support a Multi-Tiered System of Support.

Colonial Park School Goals: Rosa Flynn outlined the following school goals for Colonial Park:

1. Strengthen student writing skills using evidence-based Self-Regulated Strategy Development (SRSD) to support all learners in grades K through 4.
2. Strengthen the learning of science, technology and engineering as a result of the transition from a traditional technology class to a Science, Technology and Engineering class.
3. Increase schoolwide Social Emotional Learning by integrating academic, social and emotional learning across all school contexts.
4. Continue to collaborate with parents and the larger community to promote student growth and develop a positive school culture.

South School Goals: Eric Jones outlined the following school goals for South School:

1. Parent and Community Partnerships: Continue to collaborate with parents and the larger community to promote student growth and develop a positive school culture.
2. We will recognize students on a daily basis for their academic achievement and citizenship.
3. We will continue the transition from our traditional technology/computer specialist class to a STE class.

Robin Hood Goals: Jordan Weymer outlined the following school goals for Robin Hood:

1. Literacy: Grade-level teams will collaboratively plan and implement two standards-aligned units. Units will include a mentor text, a variety of supplemental texts, text-dependent questions connected to essential and enduring understandings, and formative and summative assessments to monitor progress and to better differentiate instruction.
2. Math: Teachers will utilize a variety of formative assessments and analysis of formative assessment data to differentiate math instruction to ensure all students have an opportunity to engage in targeted instruction designed to increase progress toward mastery of grade-level standards and to provide extension opportunities for those students already demonstrating proficiency.
3. SEL: In order to better support students as we transition back to school post-COVID, we will initiate the process of collaboratively determining the core values we hope to instill in our students and staff. All Robin Hood community stakeholders – families, staff and students will be involved in the process of determining our core values. Family, staff and student meetings will be held throughout the school year to discuss and determine our core values. Once core values are determined, Robin Hood stakeholders will then determine how the core values will be taught to students as behavioral expectations to ensure they become incorporated throughout our school community and can be explicitly taught to students.

F. Budget FY24 - Presentation

Superintendent Ljungberg presented the FY24 Budget Presentation that included the following Power Point slides:

1. Setting the context: Strategic Priorities:
2. Equity
3. FY24 Budget Values and Norms
4. This year's budget drivers and those that need addressing
5. Operating budget through the years FY15 through FY23
6. Chapter 70 Comparison FY15 through FY23
7. Stoneham vs State Average Per Pupil Spending 2017 through 2021
8. Stoneham average teacher salary compared to state 2020 (latest data available)
9. Comparison to Region per pupil spending in district students
10. Similar districts by wealth
11. Five-year enrollment trends vs. state
12. Five-year expense trends by funding source
13. Five-year expense trends per pupil
14. Budget increases FY19 through FY23
15. FY24 Budget Proposal

- 34,481,811.29 a 7.4% increase over FY23. Increase includes all fixed costs, step increases, contractual obligations and out of district tuition.
 - Also includes minimal additional requests/changes to help with our day to day operations and provide quality education for all students
16. Fix Costs Increases
- Increases (5) Collective Bargaining Units
 - Annual Step Increases (Contractual)
 - Out of District Tuition Increase
 - Increase in energy, electrical, facilities repairs, migrating expenses from ESSER III/Federal Relief
17. Projected Enrollment Trends
18. FY23 Expenditures by Funding Source
19. FY23 Expenses by Category
20. FY24 New Personnel Requests
- 2.0 ELL Teachers
 - 1.0 Library Aide
 - 0.5 Audio Video Teacher's
 - 0.5 Drop Out Prevention/ISS/SEL
 - 0.4 BCBA
 - 1.0 Lunch Monitor
 - 1.0 Special Educator (co-taught)
 - 4.0 ESP's (1:1)
 - 1.0 Transitional Kindergarten Teacher
 - 1.0 Transitional Kindergarten ESP
 - 0.8 Preschool ESP
 - 1.0 Preschool
 - 0.5 Preschool "Principal"
 - 0.5 Preschool Secretary
 - 0.5 Building Engineer
 - (2) Interventionists (each 19.75 hours/week)
 - 0.5 Assistant Facilities Director
21. FY24 New Non-Personnel Requests
- Health and wellness supplies
 - SEL Programs/Support
 - Chromebooks and Chromebook Carts
 - Instructional Hardware and Software
 - Instructional Technology Supplies
 - Expanded Translation Services
 - Lease a new minibus
 - Increase Athletics Operating from 115K to 130K
 - Professional Development
 - Instructional Improvement
 - Drop-out Prevention
 - Mental Health Support
 - English Language Learner Supports
 - Increased Facilities Expenses
 - Expansion of Assessment System
 - Classroom Foundations Materials
 - Wilson Training for Special Educators
22. Student and Family Supports, Health & Wellness
23. Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment
24. Special Education
25. Multi-language Learner (ELL)

26. Instructional Technology
27. Operations and Maintenance
28. Athletics and Physical Education
29. Colonial Park School/South School/Robin Hood/Central Middle School/High School
30. Stand Alone Preschool Program
31. Summary: FY24 Budget Proposal
32. Capital Requests

The Committee requested adding two additional interventionists – one at Robin Hood and one at South School due to student enrollments.

The next steps in the budget process are:

- January 12, 2023 – Public Hearing on School Budget
- January 24, 2023 – School Committee Vote on Budget
- May 1, 2023 – Town Meeting Budget Approval

G. Transition K Class - Update

Superintendent Ljungberg gave an update on the transition kindergarten class. Plans are underway to have this begin in January. We have received a significant number of referrals from early intervention. Positions have been posted and candidates have been contacted for interviews.

H. Policy 6-31 Observations of Special Education Programs – Second Reading

This item was tabled until the January meeting

I. Preschool Program/Consideration of Late Fee

Superintendent Ljungberg requested consideration to pursue the establishment of late fees for the preschool program. The Committee agreed to pursue this and requested further information, including comparisons from surrounding towns.

ACTION: A motion was made by J. Wallace and seconded by B. Pryor to explore establishing late fees for the preschool tuition program. The motion was approved 5-0.

J. Senior Privilege

Superintendent Ljungberg reported that he reached out to the police chief and the fire chief and both are fine with continuing senior privilege as long as we have some kind of tracking accountability system in place.

J. Wallace requested that in order to be eligible, the requirement of a D+ and above should be changed to C- and above.

ACTION: A motion was made by M. Fiore and seconded by B. Pryor to approve senior privilege with an eligibility of grades being C- and above. The motion was approved 4-0-1 with N. Nial abstaining.

K. Carnival Ball - Discussion

Chair Maurer opened the discussion on the Carnival Ball and asked long time Stoneham resident, graduate of Stoneham High and former school committee member Marie Christie for comment.

Marie Christie gave some history of the Carnival Ball. It was once called the winter festivities and at the conclusion, students celebrated with a ball at the Town Hall with a king and queen, two pages from the elementary level and a court. Talented high school students performed. When ended, the

hall was cleared of chairs and the ball began with a full orchestra and organist. Men wore suits and the ladies wore dresses or gowns. Over the years, some of the traditions were slowly erased. Mrs. Christie said that she would hate to lose a town tradition, it is what makes Stoneham, Stoneham.

A discussion followed about whether this should continue as a school event or a town event and the possibility of forming a Winter Carnival committee. It was agreed that the students from the high school and middle school should be surveyed for their opinions and ideas.

L. Contract Ratification – Secretaries and Cafeteria

This item was tabled.

M. Before and After School Programs – RFP Process Update

Superintendent Ljungberg turned the discussion over to Assistant Superintendent Kathy Martin and Betty Pryor who have been involved in the process.

K. Martin answered the question as to why are we doing this? The program is well attended and families depend upon it. It is a lot of work and is self-funded but management has become huge and competes with other things that are important. Outsourcing the program will enable some of our families to have financial aid and will provide more structure, variety and activities.

B. Pryor reported that the selection committee met several times virtually. Two proposals were received – one from the Boys & Girls club and one from the YMCA. The committee evaluated both proposals on the quality of the written proposal, similar districts, references, financial stability, quality of program, curriculum, staff management, experience and rates. Both organizations had great experience and wonderful programs. The decision to award the program was based on current rates staying the same, offering our current employees employment at their current rate of pay and being fully entranced with Stoneham Public Schools.

Superintendent Ljungberg announced the selection committee has recommended the Boys & Girls Club of Stoneham. They are ready to begin January 3, 2023.

K. Martin added that there will be expanded times, including snow days and early release.

The committee discussed the January 3 start date and requested the date be moved to February for a smoother transition.

ACTION: A motion was made by B. Pryor and seconded by J. Wallace to award the 2 ½ year contract to the Boys & Girls Club. The motion was approved 5-0.

N. Release of Executive Session Minutes

This item was tabled to the January meeting.

O. Committee Liaison Reports

M. Fiore reported that it is hoped that the website new design will be ready by the end of January.

P. School Building Committee

Nicole Nial reported:

- The next School Building Committee is scheduled for Monday, December 12.
- A community forum will be held on December 13 at 6:30 P.M. to discuss the project, where it's at and what to expect at the special town meeting on January 11.

- A Tri-Board meeting will be held on December 20
- The new high school is scheduled to open the fall of 2024
- Still hopeful that some help will come from the state or MSBA

Q. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Ljungberg reported on:

- Met with SEPAC officers to discuss updates with staffing and ways to support each other
- Received \$1,000,000 federal grant split three ways with Wakefield and Melrose. The grant will be used to stop school violence and allow us to hire a full time school adjustment counselor to work with kids dealing with domestic violence.
- Parent conferences are ongoing
- The Governor has signed a bill for \$1.3 million in capital funds earmarked for the school building project.
- School Safety Night will take place on December 7.
- The Boston Bruins announced Ashley Puopolo, STEM teacher at Central Middle School, as their teacher of the month.

R. Discussion/Correspondence/New Items

None

S. EXECUTIVE SESSION

ACTION: A motion was made J. Wallace and seconded by M. Fiore to enter into Executive Session per MGL Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(3): To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call at 8:31 P.M.

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED
DAVID LJUNGBERG, SUPERINTENDENT**

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

JANUARY 12, 2023

A meeting of the School Committee was held at 7:00 P.M. on Thursday, January 12, 2023 at the Central Middle School Media Center with the following members present: David Maurer, Chair, M. Fiore, Jaime Wallace, Betty Pryor and Nicole Nial. Also present was David Ljungberg, Superintendent and Kathy Martin, Assistant Superintendent.

Chair D. Maurer called the meeting of the School Committee to order at 7:00 P.M. and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

A. Approval of Minutes

ACTION: A motion was made by J. Wallace and seconded by M. Fiore to approve the minutes of December 1, 2022. The motion was approved 4-0.

ACTION: A motion was made J. Wallace and seconded by M. Fiore to approve the Executive Session minutes of December 1, 2022, December 8, 2022 and December 20, 2022 to remain confidential. M. Fiore corrected the minutes of December 20, 2022 to show that D. Ljungberg was present at the meeting, not remote. The motion was approved 4-0.

B. Public Comment

None

N. Nial joined the meeting at 7:06 P.M.

C. Student Representatives – Sydney Vallone and Maddie DiLeo

Sydney Vallone introduced Maddie DiLeo as the junior representative and reported on winter sports, second quarter ending and midterms.

Maddie DiLeo reported on Drama Club, Yearbook Club, and MFA Field Trip.

D. Financial: Consideration of Warrant

ACTION: A motion was made by N. Nial and seconded by J. Wallace to approve Warrant #2324 in the amount of \$303,964.96. The motion was approved 3-0-2 with B. Pryor and M. Fiore abstaining.

ACTION: A motion was made by B. Pryor and seconded by M. Fiore to approve Warrant #2326 in the amount of \$504,191.53. The motion was approved 5-0.

E. Public Hearing: FY24 School Budget

Superintendent Ljungberg reviewed the FY24 Budget Presentation that was presented at the last meeting noting that 5.3% of the requested 7.4% increase is due to fixed costs.

M. Fiore reported that she, J. Wallace and Superintendent Ljungberg met with Senator Lewis to discuss school funding and the financial challenges.

Chair D. Maurer opened the Public Hearing at 7:18 P.M. Hearing no public comment, the Chair closed the meeting at 7:19 P.M.

F. Old Central School – Status of Chimneys

Marcia Wengen and Dolly Wilson, Co-Chairs of the Historical Society, were present at the meeting to discuss the repair or demolition of the deteriorating chimneys at the old Central School. They reported that the Town is in the process of writing a preservation plan that will open up grants. They have contacted Joe Gerrier and received quotes to repair with historical bricks, reusing any current bricks wherever possible, as well as a quote to take down to the roof level and rebuild.

The Committee agreed to hold off on any decision until they can come back with more information in February.

G. Policy 6-31 Observations of Special Education Programs – Second Reading

ACTION: A motion was made by M. Fiore and seconded by J. Wallace to waive the second reading of Policy 6-31. The motion was approved 5-0.

ACTION: A motion was made by J. Wallace and seconded by M. Fiore to approve the revisions to Policy 6-31. The motion was approved 5-0.

H. Preschool Program

Superintendent Ljungberg presented comparative preschool tuition rates from surrounding towns and private school rates and recommended increasing the tuition to \$8,247 to cover current costs. This will put us in the middle of comparative towns. Mr. Ljungberg also proposed a late fee rate of \$25.00.

ACTION: A motion was made by J. Wallace and seconded by M. Fiore to increase the preschool tuition rate to \$8,247 and to institute a late charge of \$25.00. The motion was approved 5-0.

Superintendent Ljungberg also reviewed the registration timeline for preschool. Information will be posted on our website.

I. Feasibility Study: South School Parking and Playground Area

Superintendent Ljungberg reviewed the South School parking and playground area feasibility study and was excited to announce that the design phase is under way.

J. Unipay Gift Account for SHINE Program

Superintendent Ljungberg requested consideration to open a gift account for the SHINE program. Students are creating and selling their own all-occasion art work and need an account to deposit this money.

ACTION: A motion was made by J. Wallace and seconded by B. Pryor to approve opening a gift account for the SHINE program. The motion was approved 5-0.

K. School Calendar 2023-2024

Superintendent Ljungberg presented a draft calendar for school year 2023-2024:

- Consider Friday before holiday break, December 22, as a full day off.
- Consider changing Good Friday from a half day to a full day of school – it is currently the only day off with religious affiliation.

There are a number of things the district is trying to implement that require training and are looking at additional professional development times, including 1:00 early release days. K. Martin is researching our time-on-learning and will have more information available at the next meeting.

J. Wallace also requested for consideration for making Halloween an early release day for all students and staff.

The calendar will be brought back to the next meeting for consideration.

L. Release of Executive Session Minutes

Chair Maurer informed the Committee that he and J. Wallace have reviewed Executive Session minutes from July 2015 through August 2021 and is recommending releasing 26 of the 38 sets of minutes. With no objection from the Committee, the Chair release the minutes.

M. Committee Liaison Reports

None

N. School Building Committee

N. Nial thanked the Town for approving the additional funding of 24.9 million dollars to keep the project moving forward and on schedule. The next Building Committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 23, 2023.

O. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Ljungberg reported on the following:

- Thanked the Boys & Girls Club for babysitting services during the Special Town Meeting.
- NEASC Report: Received letter dated December 19th regarding the five-year progress report and all recommended improvements have been completed. Once the high school is built in 2024, we can submit that report and be fully accredited.
- Senator Lewis met with high school students to engage them with the legislative progress
- Elevator is in disrepair at the Central Middle School. Mr. Sallee has moved classrooms for students who have that need.
- Students at high school Stoneham Connections Council have introduced Stoneham Stands campaign to stand against hate crimes and discrimination and have created wristbands to show united stance against hate and bigotry.

P. Discussion/Correspondence/New Items

None

Q. EXECUTIVE SESSION

ACTION: A motion was made J. Wallace and seconded by M. Fiore to enter into Executive Session per MGL Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(3): To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call at 8:23 P.M.

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED
DAVID LJUNGBERG, SUPERINTENDENT**

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

JANUARY 26, 2023

A meeting of the School Committee was held at 7:00 P.M. on Thursday, January 26, 2023 at the Central Middle School Media Center with the following members present: Melanie Fiore, Vice Chair, Jaime Wallace (joined remote at 8:35 P.M.) Betty Pryor and Nicole Nial. Also present was David Ljungberg, Superintendent and Kathy Martin, Assistant Superintendent.

Vice Chair M. Fiore called the meeting of the School Committee to order at 7:00 P.M. and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

A. Approval of Minutes

Vice Chair M. Fiore tabled the minutes of January 12, 2023 to the February meeting.

ACTION: A motion was made N. Nial and seconded by B. Pryor to approve the Executive Session minutes of January 12, 2023 to remain confidential. The motion was approved 3-0.

B. Public Comment

Erin Alarcon, Co-Chair of SEPAC, voiced parent concerns over the absence of a 5TH grade mathematics/science teacher at the Central Middle School and the impact this has had on students, especially students on an IEP.

Superintendent Ljungberg thanked Ms. Alarcon for voicing the concern of parents. The position has been posted for more than 60 days and we had one applicant who did not work out. The position has been reposted with an offer for a sign-on bonus and premium pay. We have also contacted area colleges looking for recent graduates and solicited the community who may know someone interested. We are aware of the inconsistencies and are working hard to make up those gaps.

C. Student Representatives – Sydney Vallone and Maddie DiLeo

Sydney Vallone reported on clubs and activities that are in full swing. The Drama Club is rehearsing for their festival *I Never Saw Another Butterfly*.

Maddie DiLeo reported on athletics, midterms, the start of semester two, National Honor Society and the Peer Tutoring Lab.

D. John and Abigail Adams Scholarship

Superintendent Ljungberg was proud to recognize this year's recipients of the John and Abigail Adams Scholarship based on their performance on the high school MCAS tests. This four-year scholarship will be awarded upon the student's acceptance to a participating Massachusetts public institution of higher education. There were 43 students who qualified.

Paula Sampson announced the names of the high school seniors who qualified.

The Chair called for a recess at 7:22 P.M. The Committee returned to Open Session at 7:41 P.M.

E. Financial: Consideration of Warrant

ACTION: A motion was made by B. Pryor and seconded by N. Nial to approve Warrant #2322 in the amount of \$207,781.84 and Warrant #2328 in the amount of \$270,424.09. The motion was approved 3-0.

F. STEM, Humanities, and Department Goals

The following staff were present at the meeting:

- Tom Sallee, Central Middle School Principal
- Michelle Zavez, Program Supervisor of STEM, Central Middle School
- Diana DePaolis, Program Supervisor of Humanities at Central Middle School
- Bryan Lombardi (remote), High School Principal
- Paula Sampson, Program Supervisor of Humanities, High School
- Mike Luyet, Program Supervisor of STEM, High School

Program Supervisors gave an update on the restructure of the program supervisors from Grades 5-12 to Grades 5-8 and 9-12. This restructure put full time program supervisors at both the Central Middle School and the High School.

Both principals and supervisors reported that they were happy with the way the structure is working:

- Core group of leadership at the middle school
- Teachers are happy for the connection between the grades and are able to connect with different content
- Supervisors are more accessible and able to support teachers and work with the principal to build initiatives and joint plans across the school
- Role is more manageable and able to make priorities in the building
- At high school, supervisors work with department heads and this has broken down department walls and offers a more inclusive instruction

G. High School Program of Studies

Principal Lombardi highlighted the updates to the High School Program of Studies:

Change levels of instruction to:

College Preparatory (CP): These courses feature structured, scaffolded instruction to allow for more individual attention and foster academic independence. These courses provide a learning environment which supports foundational work and helps students strengthen college and career readiness skills.

Advanced College Preparatory (ACP): These are career and college preparatory courses which include increasing independence on inquiry, problem solving, critical thinking and reading and writing within each content area. ACP courses offer academic preparation for students planning to further their education beyond high school in two or four year college programs.

Honors (HON): These are more rigorous college preparatory courses in which materials taught are at an accelerated pace. Students are expected to work more independently on inquiry, problem solving, critical thinking and reading and writing within each content area. These courses provide a strong foundation for future studies in each field.

Advanced Placement (AP): These courses are conducted at a standard comparable to college work. Courses are rigorous and materials taught are at an accelerated pace and greater depth. Students work independently on inquiry, problem solving, critical thinking and reading and writing within each content area. These courses offer students the opportunity to take college level courses and exams in high school and earn college credit, advanced placement, or both at many colleges and universities in the U.S. and

around the world. Students taking AP courses are expected to take the Advanced Placement test for the content area of their course in May. The cost of each test is determined and published by the College Board.

Change prerequisite grades for advancement to upper level courses:

From: Specific grade A-/B-, etc.

To: Successful completion 70/C- or higher

Change elective course levels:

From: CP, ACP, Honors, AP (if offered)

To: ACP, Honors, AP (if offered)

ACTION: A motion was made by N. Nial to approve the Program of Studies with gender neutral changes and seconded by B. Pryor with updates to the Table of Content. The motion was approved 3-0.

H. Be SMART for Kids – Safe gun Storage – Erin Kennedy

Erin Kennedy presented a slide show on the Be Smart program and the life-savings effects of secure firearm storage, parents' legal responsibilities to follow MA secure firearm storage laws, and talking to your children about guns.

Ms. Kennedy asked that school districts take a stronger role in raising awareness within the school community and requested that the committee pass a Secure Storage Notification Resolution that would reflect the schools' commitment to helping prevent the tragedies that occur with unauthorized, unsupervised children and teens gain access to unsecured, loaded guns.

The committee thanked them for presenting and said that they would review the information.

J. Wallace joined the meeting remotely at 8:35 P.M.

I. Vote on FY24 School Budget

Superintendent Ljungberg reviewed the FY24 Budget Proposal that was presented at the January 12, 2023 Public Hearing. The total budget proposal is \$34,481,811.29 which is an increase of \$2,381,391 (7.4%) over the FY23 Budget. This increase includes all fixed costs, step increases, contractual obligations and out of district tuition increases. It also includes minimal additional requests/changes to help with day to day operations. The Superintendent requested approval from the Committee on the total recommended budget.

ACTION: A motion was made by J. Wallace and seconded by B. Pryor to approve FY24 Budget with a 7.4% increase that includes 5.3% fixed costs for a total of \$34,481,811.29. The motion was approved 4-0 by roll call.

J. Vote on School Choice

Superintendent Ljungberg stated that the Committee must vote on this as required under Massachusetts General Law Chapter 76, Section 12B(d), and recommended that the Committee vote to reject school choice for 2023-2024 due to high enrollment numbers.

ACTION: A motion was made by J. Wallace and seconded by N. Nial to reject School Choice for 2023-2024. The motion was approved by roll call 4-0.

K. Rental Fees

J. Wallace reported that she is working with Leia Secor, David Pignone and Stoneham Recreation to review and update the current rental fees. The current fees do not cover the costs and they hope to have a recommendation at the February meeting.

L. Enrollment Update

Superintendent Ljungberg reviewed the most recent elementary enrollments as of January 23rd. Back in October, the committee closed enrollment at Robin Hood and students were shifted to other buildings. South School currently has the highest numbers in kindergarten; Colonial Park and Robin Hood are much lower. Colonial Park numbers have been stable but South School has the largest increase and we will need to reopen the enrollment at Robin Hood for kindergarten. Superintendent Ljungberg added that he will be meeting the Principal Weymer and the Robin Hood special education staff.

M. NESDEC Special Education Report

Superintendent Ljungberg reviewed the NESDEC Special Education Report that includes special education trends, including number of students receiving services, and expenditures from 2015 through the beginning of this school year.

N. School Calendar 2023-2024

Assistant Superintendent K. Martin reviewed the revised school calendar that adds the Friday before winter break, December 22, as a full day off and Good Friday as a full day of school. She is currently reviewing Time on Learning to add additional professional development days. The calendar will be brought back to the committee for approval at a future meeting.

O. Committee Liaison Reports

J. Wallace reported the SEPAC survey results are out and are available on the SEPAC Facebook page.

P. Construction Updates

Superintendent Ljungberg reported that blasting has taken place this week at the High School project and will continue through next Monday and Tuesday.

In reply to an email that was sent to the committee regarding the parking at the high school, Superintendent Ljungberg outlined the parking situation: Any senior eligible to drive were offered first choice and 152 spots were assigned. The rest were opened to juniors. The parking area needs space for 18 wheelers and emergency vehicles so additional lines cannot be painted. Mr. Lombardi will survey the students to see if all seniors are using their spots.

Q. School Building Committee

N. Nial reported that, due to weather conditions, the Building Committee met virtually Monday night and thanked the community for their support in approving an additional 24.9 million dollars to cover overages. The next meeting is scheduled for February 13th.

R. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Ljungberg reported on the following:

- Leak at Central Middle School Grade 5 bathroom is coming from the roof and not from students urinating on the floor as rumored. Custodians routinely check the bathroom and mop when necessary.
- Soap dispensers were on backorder but are now on the way. These had to be replaced when students were pulling them off the wall after watching TikTok.
- The elevator at the Central Middle School has been fixed. It took over a month due to specialized parts
- HVAC maintenance pump is leaking at South School and will cost \$8,000 to fix
- LED lights will be installed at all schools thanks to a green communities' grant.

S. Discussion/Correspondence/New Items

None

T. EXECUTIVE SESSION

ACTION: A motion was made J. Wallace and seconded by N. Nial to enter into Executive Session per MGL Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(3): To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call at 10:00 P.M.

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED
DAVID LJUNGBERG, SUPERINTENDENT**

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

FEBRUARY 9, 2023

A meeting of the School Committee was held at 7:00 P.M. on Thursday, February 9, 2023 at the Central Middle School Media Center with the following members present: David Maurer, Chair, Melanie Fiore, Jaime Wallace and Betty Pryor. Also present was David Ljungberg, Superintendent, Kathy Martin, Assistant Superintendent and Leia Secor, Director of Finance.

Chair D. Maurer called the meeting of the School Committee to order at 7:03 P.M. and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

A. Approval of Minutes

ACTION: A motion was made J. Wallace and seconded by B. Pryor to approve the minutes of January 12, 2023. The motion was approved 4-0.

ACTION: A motion was made J. Wallace and seconded by B. Pryor to approve the minutes of January 26, 2023. The motion was approved 4-0.

ACTION: A motion was made J. Wallace and seconded by B. Pryor to approve the Executive Session minutes of January 26, 2023 to remain confidential. The motion was approved 4-0.

B. Public Comment

None

C. Student Representatives – Sydney Vallone and Maddie DiLeo

Sydney Vallone reported on flex enrichments and the Drama Club's production of *I Never Saw Another Butterfly* for the Drama Festival on Saturday, March 5th.

Maddie DiLeo reported on winter sports and juniors preparing for college selections. Students are looking forward to February break.

D. Financial: Consideration of Warrant

ACTION: A motion was made by J. Wallace and seconded by M. Fiore to approve Warrant #2330 in the amount of \$343,393.71. The motion was approved 4-0.

Leia Secor reported on the status of the FY23 Expense Budget that included Cost Center, Budget, YTD Expended, Purchase Orders and Available Balance totaling (\$84,415), pending ESSER transfer of \$100,000 for a projected end of the year balance of \$20,000 if the current budget freeze continues.

The Payroll Budget total available is \$12,870,630. The elementary line item is in the negative due to a coding error that will be remedied and corrected in the next update. The Town is working to encumber the payroll on Munis.

E. Old Central School Chimneys – Marcia Wengen

Tabled to the March 2, 2023 meeting

F. Booster Club Carnival – David Pignone

D. Pignone requested approval for the Booster Club Carnival to be held again at the Central Middle School. No damage to the field was reported last year. They are looking at tentative dates of July 7-9.

ACTION: A motion was made by J. Wallace and seconded by B. Pryor to approve the tentative dates of July 7-9 for the Booster Club Carnival to be held at the Central Middle School, pending all necessary paperwork. The motion was approved 4-0.

G. Athletics – David Pignone

D. Pignone requested a Grade 8 waiver for softball. Last year about 14 girls signed up with the 8th grade waiver and it was first time playing for some of them. It will be a JV program only this year with the hopes to get the skill level back up and return to Varsity next year.

ACTION: A motion was made by J. Wallace and seconded by M. Fiore to approve an 8th grade waiver for softball. The motion was approved 4-0.

D. Pignone also gave an update on the following sports:

- Tennis: Due to the High School construction, there are no tennis courts. Wakefield and Woburn have offered the use of their courts which would put practice time around 5:00 or 5:30 P.M. Players would meet at the High School and take the mini bus. All meets would be away.
- Track: The state is no longer accepting hand timing and making a push for electronic timing. All meets will be held at neutral sites within the league. Burlington, Reading and Winchester are the neutral sites. Practices will be at our track.

H. Athletic Clinics

D. Pignone reported that in the past, clinics were run by the head coaches and it was up to the coach what to charge and the number of times they would meet. He is working on a consistent charge and putting a process in place for the spring.

I. Rental Fees

J. Wallace reported that she met with Leia Secor several times to review the current rental fees that have not been updated since 2014. The current fees do not cover the costs and the proposed fees still do not cover the costs.

Brian Blumsack from the Stoneham Recreation Department reported that they oversee 9 fields and courts and charge on a per season basis. The Little League completes a permit for each field and is currently charged \$100 for each field for the season. They are considering increasing this to \$150.

J. Wallace proposed that we charge our youth groups the same rate as the town for the use of the gyms and fields, plus continue to charge the custodian fees. According to the current policy, we do not charge youth groups for use of gyms/fields.

The proposed fees are as follows:

ADDENDUM #1

STONEHAM PUBLIC SCHOOLS' FACILITY RENTAL FEE STRUCTURE

Any Stoneham Youth Groups in existence for the betterment of the youth of Stoneham will only be charged a Permit fee of \$150 per season, per agreed upon space and or field. However, as noted in the regulations, all groups may be assessed a custodial fee in accordance with contractual rates.

FEES	HOURLY RATE (MIN. 2 HOURS)
<u>A. PRIVATE GROUPS</u>	
<u>Schools</u>	
All classrooms	\$30.00
Gymnasiums (exclusive of gymnastics)	\$100.00
Auditorium	\$100.00
Cafeteria	\$60.00
Weight room	\$60.00
Parking lot	\$75.00
Lighted Track or Stadium	\$300.00
Fields	\$100.00

Seasonal discounts may be negotiated upon request.

*Revised 06.19.08
Revised 03.11.10
Revised 03.06.14
Revised 02.09.23*

The Committee agreed to review the fees annually.

ACTION: A motion was made by M. Fiore and seconded by B. Pryor to accept the rental fee schedule. The motion was approved 4-0.

J. MCAS Update

Superintendent Ljungberg gave an overview of the 2022 MCAS scores that included:

- History of last few years
- Important considerations: last two years have not been normal. Absent rates were quite severe, this year's data will be new baseline moving forward.
- 2022 MCAS summary notes: mixed results compared with 2021 scores.
- 2019-2022 ELA MCAS results by grade span and grade
- 2022 ELA MCAS results by race/ethnicity
- 2019 -2022 Mathematics MCAS results by grade
- 2022 Mathematics MCAS results by race/ethnicity
- 2019-2022 Science/Technology/Engineering results by grade
- Student absenteeism remains a challenge for recovery efforts
- Action Steps
 - Adoption of new assessment system
 - Realignment of all school improvement plan goals to students needs
 - New and additional training and supports for PK-12 educations (UDL, Science of reading and assessment frameworks

- Implementation of responsive classroom, SEL supports
- Use of grand funds to support additional interventionists, social and emotional supports
- Ongoing data meetings and refined student support team process
- Additional support/planning time for teachers
- WIN blocks
- Ongoing challenges
 - Extreme high levels of need
 - High rates of Special Education referrals
 - Educators all working extremely hard
- Resources/More Information

J. Wallace asked if we had received a MCAS Survey from DESE to distribute to families. Superintendent Ljungberg replied that we received the MCAS Survey from DESE on January 17 but no special attention was played to it, we were not asked to share it out and it was only open for about 10 days. Had it been marked special attention, we definitely would have shared it.

K. Hill Literacy

Assistant Superintendent Kathy Martin reported on the partnership between HILL Literacy and Stoneham Public Schools that is funded through ESSER funds. The presentation included:

- What does the HILL do?
- Learning targets
- Needs assessment process
- Needs assessment purpose
- Leadership Structures: Distributed Leadership Team
- School-Wide Systems for Student Success
- Continuum of Reading Skills
- Methods
- Inventories
- Types of Assessment
- Program Inventory
- Professional Learning History
- Classroom walkthroughs
- Interview Questions
- Strategic Literacy
- HILL for Literacy Priority Goals and Strategic Plan Focus Areas

A discussion followed regarding trainings and professional development.

L. Waiver of Policy 8-21 Substitute Teachers

Due to a shortage of substitutes, Superintendent Ljungberg requested an extension of a waiver for Policy 8-21 Substitute Teachers that states substitute teachers shall hold a Baccalaureate degree from an accredited institution of higher learning and shall be certified and be at least 21 years of age. The waiver was originally granted for the 2021-2022 school year and applies to grades K-8 only.

ACTION: A motion was made by J. Wallace and seconded by M. Fiore to approve the waiver of Policy 8-21 for the 2022-2023 school year. The motion was approved 4-0.

M. School Department Annual Report 2021-2022

Superintendent Ljungberg requested approval of the School Department's 2021-2022 Annual Report that needs to be submitted to the Town. The Committee requested additional information be added

to the Robin Hood section and that the Athletic participation numbers be revised to reflect the actual number of participants.

N. Committee Liaison Reports

None

O. School Building Committee

None

P. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Ljungberg reported the following:

- SMMA Group met with Department Heads to talk about upcoming opportunities that include Cap Stone programs and job shadowing opportunities for students.
- High School and Central Middle School have qualified for robotics regionals.
- High School generator failure, cannot be repaired. Have a rental generator and have contacted MIIA to see if we can file a claim.
- Close to hiring a very strong candidate for the vacant long-term substitute Grade 5 math and science teacher.
- Professional Development early release day Friday, February 17.
- Big turnout for kindergarten registration night.
- Carnival Ball survey closed today. Will share data when available.
- Day on the Hill – May 4

Q. Discussion/Correspondence/New Items

J. Wallace: Colonial Park, South School and Robin Hood annual trivia night will take place on March 5; World Down Syndrome Day is April 21, working on "rock your socks" drive to raise money.

M. Fiore: SBCEF Trivia Bee will take place on March 31 at Robin Hood School.

R. EXECUTIVE SESSION

ACTION: A motion was made J. Wallace and seconded by M. Fiore to enter into Executive Session per MGL Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(3): To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call at 9:25 P.M.

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED
DAVID LJUNGBERG, SUPERINTENDENT**

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

MARCH 2, 2023

A meeting of the School Committee was held at 7:00 P.M. on Thursday, March 2, 2023 at the Central Middle School Media Center with the following members present: David Maurer, Chair, Jaime Wallace, Nicole Nial and Betty Pryor. Also present was David Ljungberg, Superintendent and Kathy Martin, Assistant Superintendent.

Chair D. Maurer called the meeting of the School Committee to order at 7:05 P.M. and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

A. Approval of Minutes

ACTION: A motion was made J. Wallace and seconded by B. Pryor to approve the minutes of February 9, 2023 as revised. The motion was approved 3-0-1 with N. Nial abstaining.

ACTION: A motion was made J. Wallace and seconded by B. Pryor to approve the Executive Session minutes of February 9, 2023 to remain confidential. The motion was approved 3-0-1 with N. Nial abstaining.

B. Public Comment

None

C. Student Representatives – Sydney Vallone and Maddie DiLeo

None

D. Financial: Consideration of Warrant

ACTION: A motion was made by J. Wallace and seconded by B. Pryor to approve Warrant #2334 in the amount of \$768,302.17. The motion was approved 4-0.

E. Old Central School Chimneys – Marcia Wengen

Tabled to the April meeting

F. Be Smart – Resolution for Consideration

As a follow-up to last month's presentation, Superintendent Ljungberg presented a model resolution for consideration. J. Wallace read the resolution.

After discussion, the Committee agreed to amend the resolution by deleting that it would be included in the student handbooks and that the Superintendent would create and send communication to parents and guardians explaining the importance of secure firearm storage as the Committee felt it was not their purview.

ACTION: A motion was made by N. Nial and seconded by B. Pryor to approve the resolution as amended. The motion was approved 4-0.

**Resolution on the Safe Storage of Firearms
Stoneham Public Schools**

One of the Stoneham Public School District's highest priorities is school safety. While we focus on all areas of safety, this particular resolution has a focus on gun violence prevention through the leadership of the district, information sharing, empowerment, and education of our school community.

The Stoneham Public School District is aware that in the United States, gun violence is the leading cause of death in children and teens.¹ An estimated 4.6 million American children live in households with at least one loaded, unlocked firearm² and every year, roughly 350 children under the age of 18 unintentionally shoot themselves or someone else.³ That's about one unintentional shooting per day, and 70 percent of these incidents take place inside a home.⁴ Another 1200 children and teens die by gun suicide each year,⁵ and over 80 percent of children under age 18 who died by firearm suicide used a gun belonging to a family member.⁶ Research shows that secure firearm storage practices are associated with up to a 78 percent reduction in the risk of self-inflicted firearm injuries and up to an 85 percent reduction in the risk of unintentional firearm injuries among children and teens.⁷ In incidents of gun violence on school grounds, the US Secret Service found that 76 percent of shooters under age 18 acquired their firearm from the home of a parent, or that of relatives or friends.⁸

Whereas, Safety and well-being of our students, teachers, and staff is a top priority of Stoneham Public Schools and keeping them safe from the threat of gun violence should be the responsibility of all adult stakeholders at each of our school sites;

Whereas, Evidence strongly suggests that secure firearm storage is an essential component to any effective strategy to keep schools and students safe;

Whereas, The US Secret Service National Threat Assessment Center recommends the importance of appropriate storage of weapons because many school attackers used firearms acquired from their homes;

Whereas, Across the country, lawmakers, community members and local leaders are working together to implement public awareness campaigns, such as the Be SMART Program, which is endorsed by the National PTA and encourages secure gun storage practices and highlights the public safety risks of unsecured guns;

Whereas, Secure storage of firearms is a legal requirement in Massachusetts pursuant to G.L. Chapter 140, sections 131L and 131C, and failure to comply with secure storage laws can lead to criminal prosecution, jail time, fines, and/or revocation of FID card or license, depending on the offense;

Whereas, the American Academy of Pediatrics recommends storing firearms unloaded and locked, with ammunition locked separately to reduce risks of injury to children;⁹

Whereas, in order to continue with preventive measures to increase student and school safety we must act now; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the School Committee and the Superintendent will continue to work with local law enforcement agencies, health agencies and non-profit organizations to collaborate and increase efforts to inform District parents and guardians of their obligations regarding secure storage of firearms in their homes and vehicles.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Stoneham School Committee on this second day of March, 2023, by the following vote: Yeas: 4, Nays 0.

G. Residency Policy and Practice

The Committee discussed the current residency policy and the concern that families only have to show proof of residency when they first register their child(ren). It was suggested that residency should be verified every year or at the least a rolling verification so that all families are not done the same year. The Committee agreed that they would like to see a draft policy and also receive input from school secretaries.

H. Acceptance of Scholarship

Superintendent Ljungberg requested acceptance of a scholarship from the Stoneham Alumni Mentor Program (STAMP) for two \$1,000 annual scholarships to a senior pursuing higher education. The name of the scholarship will be *The STAMP Scholarship*.

ACTION: A motion was made by N. Nial and seconded by B. Pryor to accept The STAMP Scholarship that will provide two \$1,000 scholarships to a senior pursuing higher education. The motion was approved 4-0.

I. Approval of Proposal for Policy Manual Development

Superintendent Ljungberg requested approval of a proposal from MASC for Policy Manual Development. Some policies have not been updated in over 20 years and this would create a well-organized up-to-date manual, looking at all M.G.L. and cross referencing to our policies. The cost would be \$3,500 a year for three years with the first payment due next fiscal year.

ACTION: A motion was made by J. Wallace and seconded by N. Nial to approve the proposal from MASC for Policy Manual Development at a total cost of \$10,500. The motion was approved 4-0.

J. School Calendar 2023-2024 – For Discussion/Approval

Superintendent Ljungberg reported that an internal audit found that we are well above the 900 elementary and 990 secondary time on learning hours and proposed adding an additional 6 early release days for professional development. The proposed dates are September 29, October 27, December 15, January 26, March 29 and April 26, in addition to the four other dates already set. It was noted that March 29 is Good Friday and it would change it from a half day to a full day for staff. Superintendent Ljungberg said that we have not surveyed the community and thought that this would be important before setting the professional development half days.

The Committee agree to approve the calendar with the exception of the professional development half days.

ACTION: A motion was made by J. Wallace and seconded by B. Pryor to approve the school calendar for 2023-2024 for staff start date, school opening, winter break, February break, April break, federal holidays, school committee dates and conference dates. The motion was approved 4-0.

K. School Department Annual Report 2021-2022 - Approval

ACTION: A motion was made by J. Wallace and seconded by B. Pryor to approve the 2021-2022 Annual Report for the school department. The motion was approved 4-0.

L. Carnival Ball Discussion

The Committee reviewed the survey results for the Carnival Ball. Although the responses were very low, the ones that responded were overwhelmingly in favor of continuing the Carnival Ball tradition.

J. Wallace read a letter from Adam Craigie in favor of keeping the Carnival Ball and George Siebold read a statement, also in favor of keeping the tradition alive.

The Committee agreed to create a subcommittee that would include community members, school representatives and students – perhaps one student from each class, the four class advisors and 4 community members.

M. New Date for June 2023 School Committee Meeting

Superintendent Ljungberg requested consideration to move the June 8 School Committee meeting to Monday, June 12 due to a personal commitment that would be difficult to change.

ACTION: A motion was made by J. Wallace and seconded by B. Pryor to change the June 8 meeting to June 12. The motion was approved 4-0.

N. SHS Class Photo Collages

The Committee discussed the disposition of the Class Photo Collages that have been displayed in the cafeteria hallway. Some classes are missing and some have been damaged. It was suggested that we reach out to all classes to see if they want to take custody of them.

ACTION: A motion was made by N. Nial and seconded by J. Wallace to allow classes to take possession of their collages. The motion was approved 4-0.

O. Committee Liaison Reports

Superintendent Ljungberg reported that the website was officially changed over this afternoon. M. Fiore will give an update at the next meeting.

P. School Building Committee

N. Nial reported that they have a district offices meeting scheduled with April Lanni on March 8 to do an RFP for site and redesign. The next meeting of the Building Committee is set for March 20.

Superintendent Ljungberg reported that there will be a kick off meeting with the architectural design team to provide an overview of the process now through November 23 regarding furniture and fixtures for the new building.

Q. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Ljungberg reported on the following:

- The current high school continues to be a money pit. There are now 3 science lab classes where it was raining inside – a lot of clean-up had to be done this morning. Mr. McNeill checked the roof this morning and said that it was completely deteriorated.
- The State of MA reached out to us on the \$50,000 mental health grant saying they were so impressed that they established an additional \$39,000 for us. The paperwork needs to be submitted by 5:00 tomorrow.

Assistant Superintendent Martin reported that she has been working with Melrose and Wakefield on the Stop School Violence Grant. The adjustment counselor hired for Stoneham will be starting next week and will work with staff and students and providing some professional development.

R. Discussion/Correspondence/New Items

J. Wallace: Colonial Park, South School and Robin Hood annual trivia night will take place at the Lord Hobo. World Down Syndrome Day is March 21, students are working on a “rock your socks” drive to raise money.

N. Nial requested all staff be formally invited to attend the high school graduation and, if they so choose, order a cap and gown.

S. EXECUTIVE SESSION

ACTION: A motion was made J. Wallace and seconded by N. Nial to enter into Executive Session per MGL Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(3): To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call at 8:48 P.M.

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED
DAVID LJUNGBERG, SUPERINTENDENT**

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

MARCH 16, 2023

A meeting of the School Committee was held at 7:00 P.M. on Thursday, March 16, 2023 at the Central Middle School Media Center with the following members present: David Maurer, Chair, Melanie Fiore, Jaime Wallace, Nicole Nial and Betty Pryor. Also present was David Ljungberg, Superintendent and Kathy Martin, Assistant Superintendent.

Chair D. Maurer called the meeting of the School Committee to order at 7:00 P.M. and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

A. Approval of Minutes

ACTION: A motion was made M. Fiore and seconded by J. Wallace to table the minutes of March 2, 2023. The motion was approved 5-0.

B. Public Comment

Megan Samborski gave a statement on behalf of the Alliance Against Violence in support of the resolution approved by the School Committee at their March 2, 2023 meeting regarding the safe storage of firearms.

C. Student Representatives – Sydney Vallone and Maddie DiLeo

None

D. Special Presentation of the School Committee

The Committee presented David Maurer with a captain's chair and gavel in recognition of his 15 years on the School Committee.

Chair Maurer called for a recess at 7:10 P.M. and returned to open session at 7:25 P.M.

E. Consideration/Acceptance of Scholarship

Superintendent Ljungberg requested acceptance of four \$4,000 scholarships from the estate of Mary E. Fitzgerald. These scholarships will be awarded to high school seniors who wish to attend a state funded school in Massachusetts and are committed to studying education and teaching. This gift is in memory of her late husband Richard Fitzgerald and the name of the scholarships will be *The Richard Fitzgerald Memorial Scholarship*.

F. SEPAC Update: Survey Results

Kyla Malladi and Courtney Shirley from SEPAC gave an update that included:

- MGL Section 3, Chapter 71B
- SEPAC Needs Assessments
- SEPAC Caregiver Survey – Data collected September to November 2022:
 - 35% of respondents do not feel like a valued member of the team.
 - 55% of respondents worry about retaliation
 - 50% of respondents are not pleased with the quality of services received.

- 70% of respondents feel educators are not given appropriate support and professional development.
- Communication continues to be the top problem voiced by parents during SEPAC meetings.

A discussion followed and SEPAC and the School Committee agreed that, because of the very low number of respondents, a new survey should be created with a larger pool of all special education parents. The Special Education Department and SEPAC will work collaboratively on the survey questions. The survey should go out by May 1 and the data will be available to both SEPAC and the Special Education Department.

G. Residency Policy and Practice: First Reading

B. Pryor gave a first reading of Policy 9-17.2 Registration and Residency that changes providing proof of residency from *when the student is enrolled* to *when the student is enrolled and each year after*.

The policy will be brought back at the next meeting for a second reading/approval.

H. Committee Liaison Reports

M. Fiore reported that the new website is up and running.

D. Maurer reported that a press release will be going out soon regarding the establishment of a Carnival Ball Committee.

I. School Building Committee

N. Nial reported that the next School Building Committee is scheduled for March 20.

J. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Ljungberg reported on the following:

- High School Project: Steel has arrived, cranes are on site and the structure is going up fast.
- High School Social Studies special program on Holocaust Survivors.
- Anti-Bigotry training in May for Superintendents and Athletic Directors.
- Facilities Update: White hallway – 3 classrooms/labs are completely unusable. Due to the danger of mold forming, all fixtures and walls need to be taken down and aired out. Adjuster is coming out but not sure what will be covered.
- Negotiation Update: Have reached a tentative agreement with the ESP Unit.
- Munis System: Town is running a version that does not let us encumber payroll. Leia Secor is going through this line by line.
- FY24 Budget: Looking at several scenarios to balance the budget. Will need to cut 1.5 million if the governor's budget does not go through.
- The school calendar for 2023-2024 is approved and has been made public. Early release days are still being finalized.
- Kindergarten enrollment update: South/44, Robin Hood/58, Colonial Park/43. We are getting near capacity at Colonial Park and are watching the numbers carefully.
- Early Intervention has 17 children in the pipeline that are turning 3 years old. Preschool is at capacity.
- Congratulations to Joey Clapp who is turning 22 and will be moving on. Joey has been with us since preschool and will now be the first to move on from our SHINE program.

K. Discussion/Correspondence/New Items

D. Maurer reminded the community that the SBCEF Trivia Night will take place on March 31.

L. EXECUTIVE SESSION

ACTION: A motion was made by M. Fiore and seconded by J. Wallace to enter into Executive Session per MGL Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(3): To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call at 8:43 P.M

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED
DAVID LJUNGBERG, SUPERINTENDENT**

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
MARCH 27, 2023

A meeting of the School Committee was held at 6:00 P.M. on Monday, March 27, 2023 at the Central Middle School Media Center with the following members present: David Maurer, Chair, Melanie Fiore, Jaime Wallace, Nicole Nial and Betty Pryor. Also present was David Ljungberg, Superintendent

Chair D. Maurer called the meeting of the School Committee to order at 6:00 P.M. and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Superintendent Ljungberg made a statement regarding the shooting that occurred today at the Covenant School in Nashville, Tennessee. If any child has questions or concerns or need help processing the news, it is important that they speak with a counselor or another trusted adult. Superintendent Ljungberg assured the community that the safety of our students is our top priority – we are constantly reviewing our security measures to ensure that we are doing everything we can to protect our students and staff.

A. Financial: Consideration of Warrant

ACTION: A motion was made by J. Wallace and seconded by B. Pryor to approve Warrant #2336 in the amount of \$448,096.35. The motion was approved 5-0.

B. Approval of Minutes

ACTION: A motion was made J. Wallace and seconded by N. Nial to approve the minutes of March 2, 2023 as revised. The motion was approved 4-0-1 with M. Fiore abstaining.

ACTION: A motion was made J. Wallace and seconded by N. Nial to approve the Executive Session minutes of March 2, 2023 to remain confidential. The motion was approved 4-0-1 with M. Fiore abstaining.

C. District Offices

Superintendent Ljungberg updated the Committee on the status of the search for relocating the district offices. He is working with April Lanni on the two options. The property at 323 Main Street is up for bid but in order to bid on this property, it would need to go to town meeting. They continue to explore other options – to rent 5500 to 7500 square feet of space would cost about \$187,000 a year which is not in the budget. The space would have to have parking and secured storage for personnel and special education student records. They have also learned that the SHINE program was not included in the plan for the High School and will need to find a new home.

D. EXECUTIVE SESSION

ACTION: A motion was made J. Wallace and seconded by M. Fiore to enter into Executive Session per MGL Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(3): To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares. The Committee will return to open session. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call at 6:23 P.M.

The Committee returned to open session at 7:07 P.M.

M. Fiore announced that the Committee has agreed to ratify the MOU with the ESP Unit. Once the ESP Unit has voted to accept the agreement, the Committee will share the MOU.

ACTION: A motion was made by J. Wallace and seconded by N. Nial to adjourn at 7:09 P.M. The motion was approved 5-0.

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED
DAVID LJUNGBERG, SUPERINTENDENT**

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

APRIL 6, 2023

A meeting of the School Committee was held at 7:00 P.M. on Thursday, April 6, 2023 at the Central Middle School Media Center with the following members present: Melanie Fiore, Acting Chair, Jaime Wallace, Nicole Nial, Betty Pryor and Megan Samborski. Also present was David Ljungberg, Superintendent and Kathy Martin, Assistant Superintendent.

Chair M. Fiore called the meeting of the School Committee to order at 7:00 P.M. and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Following the Town election, Chair Fiore welcomed new member Megan Samborski to the committee and welcomed back Nicole Nial.

A. Approval of Minutes

ACTION: A motion was made J. Wallace and seconded by B. Pryor to approve the minutes of March 16, 2023. The motion was approved 4-0-1 with M. Samborski abstaining.

ACTION: A motion was made by J. Wallace and seconded by B. Pryor to approve the minutes of March 16, 2023 Executive Session to remain confidential. The motion was approved 4-0-1 with M. Samborski abstaining.

ACTION: A motion was made J. Wallace and seconded by B. Pryor to approve the minutes of March 27, 2023. The motion was approved 4-0-1 with M. Samborski abstaining.

ACTION: A motion was made by J. Wallace and seconded by B. Pryor to approve the minutes of March 27, 2023 Executive Session to remain confidential. The motion was approved 4-0-1 with M. Samborski abstaining.

B. Public Comment

Joseph Joffe requested the committee reconsider their decision to eliminate the hybrid remote option for public participation.

C. Student Representatives – Sydney Vallone and Maddie DiLeo

Sydney Vallone reported on the following: spring sports, NYC field trip, Spring Arts Festival, junior prom, Drama Fest, rehearsals for the Drama Club's musical of *Zombie Prom*, and the beginning of quarter four.

M. Fiore moved Agenda Item E Medication Policy Review to the next agenda item.

D. Medication Policy Review – Sandra Malzone

Sandra Malzone requested approval of the routine authorization for the emergency delivery of prescription medications and epinephrine, as managed by the school nurses.

ACTION: A motion was made by N. Nial and seconded by J. Wallace to approve the application for medication delegation and administration. The motion was approved 5-0.

E. Financial: Consideration of Warrant, FY23 Budget Update, FY24 Budget Update

ACTION: A motion was made by J. Wallace and seconded by N. Nial to approve Warrant #2338 in the amount of \$326,184.43. The motion was approved 5-0.

Leia Secor reported on the status of the FY23 budget that currently shows a \$61,217 negative balance. This takes into consideration all encumbered purchase orders. We will be working over the next month to bring down the balance and are closely monitoring utilities, building maintenance and special education tuitions.

Superintendent Ljungberg gave a presentation on the FY24 Budget that included:

- Budget process
- Strategic objectives
- FY24 Budget values and norms
- Budget drivers: addressing enrollment, contract obligations, building deficiencies, rising costs of utilities, unknown special education costs, opening of new high school.
- Chapter 70 comparisons
- Budget increases over the years
- FY24 Budget: \$34,481,811 budget request, \$33,206,221 Town Administrator's recommendation. \$34,296,479 approved by Select Board based on Governor Healey's proposed budget.
- Cost increases
- FY24 best case scenario –1.5 mil in Chapter 70 aid –
- FY24 next steps
- School Committee vote on line item budget before May 1st Town Meeting.

F. Old Central School Chimneys – Marcia Wengen

Marcia Wengen, on behalf of the Historical Commission, recommended taking down 2 of the chimneys and keeping two on the old Central School. Presently, none of the chimneys are functional. The Historical Commission will apply for a grant from the Massachusetts Historical Commission Projects Fund but it will not be known until next year if the grant is awarded. Brian McNeil added that the project needs to be done within the next year or two but planning needs to be started now. The School Committee will take under consideration and let the Historical Commission know in plenty of time to apply for the grant.

G. General Education Student Support Team Process/District Curriculum Accommodation Plan

Assistant Superintendent K. Martin reviewed the General Education Student Support Team process. The SSTs are a group of educators, administrators and other staff who meet regularly to address concerns about individual students or groups of students and are designed to support students both by anticipating and preventing issues before they occur. Examples of issues that may be brought before SSTs are: academic struggles, poor attendance, discipline problems, health-related issues, substance abuse, potential for retention and need for enrichment. The primary goal of SST interventions is increased success of students in the general education curriculum and within the general education classroom. SST meetings do not automatically result in a referral to special education, though they may recommend a special education evaluation in some cases.

H. Special Education Update – Anne Zernicke

Anne Zernicke, Director of Special Education, presented an update of the Special Education Department that included:

- SHINE program and moving on ceremony for Joseph Clapp
- Values and goals
- Priorities and goals
- Work in progress and accomplishments
- Current enrollment
- Referrals and IEP process
- Current staff
- Integrated Preschool
- Transitional kindergarten class
- Programs: LBLD, FUndations
- RISE program

I. Community Survey Results for Professional Development ½ Days

Assistant Superintendent K. Martin reported the community survey results for professional development half days. There were 805 responses, which is a 35% response rate. 68.2% said the half days proposed would work for them and the preferred day of the week was Friday. The survey will now go out to all staff.

J. Committee Liaison Reports

None

K. School Building Committee

N. Nial reported that several teachers, administrators and members of the Building Committee toured Billerica High School looking at furniture and fixtures. The next Building Committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 10.

L. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Ljungberg announced the following:

- High School students will take part in the Youth Risk Behavior Survey on April 11; the Central Middle School date has not been set.
- High School students organized a walk-out yesterday against school violence. This was a national walk out and was neither condoned or prevented by the school department. The students walked out at noon and walked around the track six times – one for each of the victims in Nashville.
- There was concern for potential mold at the High School due to the “rain” inside the white wing. Air quality tests were procured and the report indicates no concern with air quality.

M. Discussion/Correspondence/New Items

N. Nial reported that Stoneham Central Middle School students were recognized for their submissions at the National History Day regional and statewide competition. The Chamber has invited new families to *Stoneham 101* on May 6 at the public library; Nicole volunteered to represent the school department at this event.

B. Pryor announced that the town wide clean-up date is Saturday, April 22 starting on the Town Common. Rain date is the following day.

M. Fiore reported that the policy manual review with MASC is ready to begin and asked if anyone else would like to sit with her on this to let her know.

N. EXECUTIVE SESSION

ACTION: A motion was made by J. Wallace and seconded by N. Nial to enter into Executive Session per MGL Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(3): To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call at 9:43 P.M

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED
DAVID LJUNGBERG, SUPERINTENDENT**

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

APRIL 13, 2023

A meeting of the School Committee was held at 5:30 P.M. on Thursday, April 13, 2023 at the Central Middle School Media Center with the following members present: Melanie Fiore, Acting Chair, Jaime Wallace, Nicole Nial, Betty Pryor (remote) and Megan Samborski. Also present was David Ljungberg, Superintendent and Kathy Martin, Assistant Superintendent.

Chair M. Fiore called the meeting of the School Committee to order at 5:30 P.M. and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

A. Public Comment

None

B. Budget FY24: Approval of Line Item Budget

Superintendent Ljungberg thanked the leadership team who have met for hours over the past couple of weeks and are present at the meeting tonight to answer any questions.

Superintendent Ljungberg presented the FY24 recommended line item budget for consideration and requested the committee take action to approve, modify, to hold or not accept. The presentation included:

- Review of strategic objectives
- FY24 best case scenario
- Process for budget reductions
- Addressing the budget reductions: shifts to other funds, use of different service delivery model, tolerable reductions to service levels
- Major budget recommendations
- FY24 New expenses
- FY23 Hires to carry into FY24 (unbudgeted expenses)
- FY24 Conversions and transfers
- FY24 Funded by ESSER III
- FY24 Cost Neutral
- FY24 Reductions
- FY24 Unfunded Requests
- FY24 Other Potential Cuts

A discussion following regarding co-taught classrooms at South School, new expenses, the impact of cutting a .5 high school nurse, the elimination of a special education teacher at the high school and elimination of a .5 school psychologist position at Colonial Park that was not able to be filled this year.

Superintendent Ljungberg requested the Chair call for a brief recess. Chair M. Fiore call a recess at 6:45 P.M. The Committee returned to open session at 6:51 P.M.

Superintendent Ljungberg requested the Chair move forward and suggested that if the Committee was not ready to approve the entire budget, make modifications and move forward. The Superintendent would then come back with alternative options.

The Committee discussed options and voiced concerns over cutting a .5 nurse at the high school. Superintendent Ljungberg asked the Committee to avoid naming other positions that could be cut.

ACTION: A motion was made J. Wallace and seconded by N. Nial to accept the budget with modifications and hold on the reduction of a .5 nurse at the high school. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call.

Superintendent Ljungberg also updated the Committee on the preschool program and the likely need for two modular classrooms next year.

C. Town Meeting Warrant Articles

The Committee reviewed the Warrant Articles for the May 1 Town Meeting and took the following actions of support:

ACTION: A motion was made by J. Wallace and seconded by M. Samborski that the School Committee vote favorable action on Article 10, Capital Budget. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call.

ACTION: A motion was made by J. Wallace and seconded by M. Samborski that the School Committee vote favorable action on Article 9, Town Budget. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call.

D. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Ljungberg announced that the Booster Club carnival fund raiser dates have been set for July 7 through July 9, 2023.

Assistant Superintendent Martin announced that the grant to supplement the ST Math program at Robin Hood and Colonial Park has been approved.

E. Discussion/Correspondence/New Items

Crystal Apple nominations will be presented at the June meeting. This will be further discussed at the May 4 meeting.

F. EXECUTIVE SESSION

ACTION: A motion was made by J. Wallace and seconded by N. Nial to enter into Executive Session per MGL Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(3): To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares; not to return to open session. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call at 7:20 P.M.

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED
DAVID LJUNGBERG, SUPERINTENDENT**

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING MAY 4, 2023

A meeting of the School Committee was held at 7:00 P.M. on Thursday, May 4, 2023 at the Central Middle School Media Center with the following members present: Melanie Fiore, Acting Chair, Jaime Wallace, Nicole Nial, Betty Pryor and Megan Samborski. Also present was David Ljungberg, Superintendent and Kathy Martin, Assistant Superintendent.

Chair M. Fiore called the meeting of the School Committee to order at 7:00 P.M. and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

A. School Committee Reorganization

Acting Chair M. Fiore passed the gavel to Superintendent Ljungberg who opened the floor for nominations from the Committee for Chairperson.

J. Wallace nominated M. Fiore for the position of Chairperson. The nomination was seconded by N. Nial. As there were no additional nominations, a motion was made by J. Wallace and seconded by N. Nial to close the nominations. The motion was approved by roll 5-0.

ACTION: The Committee voted unanimously by roll call to appoint M. Fiore as Chairperson.

Superintendent Ljungberg passed the gavel to M. Fiore.

Chair M. Fiore opened nominations from the Committee for the position of Vice-Chairman.

J. Wallace nominated B. Pryor for the position of Vice-Chairperson. The nomination was seconded by N. Nial. As there were no additional nominations, a motion was made by N. Nial and seconded by J. Wallace to close the nominations. The motion was approved 5-0.

ACTION: The Committee voted unanimously by roll call to appoint B. Pryor as Vice-Chairperson.

The Committee reviewed the member assignments and the following appointments/changes were made:

School Committee Organization/Member Assignments 2023-2024			
		2022-2023	New 2023-2024
Chairperson	elect	David Maurer	Melanie Fiore
Vice Chairperson	elect	Melanie Fiore	Betty Chu Pryor
Secretary	policy	Superintendent	Superintendent
COMMITTEES			
Local Education Foundation (SBCEF)	appoint	D. Maurer	M. Samborski
Collective Bargaining			
Teachers			
Teaching Assistants			
Secretaries			
Custodians/Maint, Craftsmen	appoint	All	All
Cafeteria			
Administrators			
Hall of Fame Committee	appoint	J. Wallace	J. Wallace
Health and Wellness/IPM Committee	appoint	M. Fiore	M. Fiore
Middlesex Partnership for Youth	appoint	B. Chu Pryor	B. Chu Pryor
Special Education PAC	appoint	M. Fiore	J. Wallace
Capital Committee	Appoint:	J. Wallace	J. Wallace
	By law:	Superintendent	Superintendent
SEEM Collaborative	appoint	Superintendent	Superintendent
Stoneham Community Access	appoint	Superintendent	Superintendent
Stoneham Substance Abuse Coalition	appoint	D. Maurer	M. Fiore
Tri-Chair Meetings	Chair	D. Maurer	M. Fiore
Stoneham Alliance Against Violence	Appoint	N. Nial	M. Samborski
JLMC			
CBA Stipends		N. Nial and J. Wallace	N. Nial and J. Wallace
Evaluations			
ASSIGNMENTS			
PTO Liaisons			
High School		N. Nial	N. Nial
Middle School		J. Wallace & M. Fiore	J. Wallace & M. Fiore
Colonial Park	Appoint	N. Nial	M. Samborski
Robin Hood		J. Wallace & B. Pryor	B. Pryor
South School		N. Nial	N. Nial
Superintendent Evaluation	Appoint	B. Pryor	B. Pryor
		N. Nial	N. Nial
Long Term Financial Review	Appoint	J. Wallace & D. Maurer	J. Wallace & M. Fiore
Policy Review	Appoint	M. Fiore	M. Fiore & B. Pryor

ACTION: A motion was made by N. Nial and seconded by J. Wallace to approve the member assignments. The motion was approved 5-0.

B. Approval of Minutes

ACTION: A motion was made N. Nial and seconded by M. Samborski to approve the minutes of April 6, 2023 and April 13, 2023. The motion was approved 5-0.

ACTION: A motion was made by N. Nial and seconded by M. Samborski to approve the minutes of April 6, 2023 and April 13, 2023 Executive Sessions to remain confidential. The motion was approved 5-0.

C. Public Comment

Jessica Killilea asked the Committee to reconsider the remote option for people viewing at home. She also requested that they take an active role in the Special Education department, especially with job vacancies.

Chair M. Fiore responded on the remote option that the Town Clerk is holding a meeting regarding this and she will reserve a decision until after this meeting.

D. Student Representatives – Sydney Vallone and Maddie DiLeo

S. Vallone reported that the Drama Club is busy with rehearsals for their May 19, 20 and 21 production of *Zombie Prom*; the Spring Concert on May 11, AP testing and spring sports.

M. DiLeo reported on the Spring Arts Festival that took place this week, senior decision day and the upcoming “stressless day.”

E. Financial: Consideration of Warrant(s), Budget Update

ACTION: A motion was made by B. Pryor and seconded by N. Nial to approve Warrant #2340 in the amount of \$145,370,04 and Warrant #2342 in the amount of \$547,825.09. The motion was approved 5-0.

Superintendent Ljungberg reported that, following the School Committee approval with modifications (0.5 nurse) of the line item budget at the April 13th meeting, he returned to the drawing board and reduced the athletic budget from \$300,000 to \$270,000. This will keep the two nurses at the high school. J. Wallace added that they are working with JLMC on stipends and there may be other changes to follow.

ACTION: A motion was made by N. Nial and seconded by B. Pryor to approve the line item budget as amended. The motion was approved 5-0.

F. Field Trips

Superintendent Ljungberg introduced Kim O’Connor and Kurt von Sneidern, High School teachers, who were present (remote) at the meeting to discuss field trips.

K. von Sneidern requested approval of an out of state field trip to Kimball’s Farm Creamery in Jaffrey, NH, followed by a hike up Mt. Monadnock. This field trip is not an overnight trip but will extend the school day.

ACTION: A motion was made by J. Wallace and seconded by B. Pryor to approve the field trip to Kimball Farm and Mt. Monadnock. The motion was approved 5-0.

K. von Sneidern requested approval to begin an investigative process of student interest for an international trip to France in June 2024. This would be a 9-day trip to Paris and Nice and would be booked through Education First (EF).

ACTION: A motion was made by J. Wallace and seconded by B. Pryor to approve exploring the possibility of an international trip to France in June of 2024. The motion was approved 5-0.

K. O'Connor requested approval to begin an investigative process of student interest for an international trip to Italy in April 2024. Due to technical difficulties, K. von Sneidern made the request. There are currently between 6-12 students who are interested and, if necessary, would join other schools to make a larger group.

ACTION: A motion was made by J. Wallace and seconded by B. Pryor to approve exploring the possibility of an international trip to Italy in April of 2024. The motion was approved 5-0.

G. India Barrows – Coordinator of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

Superintendent Ljungberg introduced India Barrows, Coordinator of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. Ms. Barrows works with SEEM Collaborative on this partnership and is shared across six districts. She gave an overview of what she generally does. In Stoneham, she has spent most of her time working with staff and leadership teams at the Stoneham Central Middle School.

H. Communication Flow Chart

Superintendent Ljungberg presented a communication flow chart that has been published on our website and is a tool for the community and parents.

I. Crystal Apple Criteria/Nominations

Superintendent Ljungberg reported that an email has gone out to parents and staff seeking nominations for this year's Crystal Apple. It has also been posted in the newspaper. Nominations are due May 12 and may be emailed to Ruth Cronin in the Superintendent's Office.

J. School Calendar FY24

Assistant Superintendent K. Martin reviewed the responses and comments on the survey results from staff. There were 209 responses, a 38% response rate. Comments included having some late starts rather than all early releases, preference to keeping them on Fridays, and many comments to keep Good Friday an early release without professional development.

Superintendent Ljungberg requested approval of the school calendar as presented.

ACTION: A motion as made by N. Nial and seconded by B. Pryor to accept the school calendar as presented. The motion was approved 5-0.

K. NESDEC Report/Enrollment Report

Superintendent Ljungberg presented the NESDEC spring report that included current enrollments and enrollment projections.

Also presented were the May 1, 2023 enrollment numbers and the kindergarten and preschool registration numbers for next year. The Colonial Park kindergarten is at 120% from last year and enrollment is closed for next year. Robin Hood is at 100% from last year and South School is at 80%. It appears there will be a need for modular preschool classrooms next year and are looking at options to rent or buy and are looking at used ones for more of a temporary solution.

L. Committee Liaison Reports

Chair M. Fiore reported that the Policy Committee will be meeting within the next couple of weeks to review the current manual.

M. School Building Committee

N. Nial reported that the beam “Topping Off Ceremony” will take place on May 22 at 10:00 A.M. The beam will be available for seniors to sign. Also, with O-Net energy, there is a potential for a good-sized reimbursement coming back to the community.

The Building Committee will discuss a request they received for the naming of one of the fields. Chair M. Fiore added that we are looking for information on what other schools have been doing in terms of naming parts of their schools. All final decisions on naming rest with the School Committee and there is a process that would need to be followed that includes forming a naming committee and the public, should the Committee decide to move forward with naming.

The next Building Committee meeting is scheduled for May 22.

N. Superintendent’s Report

Superintendent Ljungberg reported on the following:

- Letters have gone out to families to collect the outstanding balance of \$41,769 from the before and after school programs. This balance is needed to offset what we paid staff for this program and it is important that we collect the funds.
- Special Education Director position has been posted and HR is forming a search committee. Special Education coordinator positions have also been posted.
- Working to solicit services from an outside company to review special education services: review and analyze current data, information gathering, recommendations and next steps. This would be an external review beginning in August and wrapping up in January 2024. The total cost is approximately \$40,000.
- Will email committee members with possible dates to meet with Dorothy Presser from MASC.
- Reported on “Day on the Hill” that took place today. Two students and two teachers joined School Committee members at the State House.

Assistant Superintendent K. Martin reported on the following:

- The Boys and Girls Club reported great experiences with the before and after school programs; the transition went very smoothly.
- The updated SEPAC survey was sent out to all parents. The survey closes on May 19.
- There will be eight programs running at the schools this summer.
- EYP notifications will be going out soon.

O. Discussion/Correspondence/New Items

The Chamber of Commerce is holding “Stoneham 101” at the public library this Saturday. This is open to all new families who have moved into Stoneham over the past three years. The school department has provided brochures.

P. EXECUTIVE SESSION

ACTION: A motion was made by B. Pryor and seconded by M. Samborski to enter into Executive Session per MGL Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(3): To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call at 8:41 P.M

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED
DAVID LJUNGBERG, SUPERINTENDENT**

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

MAY 18, 2023

A meeting of the School Committee was held at 6:30 P.M. on Thursday, May 18, 2023 at the Central Middle School Media Center with the following members present: Melanie Fiore (joined the meeting at 6:40 P.M.), Chair, Betty Pryor, Vice Chair (joined the meeting at 9:25 P.M.), Jaime Wallace, Nicole Nial and Megan Samborski. Also present was David Ljungberg, Superintendent and Kathy Martin, Assistant Superintendent.

J. Wallace, acting Chair, called the meeting of the School Committee to order at 6:30 P.M. and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ACTION: A motion was made by N. Nial and seconded by M. Samborski to enter into Executive Session per MGL Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(3): To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call vote at 6:31 P.M.

The Committee will reconvene in open session.

The Committee returned to open session at 7:54 P.M.

A. Approval of Minutes

ACTION: A motion was made N. Nial and seconded by J. Wallace to approve the minutes of May 4, 2023. The motion was approved 4-0.

ACTION: A motion was made by N. Nial and seconded by M. Samborski to approve the minutes of May 4, 2023 Executive Sessions to remain confidential. The motion was approved 4-0.

B. Public Comment

None

C. Student Representatives – Maddie DiLeo

The Student Representative was not present at the meeting.

D. Legislative Update – Senator Lewis

State Senator Jason Lewis was present at the meeting to update the Committee on the benefits to Stoneham from the Student Opportunity Act and the FY24 State Budget. The presentation included:

- Highlights in the proposed FY24 State Budget
 - Chapter 70 funding increase of \$1.5 million (27%)
 - Additional MSBA grant for the High School Building Project of approximately \$7 million dollars if included in final version of state budget
- How the Chapter 70 school funding formula works
- Key provisions of Student Opportunity Act (SOA)
- Statewide impact of SOA

- Benefits to Stoneham from the SOA
 - Increase in Chapter 70 state aid
 - Increase in special education circuit breaker reimbursements
 - Increase in charter school tuition reimbursements
- Stoneham High School Building Project – proposal to provide additional funding to projects that have faced unprecedented cost escalation
- Other educational issues that have been filed in the new legislative session to address:
 - School transportation costs
 - Special Education costs
 - School facility construction costs (MSBA)
 - Educator workforce and diversity
 - Vocational technical education
 - Universal free school meals
 - MCAS testing and accountability – including graduation requirement
 - Early education – including public Pre-K and out-of-school-time care
 - Public higher education

A discussion followed regarding free school meals, funding for early education providers and universal Pre-K, increase subsidies for child care, and Chapter 70 funding.

E. Youth Risk Behavior Survey

Superintendent Ljungberg and Assistant Superintendent Martin gave an overview of the 2023 Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS). The six categories included:

- Behaviors that contribute to unintentional injuries and violence
- Sexual behaviors related to unintended pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV infection
- Alcohol and other drug use
- Tobacco use
- Unhealthy dietary behaviors
- Inadequate physical activity

The presentation compared data to the 2021 survey. Although some of the responses were concerning, Stoneham falls in line with national answers.

Superintendent Ljungberg voiced his concern for the mental health issues that face our students and families. This year we have increased staffing through the Stop School Violence Grant and have trained staff in mental health first aid.

Patrick Healey will be available at the next meeting to review the Middle School survey and to answer any questions.

F. School Safety Update

Officer Colotti was unable to attend the meeting tonight but did send along some updates. Assistant Superintendent Martin presented the updates:

- Safety Committee, headed by Christopher Banos and Office Colotti was formed last summer.
- Presentations were given to front office staff regarding safety concerns and the protocol for visitors entering the building.
- Committee formed with Tom Salee, Principal of Central Middle School, Rosa Flynn, Principal of Colonial Park and Office Colotti to review our current Crisis Plan.
- Stoneham Police have conducted ALICE training in all five of the schools.

- ALICE training will continue throughout the next school year
- Stoneham Fire and Police work closely with our SRO and schools to conduct safety and fire drills.

Assistant Superintendent Martin reported that a lot has taken place this past year to move our safety program forward.

G. Cartwheel – Remote Mental Health Partnership

Assistant Superintendent Martin reported that we will be contracting with Cartwheel Care in the fall. This partnership will build a multi-tiered system of support with our mental health care. It will offer rapid access to a licensed clinician during and after school, nights, weekends and school breaks. A care team will work with each school and include a medical director, program director, mental health therapists and a care manager. Cartwheel handles all logistics and keeps school mental health teams in the loop on student progress.

Cartwheel offers evidence-based 1:1 therapy, skills-based group therapy and medication management from a child psychiatrist. They can coordinate with families in English, Spanish, Portuguese, Korean, Polish and Mandarin. All clinical services are delivered via telehealth, with some workshops and trainings delivered in person.

The cost to the district will be paid through our school mental health grant – there will be a traditional copay for students on commercial health insurance, students on MassHealth plans will not be charged a copay.

B. Pryor jointed the meeting at 9:25 P.M.

H. Financial: Consideration of Warrant(s), Budget Update

ACTION: A motion was made by B. Pryor and seconded by N. Nial to approve Warrant #2344 in the amount of \$358,270.22. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call.

I. Superintendent Evaluation - Discussion

N. Nial reported that she is working with B. Pryor on a template for the Superintendent's evaluation and requested that members email her with any areas they might like included. They expect to present the template at the May 30 meeting and the public evaluation will take place at the July 20 meeting.

J. JLMC Update

Assistant Superintendent Martin reported that the JLMC had their first initial meeting on the new teaching rubric and are now waiting for the Department of Education to release what the pilot will look like.

Superintendent Ljungberg gave an update on the JLMC focus group that is negotiating the Athletic, Extra Curricular, and clubs/activities stipends. They have been meeting weekly for months and the goal is to complete this by June 30.

K. Crystal Apple Update

Chair M. Fiore stated that they are in the process of reviewing nominations for this year's Crystal Apple. The awards will be presented at the May 30 meeting.

L. Committee Liaison Reports

J. Wallace announced the next meeting of SEPAC will take place on May 25. At this meeting, they will present the results of the parent survey that went out this spring.

M. School Building Committee

N. Nial reported that the high school students signed the top off beam today. The official ceremony will take place on Monday, May 22 at 10:00 A.M.

The next meeting of the School Building Committee is scheduled for May 22 at 7:00 P.M.

Superintendent Ljungberg added that they are waiting for RFPs to come in so that they can move forward with the District Office search.

Assistant Superintendent Martin reported on the FFE (Furniture, Fixtures & Equipment) meetings that have been taking place with all departments. A furniture fair will take place in the fall.

N. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Ljungberg reported on the following:

- MDM Construction will begin the roof restoration on the Middle School fifth grade wing next week. It is expected to last for two weeks and they expect minimal disruption.
- The Senior Parade that was initiated during COVID will not take place due to a shortage of school and police staffing, safety concerns and traffic disruptions.
- The Central Middle School has been recognized as a PLTW distinguished school this year.
- The Middlesex League third annual Hoopapalooza unified basketball jamboree will take place on Wednesday, May 24 at the Galvin Middle School in Wakefield. Please come support our unified basketball teams.

O. Discussion/Correspondence/New Items

Superintendent Ljungberg reported that he has been contacted by Michael Judge who is filming a movie in Melrose and looking for a parking area for a base camp July 16 through July 18. The High School is not available due to construction but he is looking to see if the Central Middle School would be an option. The Committee agreed to offer the use of the Central Middle School parking area.

P. EXECUTIVE SESSION

ACTION: A motion was made by N. Nial and seconded by J. Wallace to enter into Executive Session per MGL Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(2) and (3):

- To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining
- To discuss pending litigation
- To discuss strategy in preparation for negotiation with non-union personnel

if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call at 9:48 P.M

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING MAY 30, 2023

A meeting of the School Committee was held at 6:30 P.M. on Thursday, May 30, 2023 at the Central Middle School Media Center with the following members present: Melanie Fiore, Chair, Betty Pryor, Vice Chair, Jaime Wallace, Nicole Nial and Megan Samborski. Also present was David Ljungberg, Superintendent.

Chair M. Fiore called the meeting of the School Committee to order at 6:30 P.M. and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

A. Student Representatives

Student Representatives were not present at the meeting this week. J. Wallace gave a calendar update on senior activities for the week.

B. Recognition of Retirees

The following staff were recognized for their retirement at the end of this school year from Stoneham Public Schools:

Name	Position/School	Years of Service
Nancy Dapkiewicz	Art Teacher, Central Middle School	16
Carmen Donovan	Foreign Language, Central Middle School	19
Paula Sampson	Program Supervisor of Humanities	35
Anne Zernicke	Director of Special Education	2

C. Crystal Apple Awards

Crystal Apples were awarded to the following:

David Maurer
Josephine Thomson
Sean Perry
Carmen Donovan

The Chair announced a brief recess at 7:30 P.M. and the Committee returned to open session at 7:45 P.M.

D. Approval of Minutes

Chair M. Fiore tabled the minutes of May 18, 2023 to the June 22, 2023 meeting.

E. Public Comment

None

F. Financial: Consideration of Warrant, Budget Update

There was no warrant to be approved.

L. Secor informed the Committee that only \$3,859 has been received of the \$41,769 that is past due on the Before/After School Program accounts. The town's treasury office will send out final bills before turning the accounts over to a collection agency.

L. Secor requested the following end of year budget transfers:

\$300,000 from payroll teacher accounts to:

\$50,000	CP Electricity
\$150,000	MS Electricity
\$50,000	Home Tutor
<u>\$50,000</u>	<u>Consultants - Sped</u>
\$300,000	Total

ACTION: A motion was made by J. Wallace and seconded by M. Samborski to approve the transfer as requested. The motion was approved 5-0.

Superintendent Ljungberg also informed the Committee that we had received a large bill from National Grid due to the meter on the Colonial Park building malfunctioning. We are still anticipating a year end zero balance.

G. Youth Risk Behavior Survey – Middle School

Patrick Healey presented the data for the Central Middle School Youth Risk Behavior Survey. This survey has been done every other year since 2017 and included:

- Substance Abuse
- Mental Health
- Physical Health
- Sexual Behaviors
- Other Concerns, including bullying and dating violence

Numbers declined at the Middle School and P. Healey questioned the accuracy of the survey. Student concerns were an overwhelming "I don't know" followed by mental health, vaping, substance abuse, bullying and obesity. The Middlesex League responses will be released the end of June and we should get a better idea of the accuracy of the survey.

H. Special Education Survey Data Presentation

Kyla Malladi and Erin Alarcon, co-chairs of SEPAC, presented a revised survey from the one that they presented in March. The total respondents were 107, triple from the previous survey, but still very low.

- SEPAC Caregiver Survey – Data collected April 30 through May 19, 2023:
 - 74% of respondents feel like a valued member of their student's IEP team; 25% do not.
 - 65% of respondents believe the team has their student's best interest in mind; 35% do not.
 - 58% of respondents found the IEP/504 process to be smooth and easy to understand; 42% do not.

- 42% of respondents worry about retaliation if they push back against a decision made by the district; 58% do not.
- 67% of respondents agree that the accommodations outlined in their student's IEP/504 are consistently provided; 32% do not.
- 72% of respondents agree that the curriculum modifications and/or services in the IEP currently in place are helping their child succeed; 27% do not.
- 65% of respondents agree that their student is currently making effective progress; 35% do not.
- 58% of respondents are pleased with the quality of services their student received during the 2022-2023 school year; 41% are not.
- 61% of respondents agree that Stoneham Public Schools are able to meet their student's social emotional learning needs; 38% do not.
- 49% of respondents agree that their student's educators are given the supports and professional development they need to be successful; 51% do not.

A discussion followed regarding Tiered Process Monitoring and the process of the IEP meeting.

The Chair called for a 3-minute recess at 9:23 P.M. and returned at 9:26 P.M.

I. DCAP (District Curriculum Accommodation Plan)

Superintendent Ljungberg acknowledged the ongoing work by Kathy Martin and the Assistant Principals to update this document.

The intent of the District Curriculum Accommodation Plan is to provide a guidance document for school staff to ensure that all students in general education classes are provided with the tools and strategies to be successful. The DCAP guidance document describes accommodations, instructional supports and interventions that are provided for students who are experiencing difficulty mastering content.

Superintendent Ljungberg reviewed the academic/instructional supports, behavioral supports and staff supports.

A discussion followed regarding the difference between a 504, IEP and DCAP.

J. User Fees

Tabled to the June meeting.

K. Committee Liaison Reports

N. Nial reported that she is working with B. Pryor on the superintendent evaluation and they would like to adjust the timeframe to evaluate the first three years and then evaluate every other year. They are working on having the template ready for the August 24th meeting.

L. School Building Committee

N. Nial reported on the Beam Ceremony that took place on May 22. This summer the parking lot will be closed and the lot will be raised. The next meeting of the School Building Committee is scheduled for June 20.

M. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Ljungberg reported on year end events and noted that all events are listed on the district calendar.

Superintendent Ljungberg also announced that Jordan Weymer, Principal of Robin Hood School, will be piloting a departmentalized Grade 4 next year. A lot of time has been spent on this proposal and we are excited to pilot this model.

N. Discussion/Correspondence/New Items

Chair M. Fiore confirmed that a School Committee meeting has been added for June 22, 2023 at 6:00 P.M.

O. EXECUTIVE SESSION

ACTION: A motion was made by J. Wallace and seconded by N. Nial to enter into Executive Session per MGL Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(2) and (3):

- To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining
- To discuss pending litigation
- To discuss strategy in preparation for negotiation with non-union personnel

if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call at 10:09 P.M

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED
DAVID LJUNGBERG, SUPERINTENDENT**

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

JUNE 22, 2023

A meeting of the School Committee was held at 6:00 P.M. on Thursday, June 22, 2023 at the Central Middle School Media Center with the following members present: Melanie Fiore, Chair, Betty Pryor, Vice Chair (Remote), Jaime Wallace, Nicole Nial and Megan Samborski. Also present was David Ljungberg, Superintendent and Leia Secor, Director of Finance.

Chair M. Fiore called the meeting of the School Committee to order at 6:00 P.M. and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

A. Approval of Items by Consensus

ACTION: A motion was made by J. Wallace and seconded by M. Samborski to approve the minutes of May 30, 2023, Warrant #2346 in the amount of \$523,750.06, Warrant #2348 in the amount of \$144,061.88, and Warrant #2350 in the amount of \$567,877.10. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call.

B. Consideration for Items Withdrawn from Consensus

ACTION: A motion was made by J. Wallace and seconded by M. Samborski to approve the minutes of May 18, 2023. The motion was approved 4-0-1 by roll call with B. Pryor abstaining.

C. Public Comment

None

D. Solect Energy – Letter of Intent, Robin Hood

Superintendent Ljungberg introduced Dave Bissom from Solect Energy who gave a presentation to the Committee that included:

- Background of the Company
- Solar and Storage Power Purchase Agreement (PPA)
- Robin Hood Rooftop Design (Roof needs to be replaced, intent would lock in favorable rate and Solect would work with us in applying for the state grant)
- Financial Summary for 25 Year Term

Superintendent Ljungberg requested Committee consideration to participate in this program in anticipation of the grant going through. If accepted into the grant, we would benefit double and receive a new roof if approved, with no up-front cost. We would be under no obligation if the grant is not approved.

ACTION: A motion was made by N. Nial and seconded by M. Samborski to support a letter of intent with Solect Energy. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call.

E. Policy 9-9 Chromebook Policy (Revision)

Superintendent Ljungberg introduced Chris Serino, the interim Director of Technology and Digital Learning who shared the following suggested revisions to the Chromebook Policy:

1. Removal of repair fee schedule, proposing blanket coverage
2. Removal accidental or intentional damage because this could be a point of contention between parents and the school
3. Decrease repair cost for parents who do not have coverage using a sliding scale for the age of the Chromebook. The Principal would notify the parents of the cost to repair
4. Add statement for habitual offenders of Chromebook damage
5. Add October 1 deadline for enrolling in protection plan through UniPay (or 30 days for new families moving in)

A discussion followed regarding a family cap and the definition of cosmetic damage. Mr. Serino did not feel the need for a family cap because the principal will notify him if there are any families that cannot afford the plan. The Committee added to the policy “does not cover cosmetic damage unless it interferes with functionality.”

ACTION: A motion was made by J. Wallace and seconded by N. Nial to approve the Chromebook Policy as revised. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call.

F. Policy 9-17.2 Registration and Residency (Discussion)

Superintendent Ljungberg brought back Policy 9-17.2 that had been previously discussed. There is a need to check residency more than when families first enroll but is concerned that to do it every year would put a burden on staff and families. The policy does currently state that we reserve the right to verify residency at any time. After a lengthy discussion, the Committee agreed to revise the policy and change it to read “Proof of residency/occupancy will be required at the time of initial enrollment and when entering Grade 5 and entering Grade 9.”

ACTION: A motion was made by M. Samborski and seconded by J. Wallace to approve Policy 9-17.2 as revised. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call.

G. User Fees

J. Wallace reported that she has been working with Leia Secor in reviewing the current rental and user fees. After comparing fees to surrounding communities, the following recommendations were made:

- Maintain \$300 per athlete fee and increase family cap from \$900 to \$1,200 and to review this each year
- Currently the drama fee structure is \$75 for fall, nothing for winter and \$75 for spring. Recommending \$100 per person, per season, with a family cap of \$400.

With all fees, a sliding scale and waivers are available.

ACTION: A motion was made by N. Nial and seconded by M. Samborski to approve the athletic and drama fees as recommended. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call.

H. Superintendent Entry Plan Report

Superintendent Ljungberg shared his draft entry plan report that will be finalized and posted on line for public viewing. The goal of the report was to share what he learned and was organized by the following prevailing themes:

1. Vision, Mission & Goals; Establishing a School System vs. a System of Schools
2. Equity, Diversity and Belonging
3. Teaching and Learning

4. Creating a Culture of Deliberate Urgency, High Expectations, and Rigorous Learning
5. Communication and Transparent Accountability
6. Recruitment, Retention, and Professional Learning and Growth

Each theme included an assessment of strengths and challenges and barriers. The Committee thanked Superintendent Ljungberg for his thorough report.

I. Superintendent Evaluation - Discussion

N. Nial reported that B. Pryor and her are planning to meet with Superintendent Ljungberg next Tuesday and will be officially forming a Superintendent Evaluation Subcommittee.

J. Special Education - Update

Superintendent Ljungberg reported that he has been looking at Special Education support services and conducting a thorough assessment of the staffing structure, including the need to:

- Add additional ESP and ABA staff as a result of team recommendations.
- Fill vacancies for two school psychologists and four Special Education coordinator positions.
- Considering hiring a Director of Preschool this year rather than wait until the preschool program opens at the new High School
- Look at the possibility of formulating an Assistant Special Education Director position

Superintendent Ljungberg also reported on the following:

- Potentially bringing the STRIDE Program back to the elementary level
- Update on mobile classrooms: have contracted with a design firm who is putting together the specs we will need for an RFP. The plan would be to put the PreK in the building and move other classes to the modular. It is estimated that it would be 6 to 8 weeks from start to finish but may need to consider delaying the opening of the preschool program if it is not complete by school opening.

A discussion following regarding the expense of adding these classrooms. One possible solution is to ask for help from the Capital Committee and another is to reconfigure ESSER monies for allowable expenses in order to free up budget money. J. Wallace requested putting this on a future agenda and have a conversation on how new housing is affecting the school department and the need for additional classrooms.

K. Hiring Updates

Superintendent Ljungberg reported on the following:

- We have conducted 21 hires or transfers; 29 vacancies
- Special Education Director update: Still in progress. A search was conducted and one finalist moved forward. That finalist had a public forum and feedback was solicited. If we do not move forward with this candidate, we will move forward with an interim.

L. JLMC Update

Superintendent Ljungberg reported that the JLMC met again today and we are getting close to an agreement. Another meeting is scheduled for next week.

M. Enrollment Update

Superintendent Ljungberg reported that kindergarten enrollment is at capacity at Colonial Park and is officially closed. Robin Hood is at 86 and South numbers are at 63. We are watching the numbers carefully.

N. MASC/MASS Joint Conference – Early Bird Registration

Chair M. Fiore announced that registration for the joint conference in November is now open. Please reach out to Ruth Cronin if you plan to attend.

The Committee agreed to move the November 9th meeting to November 16 due to the conference.

O. Committee Liaison/Subcommittee Reports

The Policy Subcommittee will meet next week.

P. School Building Committee

N. Nial reported that the School Building Committee met this past Tuesday night. Possible proposals were considered for bringing the amphitheater back into the project. The project is still on schedule.

Q. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Ljungberg reported on the following:

- Walk-throughs were conducted at each building with the principal, head custodian and Brian McNeil and punch lists were developed.
- Eight programs are running this summer including STEM Camp, General Ed Program, ESY Program and the STEP-UP Program. South School has been named a designated meal site and the school cafeteria will be organizing 1000 meals a day that include breakfast and lunch.

R. Discussion/Correspondence/New Items

Booster Club carnival will take place July 7 through July 9 at the Central Middle School.

District offices will be open on Monday, July 3 and closed on July 4th.

S. EXECUTIVE SESSION

ACTION: A motion was made by J. Wallace and seconded by N. Nial to enter into Executive Session per MGL Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(2) and (3): To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining with STA Bargaining Unit, to discuss pending litigation and to discuss strategy in preparation for negotiation with non-union personnel – and the chair so declares that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call at 8:45 P.M

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED
DAVID LJUNGBERG, SUPERINTENDENT**