

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

JULY 21, 2021

A meeting of the School Committee was held at 7:00 P.M. on Thursday, July 21, 2021 at the Central Middle School Media Center with the following members present: Jaime Wallace, Chair; David Maurer, Nicole Nial, Melanie Fiore and Betty Chu Pryor. Also present was John Macero, Superintendent, David Ljungberg, Assistant Superintendent and Katelyn Finnegan, Budget Director.

Chair J. Wallace 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 M. Fiore and seconded by D. Maurer to approve the minutes of June 10, 2021. The motion was approved 5-0.

C. Public Comment

None

D. Approval of Warrant

ACTION: A motion was made by B. Chu Pryor and seconded by M. Fiore to approve Warrant #2151 in the amount of \$667,109.07 and #2153 in the amount of \$737,802.52. Following discussion on the operation of the Student Activity Fund and charges from the Life Skills Program, the motion was approved 5-0.

E. Budget Update

K. Finnegan reported that \$196,000 FY21 budget surplus was used to prepay some of the out-of-district costs for FY22.

FY22 Salary changes are ongoing and include the addition of a 0.5 elementary physical education position and a 1.0 drama position at the Central Middle School.

Updates were reported on Revolving Accounts, Grants and Circuit Breaker. It was also reported that bids were sent out for the school bus for Robin Hood and South School, as well as athletics.

F. Personnel Update

Superintendent Macero reported on new hires and transfers to date for 2021-2022. A spreadsheet of changes was included in the packet.

G. School Opening 2021-2022

Superintendent Macero reported that staff will return on August 30th and students will return September 1st.

The After School Program will include a new option for early pick up by 4:00 P.M. for a reduced charge of \$10.00.

ACTION: A motion was made by D. Maurer and seconded by M. Fiore to move Item 9 on the agenda, Face Covering Policy, next on the agenda. The motion was approved 5-0.

H. Policies:

3-23 Face Covering Policy

Superintendent Macero recommended the elimination of 3-23 Face Covering policy and to follow the guidelines of DESE and CDC, noting that what we talk about today can change tomorrow.

A discussion followed regarding the timeline for notifying parents of a change in policy.

Chair J. Wallace opened the floor for Public Comment

Several parents spoke both in favor of a no mask mandate and in favor of a mask mandate for the schools.

The Committee discussed the mandatory masking and the state of emergency being lifted. D. Maurer stated that we have a safety team in place and the decision should be made by the Superintendent on a daily basis with guidance from the Board of Health.

ACTION: A motion was made by M. Fiore and seconded by D. Maurer to rescind 3-23 Face Covering Policy. The motion was approved 4-1 with B. Chu Pryor voting against.

9-61.1 Athletic Concussion Policy

Superintendent Macero recommended the annual approval of 9-61.1 Athletic Concussion Policy, with no revisions.

ACTION: A motion was made by D. Maurer and seconded by N. Nial to approve 9-61.1 Athletic Concussion Policy. The motion was approved 4-0. (M. Fiore had temporarily excused herself from the meeting)

Chair J. Wallace called for a five-minute recess at 8:25 P.M.

I. Solect Energy

Superintendent Macero recommended approval of the Solect Energy lease as discussed at previous meetings where the Committee approved the process for Solect Energy to install panels at Central Middle School and Colonial Park carport to move forward to Town Meeting. This was approved at the May 3, 2021 Town Meeting and now needs final approval by the School Committee.

ACTION: A motion was made by D. Maurer and seconded by M. Fiore to accept the lease from Solect Energy. Following a discussion of lease language for termination of lease and the high current electric bills, the motion was approved 5-0.

J. School Website

Superintendent Macero updated the Committee on the School Committee webpage. Ms. Cronin has been working with Chris Serino to take over the webpage and is in the process of updating

the page. The Committee requested that the School Calendar be added to the School Committee page.

K. School Building Committee

N. Nial updated the Committee on the School Building Committee:

- A table will be set up tomorrow night at the Concert on the Common
- Principal Lombardi is offering tours of the High School on Tuesday, July 27 at 1:00 P.M. and Wednesday, August 18 at 7:00 P.M.
- A table will be set up at the Farmers' Market on July 29 and also at Town Day.
- A flyer is being disseminated at many locations that include the High School plans and the tax implementations. The plan includes 8 preschool classrooms which will free up space at each of the elementary schools.
- Will go to Town Meeting October 4th for a vote and if passed, will be placed on the ballot on November 2, 2021.

L. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Macero reported on the following:

- Update on kindergarten registration
- Northeast Metropolitan Regional Vocational School Project – District Member update
- Alton Bay Retreat: Agenda will include MTSS Equity and Inclusion, working with Carol Gregory from Rebis Associates to redefine our Strategic Plan, and budget procedures.
- Summer programs and athletic camp update.

M. Discussion/Correspondence/New Items

D. Maurer reported that the SBCEF will hold their Trivia Bee on Saturday, October 2 at the Boys & Girls Club.

J. Wallace reported that the Athletic Hall of Fame will take place on Saturday, September 25 at Anthony's in Malden. Tickets are \$50 and may be purchased through the Athletic Office.

J. Wallace also reported that the Boys & Girls Club will be holding a Kayaking for a Cause fundraiser on August 18 through August 20. Fifty percent of the rental fees will be donated to the PTO's at South School, Robin Hood, Colonial Park and Central Middle School.

N. EXECUTIVE SESSION

ACTION: A motion was made D. Maurer and seconded by B. Chu Pryor to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of Collective Bargaining per MGL Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(3) as an open discussion may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the Committee, to return to open session. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call at 9:04 PM.

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED
JOHN MACERO, SUPERINTENDENT**

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
AUGUST 18, 2021

A meeting of the School Committee was held at 6:00 P.M. on Wednesday, August 18, 2021 at the Central Middle School Media Center with the following members present: Jaime Wallace, Chair; David Maurer, Nicole Nial, Melanie Fiore and Betty Chu Pryor. Also present was John Macero, Superintendent and David Ljungberg, Assistant Superintendent.

Chair J. Wallace called the meeting of the School Committee to order at 6:00 P.M.

A. Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Wallace announced that the School Committee will not be taking any action tonight regarding a face mask policy. The Committee called the Public Hearing to hear feedback from parents. We will first hear from the district leadership team, followed by the Department of Public Health. Chair Wallace read the ground rules for the Public Hearing.

B. Health and Safety – COVID 19 – School Opening Update

Superintendent Macero: reported that the Commissioner of Education has determined that face covering decisions should be made at the local level. The Committee is seeking public comment regarding the return to school. We have input from three governing agencies: DESE, MDPH and CDC. Each agency has strongly recommended the wearing of masks but each stopped short of requiring them. Superintendent Macero stressed the fact that neither he nor the School Committee are health experts.

Asst. Supt David Ljungberg broke down the Summary of Guidance from DESE/DPH, CDC and AAP regarding masking, testing, vaccination and quarantining.

Superintendent Macero stated that the Commissioner of Education has said that universal remote learning is no longer an option for this school year. Schools will be required to be in person, full time, five days a week.

D. Ljungberg continued with a breakdown of the survey that was disseminated to the staff and community. 1398 people participated in the survey.

Erin Hull presented the number of cases in Stoneham and percentages of vaccinated citizens.

C. Public Hearing

Chair J. Wallace opened the Public Hearing at 6:45 P.M.

Many parents were in attendance. There were emotional opinions from both sides on whether face coverings should be mandated.

At 7:35 when the meeting got out of hand, Chair J. Wallace closed the Public Hearing.

D. Athletic Waiver

Due to current low enrollment, Superintendent Macero recommended approval of at 8th grade waiver for Boys Freshman Soccer, Girls Freshman Soccer and JV Field Hockey.

ACTION: A motion was made by D. Maurer and seconded by B. Chu Pryor to approve the 8th grade waiver request. The motion was approved 5-0.

E. Bus Update

Superintendent Macero reported that one bid was received for bus transportation and recommended the Committee accept the bid from North Suburban Transportation. This includes the bus for South School and Robin Hood, as well as for Athletics.

ACTION: A motion was made by D. Maurer and seconded by B. Chu Pryor to accept the bid from North Suburban Transportation. The motion was approved 5-0.

F. EXECUTIVE SESSION

ACTION: A motion was made D. Maurer and seconded by B. Chu Pryor to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of Collective Bargaining per MGL Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(3) as an open discussion may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the Committee, to return to open session. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call at 7:40 PM.

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED
JOHN MACERO, SUPERINTENDENT**

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

AUGUST 26, 2021

A meeting of the School Committee was held at 7:00 P.M. on Thursday, August 26, 2021 at the Central Middle School Media Center with the following members present: Jaime Wallace, Chair; David Maurer, Nicole Nial (remote), Melanie Fiore and Betty Chu Pryor. Also present was John Macero, Superintendent, David Ljungberg, Assistant Superintendent and Katelyn Finnegan, Budget Director.

Chair J. Wallace 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 M. Fiore and seconded by B. Chu Pryor to approve the minutes of July 21, 2021 and August 18, 2021. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call.

ACTION: A motion was made B. Chu Pryor and seconded by M. Fiore to approve the minutes of July 21, 2021, August 12, 2021 and August 18, 2021 Executive Session, to remain confidential. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call.

C. Public Comment

Two parents spoke regarding the mask mandate by DESE. The first parent was in favor of the masks and asked the Committee to consider safe distancing of three feet during snack and lunch breaks. The second parent felt that parents should make the choice of whether their child was masked or not.

D. Approval of Warrant

ACTION: A motion was made by B. Chu Pryor and seconded by D. Maurer to approve Warrant #2205 in the amount of \$340,643.53; #2206 in the amount of \$247,328.89 and #2208 in the amount of \$451,442.31. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call.

ACTION: A motion was made by D. Maurer and seconded by M. Fiore to move agenda item Budget Update next on the agenda. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call.

E. Budget Update

K. Finnegan reported that the Middle School librarian position was not filled due to lack of qualified candidates and Principal Banos is requesting that the position be filled with a qualified library aide and that the remaining \$32,000 that was budgeted be used to hire an in-house suspension coordinator.

ACTION: A motion was made by D. Maurer and seconded by B. Chu Pryor to approve the above revision to the line item budget. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call.

K. Finnegan also reported that 160 Chrome Books were purchased from grant money.

F. School Reopening

Superintendent Macero reported that New Teacher Orientation was held today – welcoming 26 new teachers, staff will return August 30 and school will open for students September 1.

Superintendent Macero also reported on the Mask Mandate from the Department of Education:

- Effective immediately, public school students (age 5 and above) and staff in all grades are required to wear masks indoors in schools, except as noted below. Masks are not required when outdoors. All visitors are also expected to wear a mask in school buildings.
- It is strongly recommended that all students younger than age 5 also wear a mask.
- The mask requirement will be in place until at least October 1, 2021.
- The Commissioner will revisit the requirement in the near future to revise it as warranted by public health data.
- The mask requirement applies when students and staff are indoors at school, except when eating, drinking, or during mask breaks.
- Masks may also be removed indoors when necessary to participate in elective classes, such as the use of wind instruments in band.
- Masks are required for any sports-related activity for student-athletes and coaches when indoors, in alignment with guidance provided by the Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association (MIAA).
- Masks should be provided by the student/family, but disposable masks should be made available by the school for students who need them.
- After October 1, 2021, if a school demonstrates a vaccination rate of 80% or more of students and staff in the school, then vaccinated individuals in that school would no longer be subject to the DESE mask requirement. DESE will provide additional information to districts in the coming weeks in preparation for the October 1 date, including how to demonstrate the 80% vaccination rate threshold.

Sandra Malzone, Head Nurse, reported that Stoneham Public Schools, in conjunction with CIC, will be offering optional COVID testing for students and staff in the following situations per the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) guidelines:

- *Diagnostic Testing:* (will be available within the first few weeks of school)
- *Symptomatic Testing:* (for when individuals present symptoms while at school; individuals should not go to school if experiencing symptoms while at home): Shallow nasal swab samples are collected at school using the BinaxNOW rapid antigen test.

All testing is at no cost to the district and requires parental consent.

Superintendent Macero also reported that the Before and After School Child Care Program will be returning this fall. Registration is open on line through Family ID.

ACTION: A motion was made by M. Fiore and seconded by B. Chu Pryor to support the recommendation of the Superintendent that all students under the age of 5 be required to wear a mask. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call.

G. Retreat Update

Superintendent Macero gave an update on the leadership team retreat. The main goal was to create strategic goals and create a multitiered system of support. The three strategic goals are:

1. Social Emotional learning in all of our professional work
2. Increase continuity and consistency in learning by making it visible in our practice
3. Move to building based budget system

D. Ljungberg talked about the multitiered system of support. The tiers represent the level of support a student may need at any point in their schooling. All tiers are universally designed using the principles of UDL and ensure equitable access for all students.

- Academic
- Behavioral
- Social Emotional

H. Approval of High School Handbook

Principal Bryan Lombardi and Assistant Principal Sarah Auger were present at the meeting to request approval of the updated 2021-2022 High School handbook. Mr. Lombardi reported that they worked to try to make it more welcoming for students rather than consequential. The main focus of change was in attendance, dress code and integrity code.

ACTION: A motion was made by D. Maurer and seconded by B. Chu Pryor to approve the updated High School handbook. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call.

I. School Building Committee

N. Nial reported that this past Wednesday they attended the MSBA Board Meeting and were approved to move forward. The next step is approval at Town Meeting and if approved to put on the ballot November 2nd.

Superintendent Macero reported that the MSBA approved the project scope and budget. There will be a community forum Wednesday, September 1 at 5:00 P.M. in the High School auditorium. There will also be two booths set up at Town Day to answer any questions on the project.

J. Superintendent's Report

Assistant Superintendent Ljungberg talked about the ESSER III Grant, part of the American Recovery Grant. The ESSER III is different from the first ESSER grants and has other requirements. The grant asks us to look at data for low income, disability, racial minorities, homelessness and foster care. The grant can be used through September 30, 2024 and funds need to be aligned with CDC guidelines. The plan must be submitted by October 4, 2021.

K. Discussion/Correspondence/New Items

Chair Wallace announced that yearbooks are now available for all of last year's 8th graders. Also, the Athletic Hall of Fame will take place on September 25 at Anthony's in Malden. Tickets are available through the Athletic Office.

L. EXECUTIVE SESSION

ACTION: A motion was made B. Chu Pryor and seconded by D. Maurer to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of Collective Bargaining per MGL Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(3) as an open discussion may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the Committee, to return to open session. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call at 9:07 PM.

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED
JOHN MACERO, SUPERINTENDENT**

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
SEPTEMBER 9, 2021

A meeting of the School Committee was held at 7:00 P.M. on Thursday, September 9, 2021 at the Central Middle School Media Center with the following members present: Jaime Wallace, Chair; David Maurer, Nicole Nial, Melanie Fiore and Betty Chu Pryor. Also present was John Macero, Superintendent, David Ljungberg, Assistant Superintendent, Katelyn Finnegan, Budget Director and Sophia Zullo, Student Representative.

Chair J. Wallace 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 D. Maurer and seconded by B. Chu Pryor to approve the minutes of August 26, 2021. The motion was approved 5-0.

ACTION: A motion was made by D. Maurer and seconded by M. Fiore to approve the minutes of August 26, 2021 Executive Session, to remain confidential. The motion was approved 5-0.

C. Student Representative

Sophia Zullo reported on the first week of school that included the painting of senior parking sports, fall sports and extracurricular clubs and activities. The Drama Club is holding auditions for *James and the Giant Peach*. Sophia also announced that Sydney Vallone will be the new Student Representative from the Junior Class.

D. Public Comment

None

E. Approval of Warrant

ACTION: A motion was made by M. Fiore and seconded by B. Chu Pryor to approve Warrant #2209 in the amount of \$39,709.61 and #2210 in the amount of \$112,044.51. The motion was approved 5-0.

F. School Opening Report

Superintendent Macero reported on the school opening. Teachers returned August 30 and August 31 and students returned on Wednesday, September 1. Overall, it was a very successful opening – there were a couple of traffic glitches at the High School but once areas were coned off traffic ran smoothly. Activities and fall sports are in full swing. All teaching positions have been filled and four ESP positions remain to be filled, as well as some long term sub positions.

Superintendent Macero presented a flow chart that outlined the instances of COVID testing and quarantining. We are still trying to work out details that would allow our students to be able to connect in to the classroom if they have to be out due to COVID. DESE says that these days

would be regular sick days but Superintendent Macero feels that it is important for our kids not to fall behind and is trying to work through the obstacles.

G. Summer School 2021 Report

D. Ljungberg gave a brief recap of the four summer programs:

- The Extended Year Program ran for 5 weeks plus 2 gap weeks. 100 students participated, plus 75 students came for services only. This program was paid for through the operating budget.
- Title I Program ran for 5 weeks and 90 students participated. This program was grant funded.
- The Extended Boot Camp program ran for 2 weeks and 144 students participated. This program was grant funded.
- The Summer Step-Up Program, partnered with the Boys and Girls Club, ran for five weeks and 125 students participated. This program was also grant funded.

In all, 534 students participated in the summer programs. The budgeted cost for the Extended Year Program was \$145,000. The total grants for the remaining three programs was \$410,000.

H. Election of Delegate – MASS/MASC Conference

Chair J. Wallace asked for a volunteer to be a delegate at the MASS/MASC Conference. The delegate would attend the annual meeting as a voting member representing Stoneham.

M. Fiore volunteered to be the delegate and J. Wallace agreed to be the alternate.

I. School Building Committee

N. Nial reported that the Building Committee will be present at many upcoming community events, including all Back to School nights, Town Day, and community forums on September 20 and September 28.

J. Superintendent's Report

D. Ljungberg reminded parents that although the USDA has authorized schools to provide free lunch for all, it is important to complete the Free and Reduced Lunch Application to be eligible for reduced fees and for federal funding.

K. Discussion/Correspondence/New Items

D. Maurer announced that the SBCEF Trivia Bee, scheduled for this October, has been pushed off to March of next year.

J. Wallace reminded everyone that tickets for the Athletic Hall of Fame on September 25 are available in the Athletic Office. The Town will hold a ceremony at the Town Hall on the 20th anniversary of 9-11. The Field of Honor will return this November on the Central Middle School front lawn.

L. EXECUTIVE SESSION

ACTION: A motion was made D. Maurer and seconded by B. Chu Pryor to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of Collective Bargaining per MGL Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(3) as an open discussion may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the Committee, to return to open session. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call at 8:05 P.M.

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED
JOHN MACERO, SUPERINTENDENT**

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
SEPTEMBER 15, 2021

A meeting of the School Committee was held at 6:00 P.M. on Wednesday, September 15, 2021 at the Central Middle School Media Center with the following members present: Jaime Wallace, Chair; David Maurer, Nicole Nial, Melanie Fiore and Betty Chu Pryor. Also present was John Macero, Superintendent.

Chair J. Wallace called the meeting of the School Committee to order at 6:00 P.M.

A. Pledge of Allegiance

B. EXECUTIVE SESSION

ACTION: A motion was made D. Maurer and seconded by B. Chu Pryor to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of Collective Bargaining per MGL Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(3) as an open discussion may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the Committee, to return to open session. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call at 6:01 P.M.

C. Discussion of COVID Protocols

Superintendent Macero announced that the Test and Stay is up and running and that the following protocol will be implemented beginning next Monday:

In cases where students are quarantined or absent due to COVID-19:

Students would be eligible for the following remote learning option as long as they can provide medical documentation that such an option is needed.

- *Educators will provide work for students who are quarantined at home.*
- *Students would have the option to listen via audio only access to daily instruction during their regularly scheduled class time. This instruction will not and may not be recorded.*
- *If students' educators are able to provide video and additional interactive instruction, they may do so at their discretion.*

Students and staff who are experiencing COVID-19 like symptoms must stay at home.

If Stoneham students participate remotely in instruction as described above, they will be considered present per Stoneham Public Schools.

D. Adjourn

ACTION: A motion was made by D. Maurer and seconded by M. Fiore to adjourn at 6:58 P.M. The motion was approved 5-0.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED
JOHN MACERO, SUPERINTENDENT

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
SEPTEMBER 23, 2021

A meeting of the School Committee was held at 7:00 P.M. on Thursday, September 23, 2021 at the Central Middle School Media Center with the following members present: Jaime Wallace, Chair; David Maurer, Nicole Nial and Melanie Fiore. Also present was John Macero, Superintendent, David Ljungberg, Assistant Superintendent, and Sophia Zullo, Student Representative.

Chair J. Wallace 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 D. Maurer and seconded by M. Fiore to approve the minutes of September 9, 2021 and the minutes of September 15, 2021. The motion was approved 4-0.

ACTION: A motion was made by D. Maurer and seconded by M. Fiore to approve the minutes of September 9, 2021 Executive Session and September 15, 2021 Executive Session, to remain confidential. The motion was approved 4-0.

C. Student Representative – Sophia Zullo

Sophia reported on fall sports, student activities, Drama Club auditions and the RISE unified sports program.

D. Public Comment

None

E. Approval of Warrant

ACTION: A motion was made by D. Maurer and seconded by M. Fiore to approve Warrant #2211 in the amount of \$151,292.72. The motion was approved 4-0.

ACTION: A motion was made by M. Fiore and seconded by D. Maurer to approve Warrant #2212 in the amount of \$430,096.35. The motion was approved 4-0.

F. Senior Privilege Program

Chair J. Wallace tabled the Senior Privilege Program presentation until October 7, 2021 due to the football game being changed to this evening and the unavailability of the seniors who were scheduled to present.

G. COVID Update

Sandra Malzone, Head Nurse, presented a COVID update that included:

- Test and Stay – using BinaxNOW with rapid results in 15 minutes, for close contact in school and will be administered daily for five days. If they remain negative, they can stay in school but should quarantine except for school and school activities. Outside

school exposure is not eligible for Test and Stay, along with those who are fully vaccinated or had COVID within the past 90 days.

- Symptomatic Testing – will be available starting Monday
- Elementary Lunch – although DESE has put no restrictions on lunch time, beginning Monday all students will sit 3 feet apart, individually using TV trays.
- Vaccinated: Staff at High School is 100% vaccinated and 65% for students. Overall district staff is at 91%.

B. Chu Pryor joined the meeting at 7:35 P.M.

H. School Building Committee

N. Nial reported that the Building Committee had information tables set up at Town Day and will have a tour available before the football game Friday night. Town Meeting is Monday, October 4, 2021.

I. Superintendent's Report

Assistant Superintendent D. Ljungberg spoke on the ESSER III grant and the Funding Stakeholder Survey. Stoneham Public Schools has been allocated \$1,053,694 in ESSER III funding, and we want to ensure that we spend these funds on resources that are aligned with existing needs and priorities and our approach to strategic Pandemic Recovery. These funds are able to be used by the school district through December 31st, 2024, and spending will be spread out over this time period.

We have been collecting feedback on possible initiatives that will advance our strategic approach to Pandemic Recovery. Our 2021 Summer Recovery Planning Process, survey data from the 2020-21 school year, analysis of early assessment results from the 2021 MCAS, and this input from Stoneham stakeholders, will inform our development of the priorities Stoneham Public Schools will fund through ESSER III.

The Community Survey resulted in almost 300 responses and identified funding for school facilities, additional staffing to close learning gaps, adding mental health services and adding technology and tools as their priorities. The date for application submission is October 4.

D. Ljungberg recommended that some of the ESSER III funding be used to support our nurses by hiring a floating nurse for this year, as well as a part time administrative assistant.

ACTION: A motion was made by D. Maurer and seconded by M. Fiore to hire additional staffing to support the nurses using funding from the ESSER III Grant. The motion was approved unanimously 5-0 by roll call.

Superintendent Macero shared the Accountability and Assessment for all schools in ELA and Math. Stoneham is above the state in every area with the exception of one 4th grade class. All of the Central Middle School grades did better than the state.

J. Discussion/Correspondence/New Items

M. Fiore shared a newspaper article regarding a wellness event that took place in Andover.

J. Wallace reminded the community that the Athletic Hall of Fame will take place this Saturday evening and the Town Meeting is October 4th at the High School.

K. ADJOURN

ACTION: A motion was made D. Maurer and seconded by M. Fiore to adjourn at 8:16 P.M. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call.

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED
JOHN MACERO, SUPERINTENDENT**

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
OCTOBER 7, 2021

A meeting of the School Committee was held at 7:00 P.M. on Thursday, October 7, 2021 at the Central Middle School Media Center with the following members present: Jaime Wallace, Chair; Nicole Nial, Betty Chu Pryor and Melanie Fiore. Also present was John Macero, Superintendent, David Ljungberg, Assistant Superintendent.

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

A. Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Wallace opened the meeting with a moment of silence for Bill Killilea who passed away this week. Bill was a physical education teacher for 35 years and retired from Stoneham Public Schools in June.

B. Approval of Minutes

ACTION: A motion was made by M. Fiore and seconded by B. Chu Pryor to approve the minutes of September 23, 2021. The motion was approved 4-0.

C. Student Representative

The Student Representatives were not in attendance.

D. Public Comment

None

E. Approval of Warrant

ACTION: A motion was made by M. Fiore and seconded by B. Chu Pryor to approve Warrant #2214 in the amount of \$172,779.88. The motion was approved 4-0.

F. Senior Privilege Program

The following members of the senior class presented a proposal for senior privilege: Stella de Paula, Julia McIntyre, Samantha Luongo, Keith Sereda, Jack Henaghan and Gabe Polliout.

In addition to Independent P.E. and Work Study, the proposal requested that seniors also be allowed to leave the building during Flex and lunch.

ACTION: A motion was made by N. Nial and seconded by M. Fiore to approve the proposed student privilege with the option that Mr. Lombardi and the School Committee could pull it back if they felt it was not working. The motion was approved 4-0.

The Committee noted that this approval is for the Class of 2022 only and that every senior class will have to do their own proposal. The Committee requested an update in January.

G. Policy

Superintendent Macero requested a one-year waiver on Policy 8-21 Substitute Teachers due to the difficulty in hiring substitute staff. The policy requires all substitutes be at least 21 years old and hold a Bachelor's Degree.

ACTION: A motion was made by M. Fiore and seconded by N. Nial to waive Policy 8-21 Substitute Teachers, Section A, for the 2021-2022 school year due to a shortage of qualified candidates. The motion was approved 4-0.

H. School Building Committee

N. Nial reported that Town Meeting overwhelmingly approved the High School project. The debt exclusion still needs to be approved at the town election on November 2.

The next meeting of the Building Committee is October 12.

I. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Macero reported on the following:

- MCAS results will be mailed out tomorrow
- DESE has extended the mask mandate to November 1st. Effective October 15, all schools in Massachusetts who are at 80% vaccinated are eligible for mask option. Stoneham High School is currently at 75%.

Assistant Superintendent Ljungberg reported on the ESSER III Grant and the Community Survey.

J. Discussion/Correspondence/New Items

Website update

K. EXECUTIVE SESSION

ACTION: A motion was made M. Fiore and seconded by B. Chu Pryor to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of Collective Bargaining per MGL Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(3) as an open discussion may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the Committee, to return to open session. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call at 8:20 P.M.

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED
JOHN MACERO, SUPERINTENDENT**

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
OCTOBER 21, 2021

A meeting of the School Committee was held at 7:00 P.M. on Thursday, October 21, 2021 at the Central Middle School Media Center with the following members present: Jaime Wallace, Chair; David Maurer, Nicole Nial, Betty Chu Pryor and Melanie Fiore. Also present was John Macero, Superintendent, David Ljungberg, Assistant Superintendent.

Chair J. Wallace 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 D. Maurer and seconded by N. Nial to approve the minutes of October 7, 2021. The motion was approved 4-0-1 with D. Maurer abstaining.

ACTION: A motion was made by D. Maurer and seconded by N. Nial to approve the minutes of October 7, 2021 Executive Session to remain confidential. The motion was approved 4-0-1 with D. Maurer abstaining.

C. Student Representative

Sophia Zullo reported that the quarter ends November 5, Spirit of Halloween dress up October 29, National Honor Society, Drama Club, SOAR, GSA and Fall Sports.

D. Public Comment

Comments included Pool Testing in schools and a request to view management of maintenance funds.

E. Approval of Warrant

ACTION: A motion was made by M. Fiore and seconded by N. Nial to approve Warrant #2215 in the amount of \$156,202.52 and #2216 in the amount of \$293,344.85. The motion was approved 5-0.

F. Budget Update

Kate Finnegan reported that a budget freeze has been implemented so that she can review line items and make necessary transfers.

G. School Maintenance Report

Brian McNeil, Director of Facilities, reported on the major improvements that were done over the past few years and the in progress and upcoming maintenance projects and repairs

H. UDL Update

Assistant Superintendent D. Ljungberg gave an update on UDL that supports all learners in inclusive settings. Universal Design for Learning includes all students and adjusting our approach to instruction to make sure we are meeting the needs of students across the board.

- Working with Commonwealth Consulting and doing a districtwide needs assessment
- Professional Development in UDL
- Summary of phases in schools
- Systemic Changes

I. School Building Committee

N. Nial reminded the community to vote on November 2, the debt exclusion is the only item on the ballot. The next Building Committee meeting is scheduled for November 8.

J. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Macero reported on the following:

- CIC Program. We currently have 2 testers. The Test and Stay program has been very successful. We are still working out how pool testing will work in the schools.
- MIAA Tournament games will be a cashless system. All tickets must be prepaid and purchased on line.
- School Improvement Plans will be presented on November 18 and December 2.
- The MASS/MASC Conference will take place November 3 through November 5.

K. Discussion/Correspondence/New Items

J. Wallace: TriBoard meetings on November 10 and November 17.

M. Fiore: SEPAC meeting October 27

L. EXECUTIVE SESSION

ACTION: A motion was made D. Maurer and seconded by N. Nial to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of Collective Bargaining per MGL Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(3) as an open discussion may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the Committee, to return to open session. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call at 8:26 P.M.

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED
JOHN MACERO, SUPERINTENDENT**

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
NOVEMBER 18, 2021

A meeting of the School Committee was held at 7:00 P.M. on Thursday, November 18, 2021 at the Central Middle School Media Center with the following members present: Jaime Wallace, Chair; David Maurer, Nicole Nial, Betty Chu Pryor and Melanie Fiore. Also present was John Macero, Superintendent, David Ljungberg, Assistant Superintendent, Kate Finnegan, Town Budget Manager, Sophia Zullo and Sydney Vallone, Student Representatives.

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

A. Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Wallace announced a change in the agenda with the removal of Item #11 Town Skating Rink at Central Middle School due to the request for discussion being withdrawn.

B. Approval of Minutes

ACTION: A motion was made by M. Fiore and seconded by B. Chu Pryor to approve the minutes of October 21, 2021. The motion was approved 5-0.

ACTION: A motion was made by M. Fiore and seconded by D. Maurer to approve the minutes of October 21, 2021 Executive Session to remain confidential. The motion was approved 5-0.

C. Student Representative

Sophia Zullo reported on the activities of upcoming Spirit Week and the end of fall sports. Sydney Vallone reported on the Drama Club upcoming production of *James and the Giant Peach* and the December 15 Winter Concert.

D. Public Comment

None

E. Approval of Warrant

ACTION: A motion was made by M. Fiore and seconded by D. Maurer to approve Warrant #2218 in the amount of \$333,452.55 and #2220 in the amount of \$249,317.12. The motion was approved 5-0.

F. Budget Update

Kate Finnegan requested approval of FY22 budget transfers. If approved, the budget can now be unfrozen.

ACTION: A motion was made by M. Fiore and seconded by D. Maurer to approve the budget transfers as presented. The motion was approved 5-0.

G. Special Education – Update

Anne Zernicke, Director of Special Education, gave an update on Special Education that included a change in the evaluation procedures, amendments to IEP's and the dyslexia guidelines that were released from DESE last spring.

H. School Improvement Plans

Mr. Banos presented his School Improvement Plan for the Central Middle School that included accomplishments over the last three years and the following new goals:

- Provide students with new opportunities to explore diverse perspectives and intercultural experiences from past and present as a means to build empathy and awareness.
- Students and staff members will suspend judgement and develop an appreciation for the value of diversity in our school community and society through engaging interactions with supplemental materials, diverse speakers and modern texts.
- Establish a school-wide Diversity Council consisting of staff members, teachers and community members that provides a forum for consultation on diversity issues that arise in school and society. The council's goals will closely align with the school's mission statement and core values.
- Begin implementing Universal Design for Learning initiative with all staff members.
- Establish a school-wide LGBTQ+ Council consisting of staff members, teachers and community members that fosters a sense of understanding, belonging and connectedness in school for all participants.
- Continue to update parents and the community through the Talk It Up Tuesday video series.
- Continue to monitor student attendance/tardiness and maintain strict attendance policies outlined in our handbook.
- Continue to incorporate into our school culture the adjustment counselor as a resource for students, parents and administrators to improve school attendance.
- Organize school-wide Memorial Day activities that involve community members and veterans from Stoneham.
- Make a concerted effort to utilize social forms of media to inform parents about school updates and activities.

Mr. Lombardi presented his three-year Improvement Plan for the High School that included the following goals:

- Establish Inclusive Practice/UDL Principals within Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment 2021-2024.
- Establish Inclusive Practice/UDL Principals within Systemic Structures of Stoneham High School 2022.
- Establish Inclusive Practice/UDL Principals within Stoneham High School School Culture 2022.

I. Donation Approval

Superintendent Macero requested approval of a \$1,000 donation from StonehamBank to the Stoneham High School Chess Club to support a tournament that will be held this winter.

ACTION: A motion was made by D. Maurer and seconded by M. Fiore to approve the donation from StonehamBank to support the High School Chess Club. The motion was approved 5-0.

J. Policy – First Reading: Participation of Home Education Students in Extra-Curricular Activities and Athletic Teams

Assistant Superintendent Ljungberg presented the above policy for a first reading and B. Chu-Pryor read the policy.

K. Town Skating Rink at Central Middle School

(Withdrawn)

L. School Building Committee

N. Nial reported that the High School Building Project was approved overwhelmingly at Town Meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 6.

M. Superintendent's Report

Sandra Malzone, Lead Nurse, reported on the vaccination clinic by Cataldo that took today. A total of 358 participated, with 303 aged 5-11. If needed, participants were given appointments for the next clinic to be held December 9.

Assistant Superintendent Ljungberg reported on NESDEC enrollment numbers. Projections for the next ten years show an increase in enrollment. A more detailed report will be presented at a later date.

Superintendent Macero reported on the following:

- A letter received from Ms. Robbins stating that she is looking forward to returning to her role at Assistant Principal at South School for the 2022-2023 school year and remains committed to completing her interim principalship at Robin Hood.
- A letter received from Mr. Banos notifying us of his retirement as Principal of Central Middle School effective October 14, 2022.
- A letter received from Ms. Fulmer notifying us of her retirement as Assistant Principal of Central Middle School effective June 30, 2022.

The Principal positions will be posted in December and the Assistant Principal position will be posted in January.

N. Discussion/Correspondence/New Items

The Committee requested updates on security cameras and the school website.

O. EXECUTIVE SESSION

ACTION: A motion was made D. Maurer and seconded by M. Fiore to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of Collective Bargaining per MGL Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(3) as an open discussion may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the Committee, to return to open session. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call at 8:42 P.M.

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED
JOHN MACERO, SUPERINTENDENT**

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
DECEMBER 2, 2021

A meeting of the School Committee was held at 7:00 P.M. on Thursday, December 2, 2021 at the Central Middle School Media Center with the following members present: Jaime Wallace, Chair; David Maurer, Nicole Nial, Betty Chu Pryor and Melanie Fiore. Also present was John Macero, Superintendent, David Ljungberg, Assistant Superintendent, and Kate Finnegan, Town Budget Manager.

Chair J. Wallace 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 B. Chu Pryor and seconded by D. Maurer to approve the minutes of November 18, 2021. The motion was approved 5-0.

ACTION: A motion was made by D. Maurer and seconded by B. Chu Pryor to approve the minutes of November 18, 2021 Executive Session to remain confidential. The motion was approved 5-0.

C. Student Representative

Student Representatives Sophia Zullo and Syndey Vallone were unable to attend tonight's meeting. Principal Bryan Lombardi reported on Spartan Spirit week and the High School spirit music video, the Drama Club production of James and the Giant Peach this weekend, the Winter Concert on December 15 and the freshman and sophomore semi on December 10.

D. Public Comment

None

E. Approval of Warrant

ACTION: A motion was made by D. Maurer and seconded by B. Chu Pryor to approve Warrant #2222 in the amount of \$177,367.09. The motion was approved by roll call vote:

Nicole Nial – abstain

David Maurer – yes

Betty Chu-Pryor – yes

Melanie Fiore – yes

Jaime Wallace - abstain

F. School Improvement Plans - Elementary

Rosa Flynn, Eric Jones and Kerry Robbins were in attendance to report on their School Improvement Plans.

Rosa Flynn reported on the Elementary District Goals for 2021-2022:

- Goal 1: Increase literacy outcomes with a focus on foundational literacy skills and the science of reading at the elementary level.
- Goal 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.
- Goal 3: Redesign schedules, staffing, and materials to support a Multi-Tiered System of Support.

Ms. Flynn gave an update on the Improvement Goals 2020-2021 for Colonial Park. In addition to the elementary district goals, the following school goals and action plans were outlined for 2021-2022:

- Transition for a traditional technology class to a Science, Technology and Engineering class.
- Increase schoolwide Social Emotional Learning by integrating academic, social and emotional learning across all school contexts.
- Continue to collaborate with parents and the larger community to promote student growth and develop a positive school culture.

Kerry Robbins gave an update on the Improvement Goals 2019-2020 for Robin Hood School. In addition to the elementary district goals, the following school goals and action plans were outlined for 2021-2022:

- Parent and Community Partnerships: Continue to collaborate with parents and the larger Stoneham community to promote student growth and develop a positive school culture.
- We will recognize students on a daily basis for their ability to show they are being respectful, resilient, or responsible role model in social or academic situations.
- We will make the transition from our traditional technology/computer specialist class to a STEM class.

Eric Jones gave an update on the Improvement Goals 2018-2029 for South School. In addition to the elementary district goals, the following school goals and action plans were outlined for 2021-2022:

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

G. FY23 Budget Presentation

Superintendent Macero began the budget presentation with the following narrative:

Fiscal 2022: Thank you to the Stoneham School Committee, Stoneham Select Board, Town Finance and Advisory Board, Town Administrator, Town Accountant and Town Meeting for approving \$30,963,028.97 School Operating Budget. As you may recall, the previous Fiscal

Budget 2021 went through a dramatic change from its original Town & School proposal of \$31,466,729.00 in March to a final Town Meeting appropriation in October 2020 for \$30,126,729.00. We were very appreciative, however, the reduction of \$1,340,000 from the original Fiscal 21 Budget was a significant decrease and we are now feeling the sting as we move forward with our budget demands for FY23.

The total budget request for FY23 is \$33,311,271.22 – an increase of \$2,348,242.25. Although this seems extremely high, it takes the decrease in FY21 of \$1,340,000 into account. Superintendent Macero recommended the School Committee urge the Town to return the \$1,340,000 and then increase the School Budget by an additional 3.2% (\$1,008,242.25) for FY23, which will allow us to make up for lost revenue and put the schools where they need to be moving forward.

The Public Hearing on the FY23 Budget is scheduled for January 6, 2022.

H. Policies

9-18.1 Participation of Home Educated Students in Extra-Curricular Activities and Athletic Teams – Second Reading/Approval

ACTION: A motion was made by D. Maurer and seconded by N. Nial to waive the second reading of Policy 9-18.1. The motion was approved 5-0.

ACTION: A motion was made by D. Maurer and seconded by N. Nial to approve Policy 9-18.1. The motion was approved 5-0.

6-28 Field Trip Request Form – Addition to current policy.

D. Maurer read the request form.

ACTION: A motion was made by D. Maurer and seconded by B. Chu Pryor to approve the addition of a field trip request form to Policy 6-28. The motion was approved 5-0.

8-9 Policy Prohibiting Discriminatory and Sexual Harassment and Misconduct & Complaint/Grievance Procedures.

This policy was included for update only to policy books. Contact personnel names were updated.

I. School Building Committee

N. Nial reported that they participated in a 6.5-hour seminar today that focused on zero net energy. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 6.

J. Superintendent's Report

None

K. Discussion/Correspondence/New Items

J. Wallace: Holiday Parade December 11, 2021. The next School Committee meeting is January 6, 2022 and will include a Public Hearing on the FY23 Budget.

L. EXECUTIVE SESSION

ACTION: A motion was made D. Maurer and seconded by M. Fiore to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of Collective Bargaining per MGL Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(3) as an open discussion may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the Committee, to return to open session. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call at 9:15 P.M.

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED
JOHN MACERO, SUPERINTENDENT**

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
JANUARY 6, 2022

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

Chair J. Wallace 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 N. Nial and seconded by M. Fiore to approve the minutes of December 2, 2021. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call.

ACTION: A motion was made by N. Nial and seconded by M. Fiore to approve the minutes of December 2, 2021 Executive Session to remain confidential. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call.

C. Student Representative

Student Representatives Sophia Zullo and Syndey Vallone reported that students are preparing for mid term exams, winter athletics, student council, peer tutoring and drama club.

D. Public Comment

None

E. Approval of Warrant

ACTION: A motion was made by M. Fiore and seconded by B. Pryor to approve Warrant #2225 in the amount of \$1,177,925.16. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call.

ACTION: A motion was made by M. Fiore and seconded by B. Pryor to approve Warrant #2228 in the amount of \$128,374.12. The motion was approved by roll call vote with J. Wallace abstaining.

Kate Finnegan announced that, effective immediately, the budget will be frozen due to unknown Covid expenses.

F. PUBLIC HEARING: School Department FY23 Budget

ACTION: A motion was made by M. Fiore and seconded by D. Maurer to open the Public Hearing on the FY23 School Budget at 7:09 P.M. The motion was approved unanimously.

Statement from STA President-

Good Evening. I'm Jonathan Pohorilak and I'm the President of the Stoneham Teachers Association. The STA is here today (supported by approximately 35 in person and 25 remote members) to share a reminder that any budget that is approved should value most the educators

that work closest to the students, the teachers, the ESPs, secretaries, nurses and cafeteria employees.

Speaking publicly about the budget is something the STA typically does not do, so some context may be necessary. Members of the STA personally helped the district get through the pandemic by making financial sacrifices. This included forgoing \$70,000 in professional development money, reducing our cost of living salary increases that we negotiated by \$300,000 and working with the town to renegotiate the PEC agreement which saved the town an additional \$350,000. Additionally, personal sacrifices were made by our members as Stoneham was one of the few districts that maintained in-person learning for as long as we did and required our staff members to assume risks that educators in many other towns did not assume.

By all accounts, the economy is recovering, the concerns of lost revenue from shuttered hockey games, massive unemployment, closed restaurants that were the heart of the issues from 2020 have come and gone, yet the proposed contingency fund in this current budget does not get the STA back to pre pandemic levels. The STA educators that work closest with students have also been shut out of direct access to federal money, as well.

The gap between Stoneham and comparable neighboring districts has continued to grow. Bachelors teachers (newest teachers) are paid thousands of dollars less than neighboring teachers. Master +30 teachers are paid anywhere from \$5000 to \$10,000 less than they are in neighboring districts. These facts do not encourage new teachers to come to Stoneham and does not value, monetarily, the teachers that have invested their careers in Stoneham.

As the secretary of Education Miguel Cardona stated in a recent letter addressing nationwide staffing shortages "The most common reason educators have cited for leaving school employment in the last year is stress, followed by insufficient pay". This is no surprise to the educators here, but it's worth noting that Stoneham is not immune to these forces.

So as you review the budget this year we ask you to consider the above. We ask that you look at this budget and make sure the sacrifices that the STA members made financially are recognized and the budget invests properly in the roots of the school district- the teachers, ESPs, cafe employees, nurses and secretaries. These are the people that work closest with students and need to be invested in to benefit the students of Stoneham.

Statement from STA Vice President Nicole Clark

Thank you for the opportunity to speak tonight. I address you as a lifelong community member, a parent of students at Colonial Park and as a 15-year employee of Stoneham Public Schools. In an official capacity, I am speaking here this evening as the Vice President of the Stoneham Teachers Association and on behalf of the over 350 teachers, educational support professionals, secretaries, nurses and cafeteria workers that I have the privilege of representing.

At the last School Committee meeting, the STA, along with the rest of the community, were introduced to the district's budgetary plans for the upcoming fiscal year. As the budget is the narrative that shows what our school community prioritizes and values, we always take a keen interest in its presentation. It is in establishing our priorities and allocating our limited resources that we learn about the choices that will have a very real impact on the type of education that our students will receive and the potential implications it will have on our employment. Indeed, EVERY parent, EVERY employee has a vested interest in the annual presentation of our budget.

The STA prides itself on the fact that it has historically had a congenial working relationship with the district leadership and the school committee. We attribute this to the fact that as a whole,

the goals of our members have been unified with those of the district- to provide the best school community possible for the students of Stoneham. As both a parent and an educator, I urge you all to consider the following with regards to the pending approval of a balanced school budget:

- *The first consideration I ask you to make is with respect to clarity from the town about what resources are available to support the student's needs. When the school department was required to reduce their budget two years ago, there was a necessary level of transparency from the town about what our expected revenues and deficits would be. This same level of transparency would be useful to have annually as this knowledge is critical when contemplating the approval of programs and staffing that will chart a course for our students to recover from the losses that they have suffered over the last two school years.*
- *The second consideration I ask for you to make is with respect to sufficiently staffed classrooms. The creation and sustainability of positions that directly support the needs of our students must have priority over all else. EVERY expenditure you approve should be done so with the needs and the successes of our students in mind. It is through appropriate staffing that these needs are met and successes are achieved.*
- *The third consideration I ask you to make regards the level of appeal that the budget provides our district with respect to current and potential employees. Stoneham has been, and should continue to be, a sought after district that attracts quality new teachers and that supports veteran teachers throughout their careers. A commitment from the district with respect to competitive compensation packages is necessary in today's current educational employment climate. Our students deserve to have the best educational staff members at their disposal and as a district we need to commit to retaining these individuals over time. None of our students can be serviced properly with a high rate of turnover or worse, positions that are left unfilled.*

Educators are never consulted on budgetary matters as, quite honestly, it is not our area of expertise. We are, however, experts in our fields and on our students and we are more than capable of consulting on the funds needed to provide our students with the quality education they deserve. As experts, we implore you to consider the needs of our students as you make budgetary decisions. While it may seem to the town that the school department is asking for a lot, the reality is that our students need more now than they ever have and these needs come with associated costs. We are all counting on you to approve a budget that allocates funding to our classrooms and provides students and staff members with the resources they need. The success of our schools depends on it.

There were no further comments from the public.

ACTION: A motion was made by D. Maurer and seconded by M. Fiore to close the Public Hearing on the FY23 School Budget. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call at 7:19 P.M.

G. Out of State Field Trip – Approval

Chair Wallace tabled this item to the January 20, 2022 meeting.

H. New COVID Procedures/Guidelines

Assistant Superintendent David Ljungberg and Head Nurse Sandra Malzone gave a presentation on the updated DESE and Department of Health protocols that included:

- Quarantine changed from 10 days to 5 days

- Test and Stay – changed from test up to 7 days to 5 days
- Review of new lunch protocols due to quarantine changes
- Considering pooled testing. A survey has been sent out – DESE recommends 80% consent, to date we are at 37%. The survey will close on January 14, 2020. An update will be given at the January 20, 2022 meeting.

Superintendent Macero reported on the absentee rate following the holiday break. The average for students was 15% and the average for staff was between 12-22%, depending upon the school.

I. School Building Committee

N. Nial announced the next meeting will be a fully remote meeting on January 10, 2022.

J. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Macero announced his retirement effective August 31, 2022 and read the following letter:



K. Discussion/Correspondence/New Items

Chair Wallace announced that the elementary trivia night has been postponed from January 29 to March 5.

L. EXECUTIVE SESSION

ACTION: A motion was made M. Fiore and seconded by B. Pryor to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of Collective Bargaining per MGL Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(3) as an open discussion may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the Committee, to return to open session. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call at 8:09 P.M.

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED
JOHN MACERO, SUPERINTENDENT**

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
JANUARY 20, 2022

A meeting of the School Committee was held at 7:00 P.M. on Thursday, January 20, 2022 at the Central Middle School Media Center with the following members present: Jaime Wallace, Chair; David Maurer, Nicole Nial, Betty Chu Pryor and Melanie Fiore. Also present was John Macero, Superintendent, David Ljungberg, Assistant Superintendent and Kate Finnegan, Budget Director.

Chair J. Wallace 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 D. Maurer and seconded by M. Fiore to approve the minutes of January 6, 2022. The motion was approved 5-0.

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

C. Student Representative

Student Representatives Sophia Zullo and Syndey Vallone reported on mid-term exams, winter athletics, NHS, Peer Leaders, Peer Tutoring and Drama Club.

D. Public Comment

None

E. Approval of Warrant

ACTION: A motion was made by B. Pryor and seconded by M. Fiore to approve Warrant #2230 in the amount of \$214,703.88. The motion was approved 5-0.

Chair Wallace revised the agenda to move Covid Update to the next item, followed by Program of Studies and Strategy with Respect to Superintendent Search. The Out of State Field Trip Approval is tabled to the February 3, 2022 meeting.

F. Covid Update

Assistant Superintendent Ljungberg and Head Nurse Sandra Malzone gave a presentation on COVID update that included:

- Pooled Testing survey results: DESE recommends 80% or greater consent to test to optimize the program's benefits. The survey resulted in only 36% combined employee and family/caregiver opt ins. We will not do pooled testing.
- New COVID testing option: Districts and schools participating in symptomatic and/or pooled testing may choose to continue those testing strategies and discontinue contact tracing and Test and Stay. As an additional resource, districts and schools that elect to make this change will be provided with rapid antigen at-home tests for all participating staff and students that can be used on a weekly basis.

- Update to quarantine guidelines: Districts and schools that select the new COVID testing program will discontinue individualized contact tracing. There will no longer be the expectation that close contacts will be identified and therefore, any potential in-school contacts do not need to quarantine. Instead, schools should shift their focus to monitoring symptomatic individuals.
- A mobile vaccination clinic will be held on February 7 and February 28 from 3:00 to 7:00 P.M. in the High School cafeteria.

ACTION: A motion was made by D. Maurer and seconded by B. Pryor to support the latest COVID testing option. After discussion, the motion was approved 5-0.

G. Out of State Field Trip – Approval

Chair Wallace tabled this item to the February 3, 2022 meeting.

H. High School Program of Studies

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

Alternative Learning Opportunities

- Teacher Assistant

English

- Students (11/12) can now take AP Language/AP Literature in any order

Family and Consumer Science

- All courses Advanced College Prep

History and Social Studies

- New Economic Courses
 - Fundamentals in Economics
 - Semester Course
 - Economics
 - Long Course
 - Micro/Macro Economics
- HHA Internship
 - History and Social Studies Internship
- Street Law
 - Contemporary Business Trends

Math

- Intro to Precalculus CP
 - In place of Integrated Trig
 - Provide students taking CP courses and intro to Precalculus and college level math

Science

- Physics; Combined CP/ACP/Honors
 - Pilot heterogeneous groupings
 - Teacher advocated
- AP Biology: 2022/2024
 - AP Environmental (2023-2024)
- PLTW Principles of Biomedical Science and Human Body Systems combine CP/ACP/Honors
 - Increase enrollment and program development
 - Pilot heterogeneous groupings

Technology

- Computer Applications and PLTW Computer Science Essentials moved from unlevleled to CP
- Computer Science Principles designated as Advanced Placement
- PLTW Principles of engineering designated as Honors
- Intro to Film Editing unlevleled to CP
- Student Tech Leaders I and II unlevleled to CP

World Language

- Addition of French I and Italian I Honors
 - Increase enrollment for students with interest in language and are currently involved in a language sequence or have completed a sequence

ACTION: A motion was made by B. Pryor and seconded by M. Fiore to approve the High School Program of Studies as presented. The motion was approved 5-0.

I. Strategy with Respect to Superintendent Search

One of the major responsibilities of the School Committee is the hiring of the Superintendent of Schools. Following the announcement by Superintendent Macero that he would be retiring the end of August, Chair Wallace outlined the following three options:

- Full open search
- Hire an interim
- Hire to promote from within

The Committee discussed their feelings with regard to the three options and agreed that they had the very best candidate and to move in the direction of promoting from within.

ACTION: A motion was made by N. Nial and seconded by D. Maurer to enter into negotiations with Assistant Superintendent David Ljungberg as the next Superintendent of Schools. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call.

Assistant Superintendent Ljungberg thanked the Committee and said he was honored, privileged and humbled to move forward into negotiations for Superintendent of Schools.

J. School Calendar for 2022-2023

Superintendent Macero reviewed the school calendar for 2022-2023. School is scheduled to open for students on August 31, 2022 – the Wednesday before Labor Day. The holiday break will begin with a half day on Friday, December 23 and return to school on January 3, 2023.

Chair Wallace proposed that the holiday break begin with no school on December 23 instead of a half day, moving the last day to Tuesday, June 13. After discussion, the Committee agreed.

ACTION: A motion was made by B. Pryor and seconded by M. Fiore to approve the school calendar for 2022-2023, as revised. The motion was approved 5-0.

K. School Building Committee

N. Nial reported that the next meeting of the School Building Committee is scheduled for Monday, January 24. The Committee will be discussing where they can find savings due to a 2% increase in costs.

L. Superintendent's Report

Assistant Superintendent Ljungberg updated the Committee on the current searches:

- Human Resources: lost both finalists and we are back to the drawing board
- Director of Technology: at finalist spot now and we are vetting references.
- Principals: Robin Hood is actively in process and Central Middle School is about two weeks behind.

Superintendent Macero reported that the Committee will need to schedule a meeting prior to February 1, 2022 to approve the FY23 Budget.

M. Discussion/Correspondence/New Items

B. Pryor reported that there will be a CDC (Community Development Corporation) Zoom meeting on February 2, 2022 from 6:30 to 8:00 P.M. to discuss future efforts, regular clean-ups and keeping Stoneham beautiful.

M. Fiore reported that SEPAC will hold a Basic Rights Workshop on Wednesday, January 26.

N. EXECUTIVE SESSION

ACTION: A motion was made D. Maurer and seconded by B. Pryor to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of Collective Bargaining per MGL Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(3) as an open discussion may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the Committee, to return to open session. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call at 8:40 P.M.

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED
JOHN MACERO, SUPERINTENDENT**

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

JANUARY 26, 2022

SPECIAL MEETING - VIRTUAL

A virtual meeting of the School Committee was held at 6:00 P.M. on Wednesday, January 26, 2022 with the following members present: Jaime Wallace, Chair; David Maurer, Nicole Nial, Betty Chu Pryor and Melanie Fiore. Also present was John Macero, Superintendent, David Ljungberg, Assistant Superintendent and Kate Finnegan, Budget Director.

Chair J. Wallace called the meeting of the School Committee to order at 6:05 P.M.

A. Pledge of Allegiance

B. Approval of FY23 Budget

Superintendent Macero requested the School Committee recommend to the Town Administrator a FY23 Budget of \$33,311,271.22. The total budget request is an increase of \$2,348,242.25. Although this increase seems extremely high, it was noted that the school budget was reduced by \$1,340,000 in FY21 and if this had not occurred, we would only be seeking an additional 3.2% or \$1,008,242.25 for FY23.

Superintendent Macero strongly recommended the School Committee urge the Town to return the \$1,340,000 that was reduced in FY21 and then increase the School Budget by an additional 3.2% for FY23. This will allow the schools to make up for lost revenue due to COVID and put the schools where they need to be moving forward.

ACTION: A motion was made by D. Maurer and seconded by N. Nial to approve and recommend to the Town Administrator a FY23 Budget of \$33,311,271.22. After discussion, the motion was approved unanimously by roll call.

C. Other Business

None

D. Adjourn

ACTION: A motion was made by B. Pryor and seconded by D. Maurer to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call at 6:15 P.M.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED
JOHN MACERO, SUPERINTENDENT

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
FEBRUARY 3, 2022

A meeting of the School Committee was held at 7:00 P.M. on Thursday, February 3, 2022 at the Central Middle School Media Center with the following members present: Jaime Wallace, Chair; David Maurer, Nicole Nial, Betty Chu Pryor and Melanie Fiore. Also present was John Macero, Superintendent, David Ljungberg, Assistant Superintendent and Kate Finnegan, Budget Director.

Chair J. Wallace 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 M. Fiore and seconded by D. Maurer to approve the minutes of January 20, 2022. The motion was approved 5-0.

ACTION: A motion was made by M. Fiore and seconded by D. Maurer to approve the minutes of January 20, 2022 Executive Session, as revised, to remain confidential. The motion was approved 5-0.

ACTION: A motion was made by M. Fiore and seconded by D. Maurer to approve the minutes of January 26, 2022 Special Meeting. The motion was approved 5-0.

C. Student Representative

Student Representatives Sophia Zullo and Syndey Vallone reported on the start of the third quarter, students beginning to receive college decisions, winter sports, Yearbook Club and the Drama Club production of *The Internet is Distract-Oh Look, a Kitten* on March 4 and March 5.

D. Public Comment

Jon Pohorilak, President of the STA, acknowledged the 100 plus STA members that joined the meeting on line and reiterated his statement of January 6th.

E. Approval of Warrant

ACTION: A motion was made by B. Pryor and seconded by M. Fiore to approve Warrant #2232 in the amount of \$435,164.95. The motion was approved 5-0.

F. FY23 Budget Updates

Superintendent Macero reported that Mr. Ljungberg and he have been meeting with the Director of Special Education and each Principal to review the budget numbers. The FY23 budget amount of \$33,311,271.22 that was approved by the School Committee at the last meeting, has been sent to the Town Administrator. The Town Administrator has requested approval of \$32,100,410.

The Capital Committee has presented a five-year \$1,000,000 capital project request to the Town. The School Department projects that were recommended include the old Central School roof replacement, which will be shared with SEEM Collaborative, replacement of a section of

roof at the Central Middle School, and the hiring of an architect to design and plan a redesign of the grounds at South School.

G. Out of State Field Trip - Approval

Mr. Lombardi and Mr. von Sneidern were present at the meeting to request final approval for three out of state field trips in March and April.

The senior trip to New York City will include visiting Ground Zero and a guided tour of the memorials by survivors of 911. This is a one-day trip with about 40-45 students. The numbers are low due to vaccination requirements.

The two trips to Washington D.C. have been organized in-house and have the same itinerary as in previous years. The junior trip is a four-day trip and the sophomore trip is a five-day trip.

Mr. von Sneidern has contacted former students who are now nurses to help chaperone the events.

ACTION: A motion was made by D. Maurer and seconded by M. Fiore to approve the three out of state field trips. The motion was approved 4-0-1 with N. Nial abstaining.

H. Approval of 8th Grade Waiver - Softball

David Pignone, Director of Athletics, requested approval of a grade 8 softball waiver due to low sign-up numbers.

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

I. Donation

Assistant Superintendent Ljungberg requested approval of a \$1,000 donation from Refuel Agency. Health teacher Patrick Healey and his students were one of two recipients of this donation for participating in the Healthy Relationships Poster Program.

ACTION: A motion was made by M. Fiore and seconded by B. Pryor to accept the \$1,000 donation to the High School health program. The motion was approved 5-0.

J. Covid Protocols - Update

Sandra Malzone, Head Nurse, gave an update on the Covid protocols. Contact tracing and “test and stay” will end and home testing will replace it. Test kits have been distributed to those who signed up. All students and staff are eligible to participate in the home testing program.

A vaccination clinic will take place next Monday in the High School cafeteria.

Superintendent Macero added that the tables will be returned to the cafeteria next week at the Central Middle School, and at the elementary schools after February vacation.

Chair J. Wallace paused the agenda for Superintendent Macero to make an important announcement.

ANNOUNCEMENT: Superintendent Macero announced that a message will go out at 8:00 tonight that school will be cancelled tomorrow due to the upcoming snow storm.

K. School Choice

Superintendent Macero explained School Choice and 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 2022-2023 due to current high enrollment.

ACTION: A motion was made by D. Maurer and seconded by M. Fiore to reject School Choice for 2022-2023. The motion was approved 5-0.

L. School Building Committee

N. Nial reported that the gym has been redesigned to fit the gymnastics regulation mat. They are also looking to add a third bleacher in the gym, contingent upon the additional cost. The development design is now in process and must be completed by the end of February. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday night at 7:00.

M. Superintendent's Report

Assistant Superintendent Ljungberg updated the Committee on the current searches:

- Robin Hood Principal: Thanked the Search Committee members. Finalists will be announced tomorrow.
- Central Middle School Principal: Announced the members of the Search Committee. They will meet next week to begin the process.
- Director of Technology: An offer has been made and we are hoping to hear back by Monday.
- Human Resources: A finalist is scheduled to visit the schools next Thursday.
- Director of Technology: A finalist has been chosen and we are currently vetting references.
- School Business Manager: The position has been posted and we are currently accepting applications.

Superintendent Macero announced that kindergarten registration will take place on February 17 from 4:00 to 6:00 P.M. in the High School cafeteria. Updated registration papers are now available on our website. The preschool program will be a full day program next year. Ms. Zenecke will be at the March 3 School Committee meeting to present the updates to the program.

N. Discussion/Correspondence/New Items

M. Fiore requested an update on the road construction delays at the intersection of Elm, Central and Main. Superintendent Macero will follow up with the Town Administrator.

Chair Wallace reminded the community that tickets are still available for the elementary school PTO's annual trivia night at Stoneham/Woburn Elks on March 5th.

O. EXECUTIVE SESSION

ACTION: A motion was made D. Maurer and seconded by B. Pryor to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of Collective Bargaining per MGL Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(3) as an open discussion may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the Committee, to return to open session. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call at 8:08 P.M.

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED
JOHN MACERO, SUPERINTENDENT**

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
MARCH 3, 2022

A meeting of the School Committee was held at 7:00 P.M. on Thursday, March 3, 2022 at the Central Middle School Media Center with the following members present: Jaime Wallace, Chair; David Maurer, Nicole Nial, Betty Chu Pryor and Melanie Fiore. Also present was John Macero, Superintendent.

Chair J. Wallace 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 D. Maurer and seconded by M. Fiore to approve the minutes of February 3, 2022. The motion was approved 5-0.

ACTION: A motion was made by D. Maurer and seconded by M. Fiore to approve the minutes of February 3, 2022 Executive Session to remain confidential. The motion was approved 5-0.

C. Student Representative

Student Representatives Sophia Zullo and Syndey Vallone were not present at the meeting. Chair Wallace read their report that contained information on the Drama Club play this weekend and winter athletics.

D. Public Comment

None

E. Approval of Warrant

ACTION: A motion was made by M. Fiore and seconded by D. Maurer to approve Warrant #2234 in the amount of \$605,257.68 The motion was approved 5-0.

ACTION: A motion was made by B. Pryor and seconded by D. Maurer to approve Warrant #2236 in the amount of \$231,309.57 The motion was approved 4-0-1 with M. Fiore abstaining.

F. FY23 Budget Updates

Superintendent Macero gave a recap of the status of the FY22 budget noting that we are still on schedule. The remaining budget, with projected salaries included, is currently \$249,450.47. The budget is still frozen.

Superintendent Macero shared a copy of an updated FY23 Budget that is equal to the amount recommended by the Town Administrator of \$32,100,420 and asked the Committee to review the changes for discussion at the March 17 meeting.

G. Booster Club Carnival Request

Kathy Hudson from the Booster Club was present at the meeting to request the use of the green space in front of the Central Middle School for a Carnival fundraiser the end of June. This has

already been cleared with the Board of Health and the Town Administrator. The carnival was very successful in 2019 when it was held at the High School but due to construction they are looking for another site. Peter Cushion from Cushion Entertainment will look at the Central Middle School space to see if it would work there, but the Booster Club was looking for approval in the meantime. A discussion followed and concerns were raised about damage being done to the grass area, benches and trees. Other locations were suggested, including Pomeworth Field, Broadway Park, Robin Hood parking lot and the Stoneham Arena.

A motion was made by D. Maurer to approve the request contingent upon it being an appropriate space. N. Nial asked if the motion could wait until the March 17 meeting once the space has been looked at. The Committee agreed to hold off until the next meeting.

H. Special Education – Preschool Update

Anne Zernicke, Director of Special Education, presented an update and changes to the Preschool Program for next year:

- The Preschool Team
- Meeting the needs of all preschool students in an inclusive setting
- Plan for the 2022-2023 school year includes five fully inclusive full day programs and two substantially separate classrooms
- Who are our preschoolers? Returning students with and without IEPs and new preschoolers without an IEP who are chosen through a lottery process; also preschoolers referred through early intervention
- There are 93 total seats in the program – 53 with IEPs and 40 without IEPs. Class sizes are about 15 students and 6-7 are on an IEP. There are 40 full day tuition spots that bring in a total of about \$285,000

Two parents were present remotely at the meeting and voiced concerns about the elimination of the half day program.

I. COVID Update

Sandra Malzone, Head Nurse, reported on the past week with students and staff returning from February break without a mask mandate. There were a lot less cases than there were after the holiday break and no cases were reported today. Over 1,000 kits are being distributed biweekly to staff and students for home testing.

J. Medication Policy Approval

Tabled until the May meeting

K. High School Academic Schedule Proposal

Principal Bryan Lombardi presented a new schedule for the High School. The new schedule for next year was reviewed by a committee and will be a five day schedule with four 60 to 80 minute classes.

L. High School MCAS Schedule

Mr. Lombardi requested approval from the School Committee for a late start for students in grades 11 and 12 on the days MCAS is administered to students in grades 9 and 10. This will allow full access to teachers to help as proctors. Grades 9 and 10 will report at the regular start time and grades 11 and 12 will report at 10:41. The MCAS schedule is:

March 22 and March 23 – ELA

May 17 and May 18 – Math

ACTION: A motion was made by D. Maurer and seconded by M. Fiore to approve the late start on MCAS testing days, as presented. The motion was approved 5-0.

M. High School Scholarship Letter

Mr. Lombardi presented a copy of a proposed letter to scholarship sponsors outlining changes to the scholarship student selection process and changes to scholarship management and payment disbursement if they wish to select the scholarship recipient themselves.

A discussion followed regarding the selection and management responsibility for scholarship donors.

ACTION: A motion was made by D. Maurer and seconded by M. Fiore to accept the scholarship letter with the following changes: *With this in mind, Stoneham high school would like to continue the internal review selection process, if you would like to select your own recipient please call the High School office. Omit: Please note that this will also include your responsibility with scholarship management and payment disbursement.* The motion was approved 5-0.

N. High School End of Year Activities

Mr. Lombardi read a list of end of the year activities that included:

- Seniors last day is May 24
- Senior finals May 25-27
- Academic Awards May 24 at 7:00 P.M.
- Senior Family Picnic May 26 from 6:00-8:00 P.M.
- Senior Prom May 31
- Senior Athletic Awards June 1
- Senior Car Parade June 2
- Graduation June 3
- 8th Grade Step-Up Day at the High School – June 6
- Grade 9-11 Academic Awards (first ever) June 13 at 6:00 P.M. (tentative date as it may conflict with the 8th Grade Moving-On at Central Middle School

O. Policy – First Reading: 9-0.2 Guest WiFi Acceptable Use

D. Maurer gave a first reading of Policy 9-0.2 Guest WiFi Acceptable Use. The policy will be brought back at the next meeting for approval.

P. School Department Annual Report - Approval

ACTION: A motion was made by D. Maurer and seconded by M. Fiore to accept the School Department's Annual Report as written. The motion was approved 5-0.

Q. School Building Committee

N. Nial reported that many subcommittee meetings have taken place the last month. The next meeting is scheduled for March 14.

R. Superintendent's Report

Sharon Lagasse from ARAMARK was present at the meeting to review a survey on menu offerings that they would like to distribute to grades 1-5 elementary students and their parents.

Superintendent Macero updated the Committee on the current searches:

- Robin Hood Principal: A new Robin Hood Principal has been hired.
- Central Middle School Principal: A finalist has been selected.
- Human Resources: A HR Director has been hired and will begin March 21, 2021.
- School Business Manager: In the process of reviewing candidates.

Superintendent Macero announced the retirements of Krista Stevens and Gay Belanger.

S. Discussion/Correspondence/New Items

D. Maurer announced that the SBCEF Trivia Bee will take place on May 14 at the Boys and Girls Club.

Chair Wallace announced that tickets are still available for the elementary schools' Annual Trivia Night this Saturday at the Stoneham/Woburn Elks.

T. EXECUTIVE SESSION

ACTION: A motion was made D. Maurer and seconded by M. Fiore to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of Collective Bargaining per MGL Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(3) as an open discussion may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the Committee, to return to open session. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call at 9:42 P.M.

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED
JOHN MACERO, SUPERINTENDENT**

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
MARCH 17, 2022

A meeting of the School Committee was held at 7:00 P.M. on Thursday, March 17, 2022 at the Central Middle School Media Center with the following members present: Jaime Wallace, Chair; David Maurer, Nicole Nial, Betty Chu Pryor and Melanie Fiore. Also present was John Macero, Superintendent and David Ljungberg, Assistant Superintendent.

Chair J. Wallace 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 D. Maurer and seconded by M. Fiore to approve the minutes of March 3, 2022. The motion was approved 5-0.

ACTION: A motion was made by D. Maurer and seconded by M. Fiore to approve the minutes of March 3, 2022 Executive Session to remain confidential. The motion was approved 5-0.

C. Public Comment

None

D. Approval of Warrant

None

E. Student Representative

Student Representatives Sophia Zullo and Syndey Vallone reported on winter sports tournament results and the start of spring sports on Monday, March 21; Carnival Ball April 29-30; the upcoming Spring Musical *Seussical the Musical* May 20-22; NHS Inductions; Washington D.C. and NYC upcoming field trips and the lifting of the mask mandate.

F. Policy – Second Reading/Approval: 9-0.2 Guest WiFi Acceptable Use

ACTION: A motion was made by D. Maurer and seconded by M. Fiore to waive the second reading of the policy. The motion was approved 5-0.

ACTION: A motion was made by D. Maurer and seconded by M. Fiore to approve policy 9-0.2 Wi-Fi Acceptable Use. The motion was approved 5-0.

G. Approval of Scholarship

Superintendent Macero recommended acceptance of a scholarship to be supported by the funds remaining in the closed-out Thomas Cleary Scholarship Fund totaling \$5,220.62. The name of the scholarship will be the Stoneham Central Middle School Scholarship and will provide one \$1,000 scholarship annually for the next five years to a deserving Stoneham High School senior. The balance of \$220.62 will go into the Central Middle School general scholarship fund.

ACTION: A motion was made by D. Maurer and seconded by N. Nial to accept the transfer of scholarship funds as presented. The motion was approved 4-0-1 with J. Wallace abstaining.

H. School Building Committee

N. Nial reported that the committee met Monday night, March 14 and the next meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 28. The committee is looking at possible cuts due to Covid inflation.

I. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Macero reported on current kindergarten registration numbers:

Colonial Park – 29

South School – 42

Robin Hood - 62

Assistant Superintendent Ljungberg reported on the following:

Acknowledged the efforts of a group of concerned citizens who redid the sign at the Albert J. Duff park at the old Central School. The group is currently fundraising to update the park.

New personnel update:

- Robin Hood Principal: Jordan Weyner will begin July 1, 2022
- Central Middle School Principal: Thomas Sallee will begin July 1, 2022
- Director of Human Resources: Ana Veras will begin March 21, 2022.
- School and Municipal Budget Director: Leia Secor will begin June 19, 2022
- Director of Technology and Digital Learning: Yusef Guler who is transitioning one to two days a week and will begin full time the end of May

J. Discussion/Correspondence/New Items

D. Maurer announced that the SBCEF Trivia Bee will take place on May 14 at the Boys and Girls Club.

K. EXECUTIVE SESSION

ACTION: A motion was made D. Maurer and seconded by B. Pryor to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of Collective Bargaining per MGL Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(3) as an open discussion may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the Committee, to return to open session. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call at 7:30 P.M.

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED
JOHN MACERO, SUPERINTENDENT**

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

APRIL 7, 2022

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

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

A. Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Wallace announced a change in order of the agenda, bringing the Student Representative, John and Abigail Adams Scholarship recognitions and MASS Awards to the top of the agenda.

B. Student Representative

Student Representative Sophia Zullo reported on the ending of the 3rd Quarter, spring sports update, NYC Field Trip, Carnival Ball on April 29 and April 30, May Arts Festival – dates to be announced, Drama Club spring musical *Seussical the Musical* – May 20-22, Junior Prom tomorrow night.

C. John and Abigail Adams Scholarships

Principal Bryan Lombardi announced the names of the high school seniors who qualify to receive 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 35 students who qualified.

Superintendent Macero announced this year's recipients of the MASS Superintendent's Award that recognizes academic excellence, community service and other activities that distinguish high school students. This year's recipients are Sophia Zullo and William Maurer.

The Chair called for a recess at 7:16 P.M. The Committee returned to Open Session at 7:34 P.M.

D. Approval of Minutes

ACTION: A motion was made by M. Fiore and seconded by B. Pryor to approve the minutes of March 17, 2022. The motion was approved 5-0.

ACTION: A motion was made by M. Fiore and seconded by B. Pryor to approve the minutes of March 17, 2022 Executive Session to remain confidential. The motion was approved 5-0.

E. Public Comment

M. Fiore read a letter from Erin McCoy Alacon, Co-Chair of SEPAC, in support of the FY23 Budget that includes a Special Education supervisor in each of the schools, an additional resource room teacher at the Central Middle School and piloting a co-taught class at South School.

F. Approval of Warrant

ACTION: A motion was made by M. Fiore and seconded by B. Pryor to approve Warrant 2238 in the amount of \$391,329.60. The motion was approved 5-0.

ACTION: A motion was made by M. Fiore and seconded by D. Maurer to approve Warrant 2240 in the amount of \$298,353.48. The motion was approved 5-0.

G. Budget FY22 Recap

Superintendent Macero reported that Mr. Duffy needs to make further adjustments and updates to the FY22 Budget and will present a more accurate account of the budget at the next scheduled meeting.

H. Budget FY23

SHINE Program: Promoting Socialization, Habilitation and Independence through Nurturing Environments. Anne Zernicke, Director of Special Education, and Kyle Roberts, current High School RISE teacher, presented a detailed report of the SHINE Program. The program's mission is to prepare transition aged (18-22) individuals with moderate and intensive special education needs for independent living and meaningful participation in their community. Post-secondary opportunities and outcomes will be carefully planned in partnership with the Department of Developmental Services and can include transitions to supported employment opportunities, transition to community-based day support programs or transition to day habilitation programs. The presentation included a sample schedule, curriculum, related services and staffing.

Restructuring of Administrators:

Mr. Ljungberg, along with building principals, proposed a restructuring of the current supervisors. The proposal would include:

Director:

- Physical Education, Health and Athletics K-12 (adds Health)

Supervisors:

- Humanities – High School (ELA, World Language, Unified and Performing Arts, Social Studies)
- STEM – High School (Math, Science, Technology, Engineering)
- Humanities – Middle School (ELA, World Language, Unified and Performing Arts, Social Studies)
- STEM – Middle School (Math, Science, Technology, Engineering)
- Special Education Coordinators (One at each school)
- Department Heads: Proposing adding four additional 9-12 positions: ELA, Math, Social Studies and Science. These would be stipend positions for a total cost of about \$25,000 - \$26,000. Department Heads would drop one section of what they are currently teaching and focus working on curriculum support with teachers and working alongside supervisors.

A discussion followed on the need for additional department heads and the impact on students and class sizes with department heads not teaching one class section.

Mr. Ljungberg explained that with two supervisors retiring, department heads would assist with strong curricular support and updating the curricular to be in compliance with NEASC

recommendations and also give direct support to teachers and students. This would also give supervisors time for management of grants.

A. Zernicke outlined the proposed special education coordinators. The current model has one elementary, one middle school and one high school. The proposed model would have one coordinator at each of the schools:

- Grades 9-12
- Grades 5-8
- South School/Out of District
- Colonial Park/Preschool
- Robin Hood

The proposed model would allow for thorough case management and be a visible resource and point of contact for families.

Superintendent Macero reviewed the current budget highlights:

Elementary:

- Kindergarten ESPs – one per classroom
- Science/Technology/Engineering Teacher – one per school
- Maintain four first grade teachers at Robin Hood

Middle School

- Restructure Program Supervisors to be school-based supervisors: Humanities and STEM at both schools
- Add additional STRIDE teacher
- Increase lunch monitors
- Increase all supplies for Math, English, Social Studies and Science

High School

- Increase all instructional supplies and textbooks
- Restructure Department Heads for Social Studies, Science, English, Math *(teach four classes plus admin. responsibilities)
- Establish an 18-22 years old special education program (SHINE)

District Wide

- Director of Human Resources and administrative assistant
- Director of Technology and Digital Learning
- Budget Director (School-Municipal 65/35)
- Increase technology budget
- Restructure the integrated preschool program
- Hire additional Special Education Coordinator
 - Grades 9-12
 - Grades 5-8
 - Out of District/South School
 - Preschool/Colonial Park
 - Robin Hood
- Increase out of district tuitions
- Increase professional development by \$40,000
- Hire Handyman

Capital

- Central Middle School roof restoration (old section)
- Old Central School (SEEM) roof
- South School designer/architect

Chair Wallace asked if the line item vote could wait until June or the next meeting to give them a chance to read through the descriptions. Superintendent Macero was concerned with posting the positions and Bryan Lombardi was concerned the delay would have implications on scheduling at the high school. Mr. Ljungberg added that this would be a one year pilot and all department head positions would be a one year stipend.

ACTION: A motion was made by D. Maurer and seconded by M. Fiore to approve the FY23 line item budget as presented. The motion was approved 4-1-0 with J. Wallace voting no.

I. Policy Update: 6-23

This agenda item is tabled until the May meeting.

J. Crystal Apple Criteria

Chair Wallace read the criteria for the Crystal Apple awards and noted the deadline to submit nominations is May 20th.

K. Ratification of Superintendent's Contract

This agenda item is tabled to the meeting April 28th.

L. School Building Committee

N. Nial reported that about \$12,000,000 in cuts needed to be made due to Covid price escalation. The cuts included one turf field and the district offices. The next meeting is scheduled for April 11th.

M. Superintendent's Report

D. Ljungberg reported that the park at the old Central School had been vandalized and a group was formed to repair the damage and update some of the equipment. Ruth Cronin found that at a School Committee meeting dated October 25, 2015, Dr. Olson discussed the lighting of the park and stated that the maintenance of the lights and equipment were turned over to the recreation department in 1996.

N. Discussion/Correspondence/New Items

D. Maurer announced that the SBCEF Trivia Bee will take place on May 14 at the Boys and Girls Club.

B. Chu Pryor announced that the Keep Stoneham Beautiful chapter will hold a clean up on Saturday, April 23 at 10:00 a.m. followed by a picnic on the common. Rain date is the following day.

O. EXECUTIVE SESSION

ACTION: A motion was made D. Maurer and seconded by M. Fiore to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of Collective Bargaining per MGL Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(3) as an open discussion may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the Committee, to return to open session. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call at 9:05 P.M.

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED
JOHN MACERO, SUPERINTENDENT**

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
SPECIAL MEETING
APRIL 28, 2022

A meeting of the School Committee was held at 7:00 P.M. on Thursday, April 28, 2022 at the Central Middle School Media Center with the following members present: Jaime Wallace, Chair; David Maurer, Nicole Nial, Betty Chu Pryor and Melanie Fiore. Also present was John Macero, Superintendent and David Ljungberg, Assistant Superintendent.

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

A. Pledge of Allegiance

B. Approval of Warrant

ACTION: A motion was made by B. Pryor and seconded by M. Fiore to approve Warrant 2242 in the amount of \$597,952.99. The motion was approved 5-0.

C. Approval of Scholarships

Superintendent Macero recommended acceptance of a scholarship to be supported by funds remaining in closed-out scholarships totaling \$13,034.54. The name of the scholarship will be the *Town of Stoneham Education Fund Scholarship* and will provide one \$1,000 scholarship annually until the funds are fully spent. The recipient must be a resident of Stoneham and a Stoneham High School senior with a demonstrated interest in civic engagement. If these criteria are not met, it will be awarded to a deserving Stoneham High School senior.

ACTION: A motion was made by M. Fiore and seconded by B. Pryor to accept the scholarship as presented. The motion was approved 5-0.

Superintendent Macero recommended acceptance of a scholarship to be supported by funds remaining in closed-out scholarships totaling \$15,383.49. The name of the scholarship will be the *Town Scholarship Fund* and will provide one \$1,000 scholarship annually until the funds are fully spent. The recipient must be a resident of Stoneham and a Stoneham High School senior with a demonstrated interest in civic engagement. If these criteria are not met, it will be awarded to a deserving Stoneham High School senior.

ACTION: A motion was made by M. Fiore and seconded by B. Pryor to accept the scholarship as presented. The motion was approved 5-0.

D. Acceptance of Gift – Duff Park

ACTION: A motion was made by D. Maurer and seconded by M. Fiore to accept the gift of \$10,000 from a community group to be used to repair and rehab Duff Park at the old Central School. It was noted that the Department of Public Works will be involved with the facilities. The motion was approved 5-0.

E. Vote to Approve Employment Contract for David Ljungberg

Chair Wallace announced that the School Committee has come to an agreement with David Ljungberg, the current Assistant Superintendent, for the position of Superintendent of Schools.

ACTION: A motion was made by D. Maurer and seconded by N. Nial to approve the employment contract with David Ljungberg as Superintendent of Schools. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call.

Chair Wallace and David Ljungberg signed the contract agreement.

F. School Building Committee

N. Nial gave an update of the last School Building Committee meeting and the further discussions regarding the \$12,000,000 cut from the project. It is hoped that some of the items that were cut can be added back in at a later time. The biggest impact will be the cut of the district offices.

G. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Macero announced that the Carnival Ball will take place Saturday night and the Art Show for grades 4-12 is taking place tonight.

N. Nial requested further discussion on the restructuring of the supervisors and department heads that was approved at the last meeting. The question is regarding the positions being decreased to .8 and also receiving an additional stipend.

ACTION: A motion was made by N. Nial and seconded by D. Maurer to reconsider the vote to approve the line item budget. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call.

Mr. Ljungberg outlined the restructure of the department heads and the supervisors stating that he felt it was needed to build in structure and support. It will also open up the opportunity for experienced teachers to take on a leadership role. The restructured job responsibilities for department heads are not possible to do while they are teaching a full schedule of classes. If there is an adverse effect on class sizes, he will come back to the table and see what other model we can adopt. Once we know the department heads, we will know what classes will be affected.

A discussion followed regarding the role of program supervisors and the role of department heads.

D. Ljungberg believed that the restructure will bring a very high return and reiterated that these stipend positions are a one-year pilot only and will be followed and evaluated.

ACTION: A motion was made by D. Maurer and seconded by N. Nial to move forward with the proposal that was approved at the last meeting. The motion was approved 4-1 with J. Wallace a no vote.

H. Discussion/Correspondence/New Items

D. Maurer announced that the SBCEF Trivia Bee will take place May 14 and the Town Meeting will take place on Monday night.

I. EXECUTIVE SESSION

ACTION: A motion was made D. Maurer and seconded by N. Nial to enter into Executive 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 7:55 P.M.

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED
JOHN MACERO, SUPERINTENDENT**

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
MAY 12, 2022

A meeting of the School Committee was held at 7:00 P.M. on Thursday, May 12, 2022 at the Central Middle School Media Center with the following members present: Jaime Wallace, Chair; David Maurer, Nicole Nial, Betty Chu Pryor and Melanie Fiore. Also present was John Macero, Superintendent.

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

A. Pledge of Allegiance

B. School Committee Reorganization

Chair J. Wallace passed the gavel to Superintendent Macero who opened the floor for nominations from the Committee for Chairperson.

N. Nial nominated D. Maurer for the position of Chairperson. The nomination was seconded by B. Pryor. 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 5-0.

ACTION: The Committee voted 4-0-1 by roll call to appoint D. Maurer as Chairperson. D. Maurer abstained.

Superintendent Macero passed the gavel to D. Maurer.

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

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

ACTION: The Committee voted 4-0-1 by roll call to appoint M. Fiore as Vice-Chairperson; M. Fiore abstained.

C. Approval of Minutes

ACTION: A motion was made by B. Pryor and seconded by J. Wallace to approve the minutes of April 7, 2022 and April 28, 2022. The motion was approved 5-0.

ACTION: A motion was made by M. Fiore and seconded by J. Wallace to approve the Executive Session minutes of March 28, 2022; April 7, 2022 and April 28, 2022 to remain confidential. The motion was approved 5-0.

D. Public Comment

None

E. Approval of Warrant

Tabled to the Monday, May 16, 2022 meeting.

F. Student Representatives: Sophia Zullo and Sydney Vallone

Sophia Zullo reported that seniors are on the home stretch with only 8 days remaining; juniors and seniors participated in the powder puff; senior prom May 31 and spring sports.

Sydney Vallone reported on the NHS ceremony induction and the Drama Club production of Sussical the Musical on May 20 through May 22, 2022.

G. Administration of Medications - Approval

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 J. Wallace and seconded by B. Pryor to approve the application for medication delegation and administration. The motion was approved 5-0.

H. Stoneham Boosters Club Carnival – Kathy Hudson

Kathy Hudson, President of the Booster Club, requested approval to hold the Booster Club carnival on the grassy area in front of the Central Middle School. She presented a diagram of the set up and said they would guarantee all grass and hot top areas and fix if any damage occurred.

A discussion followed regarding notification to the neighbors. Kathy Hudson said that they will talk to all neighbors and vouchers for free rides will be given to them.

ACTION: A motion was made by J. Wallace and seconded by M. Fiore to approve the use of the grassy area in front of the Central Middle School for the Booster Club carnival. Chair Maurer requested that Superintendent Macero sign the contract to make sure that it is correct. The motion was approved 5-0.

I. Budget FY22 Recap

Superintendent Macero reported a projected balance of \$40,000 but stated that they will have a better idea after the balloon payroll payment is made.

J. Budget FY23 Update

Superintendent Macero reported that the FY23 Budget fluctuates daily due to resignations, retirements and new hires. The updated budget currently has a positive balance of \$42,200 and will continue to change over the next couple of months as we solidify all hires. Due to enrollment numbers, there is a need to hire an additional kindergarten teacher and ESP at Robin Hood School.

Other anticipated postings included:

- Resource Teacher at South School
- Resource Teacher at Central Middle School
- RISE Teacher at High School (replaces Kyle Roberts who will run the 18-22 program)
- Increase contracted services for Special Education
- Increase contracted services for Webinar and Professional Development

ACTION: A motion was made by J. Wallace and seconded by M. Fiore to approve the line item changes. The motion was approved 5-0.

K. Policy Update: 6-23

Chair Maurer reported that Wellness Policy 6-23 is 16 pages long and is on the School Committee webpage; the public has access to it so the first reading can be waived.

ACTION: A motion was made by J. Wallace and seconded by N. Nial to waive the first reading of Wellness Policy 6-23. The motion was approved 5-0.

M. Fiore gave an update on the policy changes and read the preamble. The policy will be brought back to the next meeting for approval.

L. School Building Committee

N. Nial reported that the School Committee and Select Board have been invited to meet with the Building Committee on Monday night. State Senator Jason Lewis and State Representative Michael Day will be in attendance.

It was suggested that a committee be formed to suggest a possible location for the district offices; J. Wallace volunteered to sit on the committee.

Chair Maurer voiced concerns about the life span of the turf fields and if deferred maintenance can run into hazard problems and also questioned if it is a hazardous material and what happens when it comes time to replace it. He stated that he would like to better understand the entire life cycle of the field and its products and requested that the Athletic Director put together a business plan that includes maintenance costs on an annual basis. Superintendent Macero said he spoke with David Pignone and he will form a committee to address concerns and come up with a business plan.

Superintendent Macero reported that twelve-month employees will have summer access to the High School via Boxwood Ave; it will open up the second week of July and close when Franklin Street reopens on August 15.

Ground breaking ceremonies will take place June 15 at 1:00.

M. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Macero reported on the locations of the summer programs, kindergarten numbers and senior events.

N. Discussion/Correspondence/New Items

J. Wallace announced that the SBCEF Trivia Bee will take place May 14 at the Boys and Girls Club. The three elementary PTO's will sponsor a fundraiser "Fun Run" on May 27.

O. EXECUTIVE SESSION

ACTION: A motion was made J. Wallace and seconded by M. Fiore to enter into Executive 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 8:20 P.M.

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED
JOHN MACERO, SUPERINTENDENT**

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
SPECIAL MEETING
MAY 16, 2022

A meeting of the School Committee was held at 6:45 P.M. on Monday, May 16, 2022 at the Central Middle School Media Center with the following members present: David Maurer, Chair; Jaime Wallace, Nicole Nial and Melanie Fiore. Also present was John Macero, Superintendent.

Chair D. Maurer called the meeting of the School Committee to order at 6:45 P.M.

Approval of Warrants

ACTION: A motion was made by M. Fiore and seconded by N. Nial to approve Warrant 2244 in the amount of \$226,058.54. The motion was approved 4-0.

ACTION: A motion was made by M. Fiore and seconded by N. Nial to approve Warrant 2246 in the amount of \$204,684.42. The motion was approved 4-0.

B. Pryor joined the meeting at 7:00 P.M.

At 7:00 P.M. the School Committee joined the School Building Committee and participated in a legislative discussion with Senator Lewis and Representative Day.

ACTION: A motion was made by J. Wallace and seconded by N. Nial to adjourn at 8:15 P.M. The motion was approved 5-0.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED
JOHN MACERO, SUPERINTENDENT

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
MAY 26, 2022

A meeting of the School Committee was held at 6:30 P.M. on Thursday, May 26, 2022 at the Central Middle School Media Center with the following members present: Melanie Fiore, Vice Chair; Jaime Wallace, Nicole Nial and Betty Chu Pryor. Also present was John Macero, Superintendent and David Ljungberg, Assistant Superintendent.

Vice Chair M. Fiore called the meeting of the School Committee to order at 6:30 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 May 12, 2022 and May 16, 2022. The motion was approved 4-0.

ACTION: A motion was made by J. Wallace and seconded by B. Pryor to approve the Executive Session minutes of May 12, 2022 to remain confidential. The motion was approved 4-0.

C. Public Comment

None

D. Approval of Warrant

Tabled to the Thursday, June 09, 2022 meeting.

E. Student Representatives: Sophia Zullo and Sydney Vallone

Student Representatives were not in attendance at the meeting. J. Wallace gave an update of student activities that included:

- The fantastic performance of the Drama Club's Seussical the Musical last weekend
- High School Band Concert Monday night
- Tuesday night was academic and scholarship night
- Senior picnic is tonight
- June 1 Athletic Banquet
- June 2 Senior Car Parade
- June 3 Graduation

N. Nial added that the All Night Party will follow graduation.

M. Fiore added that last Friday the students participated in a stressless day

F. Policy Update: 6-23

ACTION: A motion was made by J. Wallace and seconded by N. Nial to waive the second reading of Wellness Policy 6-23. The motion was approved 4-0.

ACTION: A motion was made by J. Wallace and seconded by B. Pryor to approve Wellness Policy 6-23. The motion was approved 4-0.

G. Web Design - Update

M. Fiore reported that the Stoneham Public Schools website is being updated and redesigned. A committee has been formed led by Director of Technology Yusuf Guler. The target goal for completion is September. Committee members should send any input they have to Dave Ljungberg.

H. School Building Committee

N. Nial reported that Value Engineering has cut \$12 million dollars from the project. The Building Committee will meet on June 6 to prioritize items that they would like to add back in to the project if money becomes available.

J. Wallace reported that she met with Leia Secor and David Pignone today to look at the possibility of self-funding the maintenance of the fields and auditorium and are looking at surrounding towns to see how they maintain these facilities.

At 7:00 Sydney Vallone, Student Representative, joined the meeting and reported on the last day of school, senior activities, National Honor Society green clean-up, Drama Club production of Seussical the Musical and spring sports.

I. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Macero reported on the locations of the summer programs, kindergarten numbers and senior events. Moving On ceremonies will be held at the schools on the following dates:

- June 8 – Colonial Park
- June 9 – Robin Hood
- June 10 – South School
- June 13 – Central Middle School

Head Nurse Sandra Malzone gave an update on the Department of Education's Covid guideline changes. There will no longer be a quarantine requirement for unvaccinated close contacts, testing kits will no longer be distributed and testing will end on June 15 and will not be done next year.

Assistant Superintendent Ljungberg gave an update on the NEASC Special Progress Report. This is a ten-year process and the High School is currently on warning status. We are approaching the five-year mark and a progress report is due in September that needs to show that we are making progress.

The following three programs will run this summer:

- Extended School Year Program – Students with ESY included on their IEP's
- Summer Step-Up Program in corporation with the Boys and Girls Club and the United Way – up to 250 students
- General Ed Program geared for students in grades 2-8. This program is ESSER III funded and will address learning gaps

J. Discussion/Correspondence/New Items

J. Wallace reported that the three elementary PTO's will sponsor a fundraiser "Fun Run" on May 27 and the town Memorial Day Parade will take place on Monday at 10:00 a.m.

K. EXECUTIVE SESSION

ACTION: A motion was made J. Wallace and seconded by B. Pryor to enter into Executive 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 7:05 P.M.

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED
JOHN MACERO, SUPERINTENDENT**

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
JUNE 9, 2022

A meeting of the School Committee was held at 7:00 P.M. on Thursday, June 9, 2022 at the Central Middle School Media Center with the following members present: David Maurer, Chair, Melanie Fiore, Jaime Wallace, Nicole Nial and Betty Chu Pryor. Also present was John Macero, Superintendent and David Ljungberg, Assistant Superintendent.

Chair D. Maurer called the meeting of the School Committee to order at 7:00 P.M. and revised the agenda to move Item #2 Executive Session to after #8 Crystal Apple Awards.

A. Pledge of Allegiance

B. Approval of Minutes

ACTION: A motion was made by J. Wallace and seconded by N. Nial to approve the minutes of May 26, 2022. The motion was approved 5-0.

ACTION: A motion was made by J. Wallace and seconded by N. Nial to approve the Executive Session minutes of May 26, 2022 to remain confidential. The motion was approved 5-0.

C. Public Comment

Erin McCoy Alarcon, Co-Chair of SEPAC, gave a brief update on SEPAC that included what they do and what they have accomplished this past year.

D. Approval of Warrant

ACTION: A motion was made by J. Wallace and seconded by M. Fiore to approve Bill Warrant #2248 in the amount of \$528,862.63 and Bill Warrant #2250 in the amount of \$216,607.73. The motion was approved 4-0-1 with N. Nial abstaining.

E. Student Representatives

Sydney Vallone reported on end of the year activities, graduation, chorus, spring sports, the election of class officers for next year, book awards and final exams beginning tomorrow.

F. Recognition of Retirees

The following staff were recognized upon their retirement from Stoneham Public Schools:

Name	Position/School	Years of Service
Christopher Banos	Principal, Central Middle School	24
Gay Belanger	Teacher, Central Middle School	36
Sharon Chapman	Program Supervisor of Science, CMS/HS	35
Janet Chirichiello	ESP, Robin Hood School	26
Mary Daniels-O'Brien	Teacher, Robin Hood School	21
Sandra Fulmer	Assistant Principal, Central Middle School	24
Josephine Piro	Teacher, Robin Hood School	22

Krista Stevens	Program Supervisor of English, CMS/HS	32
Jayne Traill	ESP, Central Middle School	21
Kathleen Welch	Secretary, High School	17
David Strong	Custodian, High School	9
John Macero	Superintendent of Schools	5

G. Crystal Apple Awards

Crystal Apples were awarded to the following:

- Debbie Pettengill
- Kyle Roberts
- Jack McShane
- Sandra Fulmer
- John Macero

The Chair announced a brief recess at 7:20 P.M. and the Committee returned to open session at 7:45 P.M.

- H. EXECUTIVE SESSION:** A motion was made by J. Wallace and seconded by B. Pryor to enter into Executive Session for Collective Bargaining per MGL Chapter 30A, §21 (a) (3) as an open discussion may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the Committee, and to return to open session. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call at 7:47 P.M.

The Committee returned to Open Session at 7:58 P.M. and J. Wallace announced that a tentative agreement has been reached with the STA and the School Committee has unanimously ratified the agreement. The STA will now need to ratify the agreement. J. Wallace also announced that a tentative agreement has been reached with the Custodial Union.

I. Web Design - Update

D. Ljungberg reported that the Web Design group continues to meet and have chosen a template for the new design. A survey has gone out asking for input with regards to the content of the website.

J. School Building Committee

N. Nial reported that Ground Breaking ceremonies will take place June 16 at 1:00 in front of the High School. All are invited. N. Nial also reported that steel bids have come in way over budget and will need to be discussed at the July meeting.

D. Ljungberg added that beginning June 16 they will fence the area, bring in equipment and secure the area. There will be no entrance to the High School July 15 through August 15

K. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Macero reported that every five years we need to put out for bid a food service contract. Aramark is again the recommended vendor. Information is included in the packet and will be placed on the June 22 retreat meeting agenda for approval.

Anne Zernicke, Director of Special Education, reported that all preschool classes are full at this time and requested approval to add an additional classroom due to the steady number of

referrals from early intervention. It is anticipated that 4-5 children will be recommended for the program in September. The School Committee will take this into consideration at the June 22 retreat meeting.

D. Ljungberg reported that the posting for an interim assistant superintendent brought 15 applicants and one clearly stood out. It was important to find a candidate who can assist him and bring stability as well as a sense of where we have been and where we are going. Mr. Ljungberg recommended Kathy Martin for the interim assistant superintendent position from July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023, pending successful contract negotiations and School Committee approval.

ACTION: A motion was made by J. Wallace and seconded by B. Pryor to approve entering into negotiations with Kathy Martin for the position of interim assistant superintendent. The motion was approved 5-0.

L. Discussion/Correspondence/New Items

M. EXECUTIVE SESSION

ACTION: A motion was made J. Wallace and seconded by B. Pryor to enter into Executive 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 8:20 P.M.

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED
JOHN MACERO, SUPERINTENDENT**

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

JUNE 22, 2022

A meeting of the School Committee was held at 9:00 A.M. on Wednesday, June 22, 2022 at the Stoneham Public Library with the following members present: David Maurer, Chair, Melanie Fiore, Jaime Wallace, Nicole Nial and Betty Chu Pryor. Also present was David Ljungberg, Assistant Superintendent.

Chair D. Maurer called the meeting of the School Committee to order at 9:00 A.M.

A. Pledge of Allegiance

B. Consideration of Aramark Contract

ACTION: A motion was made by J. Wallace and seconded by M. Fiore to approve the three-year contract with Aramark for the school lunch program. The motion was approved 5-0.

C. Consideration of Interim Assistant Superintendent

ACTION: A motion was made by J. Wallace and seconded by B. Pryor to approve the appointment of Kathy Martin as Interim Assistant Superintendent. The motion was approved 5-0.

D. Consideration of Additional Preschool Classroom

The Committee discussed the need for an additional preschool classroom and concerns about its location due to lack of available space; this would bring the number of preschool classrooms to eight – which is all that is being proposed to build at the high school in two years. It was also discussed whether half day programs should be reconsidered as this could allow for double the number of students to be serviced in a classroom.

ACTION: A motion was made by M. Fiore and seconded by N. Nial to approve the additional classroom contingent upon the administration taking another look at half day programs. The motion was approved 5-0.

E. Policy: Chromebook User and Protection Plan – First Reading

ACTION: A motion was made by J. Wallace and seconded by N. Nial to waive the first reading of the policy and post it on the website. The motion was approved 5-0.

The Committee discussed how the funds would be managed that would be collected for repair or replacement of damaged computers and parts. A revolving account will be set up for repairs and replacements.

F. Contract Ratifications

None

ACTION: A motion was made by J. Wallace and seconded by B. Pryor to adjourn the meeting and continue the day with the School Committee Retreat.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED
DAVID LJUNGBERG, ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT