Members Present: Mr. Rausch, Ms. Ames, Ms. Bader, Mr. Dever, Ms. Dalpe-Healy
Mr. DiGiacomo

Members Absent:
Administrators Present: Dr. Gould, Ms. Austin, Ms. Wiklund, Mr. Dintino, Mr. Mulcahy

CALL MEETING TO ORDER:
Mr. Rausch called the meeting to order at 7:00pm and stated that the meeting is being filmed live on Sandwich Community TV and video taped.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PUBLIC FORUM:
David Darling, 215 Old County Road, East Sandwich: Mr. Darling promoted tax relief for seniors in the community.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT:
Dr. Gould mentioned that we are at the halfway point of the school year and we are knee deep in the sports season. The Oak Ridge school held the kindness tunnel this week which is always awesome. Everything has been quiet and going well for the schools.

FY21 BUDGET UPDATE:
Dr. Gould gave a brief overview of where we stand with the FY21 budget and what it costs to do business. She addressed the Student Opportunities Act along with the Chapter 70 funding where the amount has decreased that we will be receiving. A presentation on the Charter Schools and the amount of funds we are losing from students choosing to attend them. This issue is what is killing this district and we need to focus on what to do to keep our students here in Sandwich. A staffing comparison of FY17 to FY20 was presented to visualize the decreases that have occurred during this period. We are constantly trying to keep any cuts down for staffing. However, the actual impact of potential cuts for FY21 will depend upon the budget % that will be voted on later in this meeting.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:
Ms. Ames mentioned Heather Clifford, a graduate of Sandwich and the article in the newspaper about her exciting career. We prepared her for college. It would be a great idea to have her and other Sandwich graduates come here to speak to our students
Mr. DiGiacomo mentioned the great event to raise funds for a SHS hockey player who was recently diagnosed with cancer. Congratulations to all involved with the event and who attended.
Mr. Dever commented on all the great events that are put on by the schools.
Mr. Rausch mentioned that you can see the blue knight pride in all these events and I am very proud.
NEW BUSINESS:

- **Forestdale Library Books for Discarding:**
  Ms. Ames made a motion to approve the discarding of the Forestdale Books as presented. Second by Ms. Bader.
  
  **Vote:** Aye: Mr. Rausch, Ms. Ames, Ms. Bader, Mr. Dever, Ms. Dalpe-Healy, Mr. DiGiacomo
  
  6-0-0  Unanimous

- **STEM/SHS Library Books for Discarding:**
  Mr. Mulcahy explained that the list of 700 books was not included with his handout but that the sheet with the link to the books will be shared with the school committee at a later time. We could vote on the discarding of the books at the next school committee meeting.

A discussion on charter school enrollments and the amount per pupil cost with Mr. Dever, Ms. Bader and Dr. Gould took place. Ms. Bader mentioned that the children deserve a level serviced budget and having a strong school system in the community is important. It is in everyone's best interest to support the school system.

**PUBLIC BUDGET HEARING @7:30:**
Mr. Rausch opened up the Public Budget Hearing at 7:40pm

**James McCormick:** Mr. McCormick introduced himself as a member of the Finance Board and spoke on the FY21 School Budget. He has used a different budget process than how we do it here. The budget needs to be certified tonight and the public does not know the budget cuts? He has concerns on the budget and has a different way of looking at it. He would be willing to sit down and discuss his concerns and how to make it cost effective. The school committee members and Dr. Gould explained how all cuts will be in salaries as we have discussed in our budget presentations. Dr. Gould went on to say that we have a plan and are doing this systematically. She performs a personnel audit and we do what is in the best interest of the children. What is determined tonight will then be updated on the FY21 budget report.

**Dave Sampson:** Mr. Sampson, Chairman of the Board of Selectmen spoke on his concerns on the budget process. We need to work together as Boards and put together recommendations. The school committee has not participated in the process which is stated in the Town Charter, where only one school committee member was present at the Tri-Board Meeting. Tonight the school committee will make a budget recommendation based on the operating budget allocation from the Town which was recently shown at 3.75%. We want to provide the best educational opportunities but how do we overcome the challenges this year along with the State and Charter School issues. This is not an easy fix and how do we meet the needs for the school and the community.

Mr. Rausch thanked Mr. Sampson for being in attendance tonight and speaking. Mr. Dever mentioned that it helps the Town to have good schools and to focus on this. Mr. DiGiacomo and
Ms. Bader were not made aware that the Tri-Board meetings were something we had to attend but we will be in attendance for the future.

Mr. Dever made a motion to close the Public Budget Meetings at 8:17pm. Second by Ms. Dalpe-Healy.

Vote: Aye: Mr. Rausch, Ms. Ames, Ms. Bader, Mr. Dever, Ms. Dalpe-Healy, Mr. DiGiacomo
6-0-0 Unanimous

NEW BUSINESS:

• STEM/SHS Program of Studies - 1st Reading:
  Mr. Mulcahy presented the proposed updates and new courses to the Program of Studies brought to him by the department chairs, teachers etc. to provide the best academics to students. The areas of Mathematics, Business, History, Physical Education, English, World Languages, Technology, Science, Fine/Applied Arts were among the discussion. Students select their courses at the end of February/beginning of March, therefore we are bringing forward the updates at this time. We hold high expectations for students and continue to raise the bar with the courses offered. We want students and teachers to work hard to be successful.
  Mr. Rausch mentioned that these courses teach real world skills that we are providing and future career options. Ms. Bader thought the course list is great, popular changes and opportunities. Thank you for your efforts.

• Accepting Recommendation for School Transportation:
  Ms. Austin provided the transportation bid proposals and shared her recommendation. The company Lucini Bus Lines was the lowest bidder with recognized savings. This is the recommendation for the School Transportation. Discussion on various cost lines of the bid proposals with Ms. Ames took place and Ms. Austin stated that the overall bid is the lowest of all.
  Ms. Ames made a motion to have Ms. Austin begin the negotiations with the Lucini Bus Lines as presented. Second by Mr. Dever.
  Vote: Aye: Mr. Rausch, Ms. Ames, Ms. Bader, Mr. Dever, Ms. Dalpe-Healy, Mr. DiGiacomo
  6-0-0 Unanimous

OLD BUSINESS:

• 2020-2021 School Calendar - 2nd Reading:
  Dr. Gould mentioned that there were no changes made to the calendar from last week.
  Ms. Ames expressed that she has had positive feedback on the calendar.
  Ms. Bader made a motion to accept the 2020-2021 School Calendar as presented.
  Second by Ms. Dalpe-Healy.
  Vote: Aye: Mr. Rausch, Ms. Ames, Ms. Bader, Mr. Dever, Ms. Dalpe-Healy, Mr. DiGiacomo
  6-0-0 Unanimous
• **2020-2021 School Committee Meeting Calendar - 2nd Reading:**
  Dr. Gould mentioned that we discussed last week to change the time of the meetings to 6:00pm. This is the only change we have made to the School Committee Meeting Calendar. Ms. Ames asked about adding a meeting on February 24, 2021 and all were in favor of adding this meeting to the calendar. Mr. DiGiacomo would like to see the Tri-Board meeting added to the School Committee Meeting Calendar of December 3, 2020. It was decided to cancel the December 2, 2020 School Committee Meeting and have the Tri-Board meeting instead.
  Ms. Ames made a motion to accept the 2020-2021 School Committee Meeting Calendar with the revisions of: meeting times changed to 6:00pm, changing December 2, 2020 to December 3, 2020 and noting it as a Tri-Board Meeting at 7:00pm and add a meeting on February 24, 2021 at 6:00pm.
  Second by Mr. DiGiacomo.
  **Vote:** Aye: Mr. Rausch, Ms. Ames, Ms. Bader, Mr. Dever, Ms. Dalpe-Healy, Mr. DiGiacomo
  6-0-0 Unanimous

• **FY21 Budget:**
  There was a discussion on the Curriculum supply lines in the budget with Ms. Ames, Dr. Gould and Ms. Wiklund.
  Mr. DiGiacomo mentioned this is a tough position we are in and we have to come to some conclusion on the budget. A lot of time and effort goes into the budget and we have to trust the people in charge.
  Mr. Dever expressed that we should split the budget percentage between the 3% and a leveled service budget of 4.65% which would be 3.8%. He moved the budget at 3.8%.
  Second by Ms. Bader
  **Discussion:** Ms. Bader was in agreement with Mr. Dever and Mr. DiGiacomo and appreciates the transparency from Dr. Gould.
  Mr. DiGiacomo said this is going to get hard next year so in good faith, we should stay within the recommended 3.75% from the Town Manager and be in line with them.
  **Roll Call Vote:** Aye: Mr. DiGiacomo, Ms. Dalpe-Healy, Mr. Dever, Ms. Bader
  Nay: Ms. Ames, Mr. Rausch
  4-2-0 Passed

**WARRANTS:**
  Mr. Dever made a motion to approve the warrants of January 15, 2020. Second by Ms. Bader.
  **Vote:** Aye: Mr. Rausch, Ms. Ames, Ms. Bader, Mr. Dever, Ms. Dalpe-Healy, Mr. DiGiacomo
  6-0-0 Unanimous
**ACT ON THE MINUTES:**
Mr. DiGiacomo made a motion to accept the School Committee Meeting Minutes of January 15, 2020 as presented. Second by Ms. Dalpe-Healy.
Vote: Aye: Mr. Rausch, Ms. Ames, Ms. Bader, Mr. Dever, Ms. Dalpe-Healy, Mr. DiGiacomo
6-0-0 Unanimous

Mr. Dever mentioned that the motion he made on the warrants was stated as the meeting minutes of January 15, 2020. Mr. Raush asked for a new motion on the warrants to take place.

Mr. Dever made a motion to approve the warrants as presented. Second by Ms. Bader.
Vote: Aye: Mr. Rausch, Ms. Ames, Ms. Bader, Mr. Dever, Ms. Dalpe-Healy, Mr. DiGiacomo
6-0-0 Unanimous

**PTA/PTSA/SPECIAL EDUCATION PAC/SCHOOL COUNCIL/BOARD OF SELECTMEN REPORTS:**
Ms. Bader mentioned the After Prom event that is not going on this year as there is no one to run the event. If anyone is interested in running this, please reach out to her.

**LIAISON/ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORTS:** None

**OTHER TOPICS NOT REASONABLY ANTICIPATED BY THE CHAIR:** None

**PUBLIC FORUM:** None

**ANNOUNCEMENTS/CLOSING REMARKS:**
Mr. DiGiacomo mentioned the Canal Cup at the Gallo Arena on Saturday which starts at 3:30pm and runs to 9:30pm.
Ms. Ames gave a shout out to Kara Black and Kristin MacDonald for all their efforts.

**ADJOURNMENT:**
Ms. Ames moved to adjourn at 9:37pm. Second by Ms. Bader.
Vote: 6-0-0 Unanimous

Meeting is adjourned and the next school committee meeting will be held on February 12, 2020

Respectfully submitted by,

Holly Lenk
School Committee Secretary
DOCUMENTS USED AT MEETING
STEM/SHS Program of Studies
STEM/SHS Library Books for Discarding
Forestdale Library Books for Discarding
School Transportation bid proposal documentation
2020-2021 School Calendar
2020-2021 School Committee Meeting Calendar
FY21 Proposed Budget PowerPoint
January 15, 2020 SC Meeting Minutes