SANDWICH SCHOOL COMMITTEE
April 8, 2020
CONFERENCE CALL

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

Members Absent: 

Administrators Present: Dr. Gould, Ms. Wiklund, Ms. Austin

CALL MEETING TO ORDER:
Mr. Rausch called the meeting to order at 7:00pm which was held through a conference call/google hangouts. This is being recorded and you may view by live stream at this time on Sandwich Community TV.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PUBLIC FORUM: None

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT:
Dr. Gould spoke on teaching students from home and we are now at Phase 2 - At Home Learning Experience. We are able to perform some IEP meetings remotely and put together remote PD as well. We will be connecting remotely with parents who may be struggling at home, a time to ask questions along with our partners at MacLean Hospital.
The question on spring sports, if it will take place, which depends on if we return to school.
MIAA has developed a plan for a modified season if we go back to school.
We will be placing graduation on the next school committee agenda and hope at that time, we will have more information on if we will postpone etc.
Dr. Gould discussed the 2019-2020 school calendar and spoke on proposed changes for cancelling April vacation and the voting day in May. She has had contact with the SEA and has surveyed the staff on these proposed changes, where 92% of the staff would like to work through the April Vacation and May 7th (voting day). This would bring the last day of school to June 16th. A later vote during “Other Topics Not Reasonably Anticipated” on the agenda will take place then stated Mr. Rausch.
There were discussions and questions from the school committee members regarding several topics:
Services for students at home in certain situations. Dr. Gould assured the committee that steps are being taken to have contact with the families through the social workers and working with MacLean Hospital to keep our kids safe.
The status of what we are paying for the bus contract was discussed with Ms. Austin. We have paid only for services we have received at this time but we have no definitive answer on moving forward as to the costs we will need to pay during this crisis. Ms. Austin will come back to the school committee once we have a decision.
Special Education home services was discussed with Ms. Ames. These services are not being performed and are we being credited for these costs? The DESE has issued what we do need to pay for and Mr. McNamara will have further answers on this if you wish to reach out to him.
Discussion on families who may not have internet in their homes took place and Mr. Harper is looking into finding a system to use for families who may need assistance, explained Dr. Gould. The Administration is following up with families to make sure they have the resources they need for their child. Any equipment problems with the devices they have at home may be sent to: help@sandwich.k12.ma.us

If families are unable to pick up food donations, how do they get help with this, asked Ms. Dalpe-Healy? Families may contact Joe Dowick at jdowick@sandwich.k12.ma.us

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:
Ms. Ames gave a shout out to Nina Sundermeyer for her Emmy and Acceptance to a film school. She is a fabulous student and Congratulations.
Ms. Ames extended a thank you to the parents and all they are doing at home.
Mr. Rausch gave all the credit and a shout out to all the parents & teachers.
Mr. Dever mentioned the teachers who are also parents, they deserve a shout out and for the impressive survey from the staff - kudos to all.
Ms. Dalpe-Healy mentioned that the parents have been supportive and everyone has gone above and beyond.

NEW BUSINESS:
- **Policy DK - Payment Procedures - 1st Reading:**
  Mr. Rausch explained that Policy DK will have the same language added to the policy as previously changed in Policy DGA. This allows for assigning one member to sign the warrants in an emergency situation or lack of a quorum.

  The language to be added to the policy is in red:

  As an operating procedure, at each regular meeting the Sandwich School Committee will receive lists of bills for payment from school department funds. The lists will be certified as correct and approved for payment with signatures by a majority of the School Committee. If the Chair determines that the majority of members cannot sign the warrants due to absence or emergency, the Chair or his/her designee may substitute his/her single signature for the signatures of the majority and then forwarded to the town treasurer for processing and subsequent payment. Actual invoices, statements and vouchers will be available for inspection by the Sandwich School Committee.

Ms. Ames made a motion to waive the 2nd Reading and approve the Policy DK as presented. Second by Ms. Dalpe-Healy.
Roll Call Vote: Aye: Mr. Rausch, Ms. Ames, Ms. Bader, Mr. Dever,
Ms. Dalpe-Healy, Mr. DiGiacomo
6-0-0 Unanimous
OLD BUSINESS:

- **Student Opportunities Act:**
  Dr. Gould reported that there is no new guidance on this yet.

- **Job Description - Reading Specialist - 3rd Reading:**
  Dr. Gould stated that she has had conversations with the SEA on this job description and they have given approval on this.

  **Ms. Ames made a motion to approve the Reading Specialist Job Description as presented. Second by Mr. DiGiacomo.**

  **Roll Call Vote:** Aye: Mr. Rausch, Ms. Bader, Mr. Dever, Ms. Dalpe-Healy, Mr. DiGiacomo. Nay: Ms. Ames

  5-1-0 Passes

- **FY20 Budget Update:**
  Ms. Austin mentioned that the budget looks good as of the end of March. We have a number of unknowns within the budget as we move forward, based on what is going on now with the virus crisis. The Town has asked for what possible savings we may have in the FY20 Budget.

  Ms. Ames asked if the Board of Selectmen or Finance Committee has indicated if the budget for next school year will change at all? Dr. Gould indicated that she has no information as of yet. Ms. Ames also asked if there has been any indication of furlough of employees? Nothing yet on this per Dr. Gould.

WARRANTS:

Ms. Dalpe-Healy made a motion to approve the school 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

ACT ON THE MINUTES OF 3/25/20:

Ms. Bader made a motion to accept the School Committee Meeting Minutes of March 25, 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

PTA/PTSA/SPECIAL EDUCATION PAC/SCHOOL COUNCIL/BOARD OF SELECTMEN REPORTS:

Ms. Bader mentioned that the PTA/PTSA is holding a virtual book fair and they are also trying to come up with more ideas as well.

Ms. Dalpe-Healy mentioned that the STEM yearbooks are on sale.

LIAISON/ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORTS: None
OTHER TOPICS NOT REASONABLY ANTICIPATED BY THE CHAIR:
Mr. Rausch mentioned the 2019-2020 school calendar that was discussed earlier in this meeting. He is in agreement with the teachers on the changes to the calendar, eliminating the April vacation (4 days) and working through that time. As well, the May 7th voting day (originally a day off) to be eliminated and work through that day. Therefore, these 5 days we will work through will bring the last day of school to June 16th.
Mr. Dever asked what districts on the Cape will be doing this?
Dr. Gould gave a list of the schools and whether they will be keeping or eliminating the April vacation. The results were about half and half.
Mr. Dever expressed that maybe we need to think about taking a break from everything during April, not a bad idea.
The remaining school committee members expressed their opinions on working through April vacation and the voting day. Everyone is getting into a routine now and a vacation may set us back.
Ms. Ames made a motion to revise and eliminate from the 2019-2020 school calendar, the April vacation week (except for Patriots Day) and the May 7th voting day and work through those days and get out on June 16th.
Second by Ms. Dalpe-Healy.
Roll Call Vote: Aye: Mr. Rausch, Ms. Ames, Ms. Bader, Mr. Dever, Ms. Dalpe-Healy, Mr. DiGiacomo.
6-0-0 Unanimous

PUBLIC FORUM: None

ANNOUNCEMENTS/CLOSING REMARKS:
Mr. Dever mentioned that the terms for himself and Mr. Rausch has moved out further due to the election date being changed. Therefore they will remain on the committee until elections take place.

ADJOURNMENT:
Ms. Ames moved to adjourn at 8:10pm. Second by Ms. Dalpe-Healy.
Vote: 6-0-0 Unanimous

Meeting is adjourned and the next school committee meeting will be held on April 29, 2020

Respectfully submitted by,

Holly Lenk

Holly Lenk
School Committee Secretary
DOCUMENTS USED AT MEETING
Policy DK
Reading Specialist Job Description
March 2020 Budget Report
March 25, 2020 School Committee Minutes

School Committee Meeting Minutes of 4/8/20 Approved 4/29/20  Holly Lenk