

**PLYMOUTH PUBLIC SCHOOLS
SCHOOL COMMITTEE
Monday, September 9, 2024
11 LINCOLN STREET PLYMOUTH, MA 02360**

ROLL CALL: THE FOLLOWING SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS WERE IN ATTENDANCE:

- Ms. Michelle Badger-Chair, Mr. Luis Pizano-Vice Chair, Ms.Katherine Jackson-Secretary, Dr. James Sorensen, Mr. Robert Morgan, Ms. Vedna Lacombe-Heywood, Ms. Ashley Shaw

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE FROM THE ADMINISTRATION WERE:

- Superintendent, Dr. Christopher Campbell, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, Dr. Stacey Rogers, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources Assistant Superintendent, Mr. Erik Cioffi, School Business Administrator, Dr. Adam Blaisdell.

1.0 Call to Order 7:00 PM

1.1 Ms. Badger called the School Committee Meeting to order.

1.2 Pledge of Allegiance

Ms. Badger led the Pledge of Allegiance.

"I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

2.0 School Committee Commendations

A) Moment of Silence

2.1 Moment of Silence

To observe a moment of silence for a former school committee member Mr. Stuart Allan Macleod.

3.0 Comments from the General Public

There was no public comment.

4.0 Informational Items

4.0 Student Representative Reports

A) Plymouth North High School

4.1 Quinn Hales gave an update on what is happening at PNHS.

B) Plymouth South High School

4.2 Lillian Morse gave an update on what is happening at PSHS.

5.0 Program Updates

A) Program Directors

5.1 Director of Food Services, Mr. Patrick Van Cott, Assistant Food Services Director Ms. Patti Callahan, and Nutritionist Ms. Olivia Bengston presented an update on the Food Services Program.

The School Committee commended the Food Services Team on their efforts in autonomous procedures such as hydroponics.

6.0 Informational Items

6.1 Plymouth Public Schools Land Acknowledgement- 7:26 PM

The Plymouth Public Schools' Diversity Committee is submitting the attached Land Acknowledgement Letter for adoption.

Ms. Phoebe Flynn, Secretary of the PPS Diversity Committee, Ms. Tamino-Buffalo Ellis Chair PPS Diversity Committee, and Mr. John Platt, Co-Chair of No Place for Hate came before the committee to answer any questions.

The School Committee fully supports the Land Acknowledgement and thanked Ms. Flynn, Ms. Buffalo-Ellis, and Mr. Platt for their efforts.

Ms. Badger will read this Land Acknowledgement statement before the School Committee meetings.

Superintendent's Recommendation: To approve as presented.

ORIGINAL - Motion Member (Ms. Katherine Jackson) Moved, Member (Ms. Ashley Shaw) Seconded to approve the ORIGINAL motion 'To approve as presented'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 7 Nay: 0. The motion Carried. 7 - 0

6.2 Proposed Charter Revisions

Dr. Campbell presented the proposed revisions made by the Charter Committee for the 2024 Fall Town Meeting.

No one from the Charter Commission was present at the meeting, although they were invited to attend.

The Charter Committee was appointed to look at the current charter and make revisions. The revisions will go section by section at town meetings this fall. Dr. Campbell discussed the revisions that will be pertinent to the School Committee authority. The following revisions were identified:

- Page 10 section 4.3.1- The School Committee shall have all powers which are conferred on school committee law, this charter, by law otherwise and are not inconsistent with the grant of the powers conferred by general law.
- Page 10 section D to have general charge and superintendents of all school buildings and grounds and furnish all school buildings with proper fixtures, furniture, and equipment. Dr. Campbell explained that this revision would take that power and authority away from the school committee and insert it on the finance side, on the town side, as a proposal, again. On page 28, struck from section 8, where it talks about the establishment and scope of the Department of Finance.
- Page 35, section 5- There shall be a department of finance responsible for the fiscal and financial affairs of the town and for the coordination and overall supervision of all fiscal and financial activities of all town government agencies, except the school committee. The department of finance shall include the functions of accountant, treasurer, collector, assessor, and director of data processing.
- A revision of the school committee terms
- Page 36 The revised language reads: The members of the charter review committee shall be appointed by a special committee consisting of the moderator, who will serve as chairperson, one member of the select board, one member of the committee of precinct chairs, and one member of the planning board, and one member of the school committee. That's essentially it. I believe it's a summation of those revisions related, again, to school committees.

Discussion was had among members regarding the proposed changes and Mass General Law.

Mr. Pizano asked if the School Committee had gotten a legal analysis on these proposed revisions.

The Committee will discuss this with legal counsel.

6.3 Superintendent's Draft 2024-2025 Goals -7:51PM

Dr. Campbell presented his Draft Goals for the 2024-2025 school year.

This year's proposed goals include one professional practice goal, one student learning goal, and two district improvement goals.

1. Addressing Chronic Absenteeism: Targeted Interventions
2. Budget Transparency: Enhancing communication and building trust.
3. Transportation Services: Improving cost-efficiency and reliability.
4. Embedding DEIB Practices: Across all district levels.

Superintendent's Recommendation: Approve as presented.

ORIGINAL - Motion Member (Dr. James Sorensen) Moved, Member (Mr. Luis Pizano) Seconded to approve the ORIGINAL motion 'Approve as presented'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 7 Nay: 0. The motion Carried. 7 - 0

7.0 Other School Committee Matters

A) Policy Adoption, Amendment, Review, and Appeal

7.1 MASC Policy KDBC

Dr. Rogers came before the committee to address dialogue regarding social media on the district website.

Dr. Rogers met with Dr. Campbell, Mr. Brian Byrne, EDTV Director, and Ms. Libby Hurley, Communications Liaison, regarding the transparency of the PPS regarding social media practices, specifically blocking comments.

Dr. Campbell explained that reached out to several communities on the South Shore and found that they turned their posts off due to legal ramifications.

Dr. Sorenesen stated that we have an open-door policy at the central office. Instead of posting information on social media, families could call the

superintendent's office or the building principal and discuss the issue at the appropriate place.

Ms. Shaw stated that the address to reach out to should just be included on the posts they are made. With the suggestions to add the following language on the post, *'per our policy, the comments on this post are shut off. If you have a comment, please direct that comment to'*.

Dr. Campbell explained that language is in the current policy.

The district will indicate and direct those wishing to contact the school and district personnel to the appropriate venues to do so.

That will be the language and the information that we include in those sites as well.

The discussion was had to clarify the policy going forward and a discussion will be had with EDTV and the Technology department.

8.0 School Committee Matters

A) Job Description Adoption, Amendment, and Review

8.1 Job Description (s): Custodian 180 Day Floater, Custodian, Head Custodian, Maintenance Floater

Mr. Cioffi presented four custodial job descriptions. These jobs will be funded by a revolving account managed by Mr. Van Cott.

Superintendent's Recommendation: That the job description for the 180-Day Custodial Floater be accepted and approved as amended.

ORIGINAL - Motion Member (Mr. Luis Pizano) Moved, Member (Ms. Katherine Jackson) Seconded to approve the ORIGINAL motion 'That the job description for 180-Day Custodial Floater be accepted and approved as amended'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 7 Nay: 0. The motion Carried. 7 - 0

9.0 Communications- 8:40 PM

A) Superintendent's Report

9.1 Reports and Proposals from the Superintendent

The opening of the facilities looks great!

Visit from the MA School Building Authority-They will visit Hedge and Cold Spring Elementary schools.

All School Committee policies will be on the MASC. Currently, they are located on the PPS School Committee website.

B) Retirement Announcements

9.2 Retirements

Mr. Cioffi announced two retirements. Ms.Sandy Miller, head of the Elementary Special Education Department, will retire after 16 years.

Ms.Judy Cabral, a paraeducator at PAC, at the preschool for 19 years.

Mr. Pizano congratulated the retirees on behalf of the district and the school committee, for their 35 combined years of service.

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10.0 Reports- 8:44 PM

A) Committee Member Reports

10.1 Reports and Proposals from Committee Members

Ms. Jackson reported that she was part of the Diversity Meeting and worked on the strategic plan.

Ms. Badger reported that she and Ms. Jackson had several meetings over the summer with Mr. Canty to discuss the budget moving forward.

The first budget meeting is September 24, 2024.

10.2 Master Planning Committee update

Mr. Morgan reported that there will be a brief meeting for the Open Space Committee on September 12, 2024

B) Plymouth Building Committee Reports

No report was given.

10.3 Report from the Plymouth Building Committee Liaison

C) Personnel Reports

10.4 Appointments, Leaves of Absence, and Resignations

Mr. Cioffi announced nine certificated staff, fourteen classified staff, and eight resignations.

11.0 Unfinished and New Business -8:48PM

There was no unfinished or new business.

12.0 Approval of Consent Agenda

12.1 Approval of Consent Agenda

To vote upon all housekeeping items included in the Consent Agenda

Superintendent's Recommendation: The Plymouth School Committee approves the MMDDYY Consent Agenda as presented. **ORIGINAL - Motion Member (Ms. Ashley Shaw) Moved, and Member (Mr. Luis Pizano) Seconded to approve the ORIGINAL motion 'That Plymouth School Committee approve the MMDDYY Consent Agenda as resented'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 7 Nay: 0. The motion Carried. 7 - 0**

13.0 Items Pulled from Consent Agenda

No items were removed from the Consent Agenda.

14.0 Adjournment

14.1 Chairperson's Adjournment

Ms. Badger adjourned the meeting at **8:48 PM.**