

**MEETING MINUTES of the
BREWSTER SCHOOL COMMITTEE**

MEETING DATE AND TIME:
Thursday, December 16, 2021 @ 6:30PM

This meeting took place **remotely** pursuant to the law signed by Governor Baker on June 16, 2021 – An Act Extending Certain COVID-19 Measures Adopted During the State of Emergency, which includes an extension, until April 1, 2022, of the remote meeting provisions of his March 12, 2020 Executive Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law.

MEMBER ATTENDANCE: Dave Telman, Katie Jacobus, Judi Lech, Casey Mecca, Sarah Sherman

NON-MEMBER ATTENDANCE: Brooke Clenchy, Interim Superintendent; Keith Gauley, Principal Brewster Schools; Kari Hoffmann, Brewster Select Board; Robert Tobias, Brewster Finance Committee; Genevieve Columbo, World Cultures and Spanish Teacher at Stony Brook Elementary School

Call to Order & Declaration of a Quorum, Meeting Participation Statement and Recording Statement:

Chair Telman called the meeting to order at 6:33PM, and read the meeting participation and recording statements.

Agenda Changes:

Chair Telman notified the Committee that he will be presenting a Chair Report.

Citizens Speak:

Chair Telman opened the floor to citizen's comment(s)/public participation.
There were no citizen comments.

PRIORITY BUSINESS:

Chair Report: Chair Telman notified the Committee that the Town of Brewster has sent an email to Committee members notifying them of the Open Meeting Law/Conflict of Interest notifications. School Committee members should be sure to confirm that they have received this information from the Town of Brewster. The Town of Brewster is still working on updating their website.

Superintendent's Report: Interim Superintendent Brooke Clenchy's report was included in the Committee packet. Highlights included: updates on Central Office building, a recent Safety Meeting the Orleans Police Department sponsored, ongoing budget meetings across all Districts, DEI Task Force Update, and School Committee Handbook Review by the Policy Subcommittee.

Principal's Report: Keith Gauley reported the Principal's Report to the Committee, which was included in the packet to the Committee. Highlights included a successful Eddy School Band/Chorus concert on December 9th; Stony Brook concert will be held tomorrow, December 17th; thank you to the community members for their support during this holiday season.

World Languages/World Cultures Presentation: World Cultures and Spanish Teacher Genevieve Columbo reported on global citizenship and world languages. Three main goals for the program are to work with as many

students as possible, create an organic feel within the acquisition model so students are getting consistent language input that is comprehensible many times a day, and create excitement for lifelong learning. Elementary students should have short snippets of world language multiple times per day in order to generally acquire it. Genevieve then presented a video of the Stony Brook Elementary students learning Spanish during their school day.

FY22 Expenditure Report Review: The FY22 Expenditure Report was included in the packet to the Committee, and for any questions about the report to please contact Giovanna Venditti.

Update on School Consolidation Project: Principal Gauley updated the Committee on the status of the project. Habeeb & Associates are now scheduled to present the Building Use Study at the January 24th Select Board Meeting. Chair Telman stated he would like to hear the presentation separately from the Select Board and invite Habeeb & Associates to the next Brewster School Committee meeting on January 20th. Discussion ensued around the scheduling of a Joint Meeting between the School Committee and the Select Board on the 24th, along with a site visit to the schools. Chair Telman and Interim Superintendent Clenchy will work to schedule.

REPORTS & INFORMATION:

A. Cape Cod Collaborative: The Cape Cod Collaborative Board meeting minutes were included in the packet. Casey Mecca reported on the last meeting with highlights as follows: transportation and staff challenges, thank you to the Collaborative to allow the use of buses for the Sea Camps Tour.

B. PTO Liaison: Sarah Sherman reported on the last meeting. Highlights included owl presentation at Stony Brook Elementary School; outdoor school concert; Giving Tree for local food donations at each Brewster elementary school; last Friday of every month is School Spirit Day and students/staff to wear black and gold; funding was approved to build a free library at SBES led by Kendra Whitney, Book Fair at Baptist Church was a huge success, as they raised more than \$1,000.00 more than they expected to.

C. School Council Liaison: No report.

D. Policy Subcommittee: Judi Lech reported that the Subcommittee met on December 6th, and are continuing to work on the Regional District School Committee Handbook. Changes, additions and edits from November meeting were incorporated to their meeting. It was decided at the next meeting in January, they would consider adding additional information on some key responsibilities of school committee members so the handbook is as useful and helpful as possible, and serves as an instructional guide for new/existing members.

E. Behavioral Health Task Force: The minutes from the Behavioral Health Task Force were included in the packet to the Committee. Katie Jacobus reported that the District continues to use three primary outside services: Care Solace, Gosnold, and the BRYT Program. There was an uptick in Care Solace usage after the ParentSquare notification went out to students/staff that the service is available, and an initial report of presenting issues showed fairly high percentage of anxiety, depression, and trauma. It was also reported how widespread the issue of vaping is, and the importance of addressing the topic as early as fourth grade to prevent use later. Next meeting will be end of January.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MOTION: It was moved by Sarah Sherman, seconded by Katie Jacobus and voted unanimously (5-0) to approve the minutes of November 18, 2021.

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION: It was moved by Katie Jacobus, seconded by Sarah Sherman and voted unanimously (5-0) to adjourn the meeting at 7:30PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Sarah Miller
Recording Secretary

Documents Reviewed and Available Upon Request

Superintendent's Report, Principal Report, December 8, 2021 Brewster Schools Enrollment, FY22 School Expenditure Report, November 10, 2021 Cape Cod Collaborative Board of Directors Meeting Minutes, October 26, 2021 Behavioral Health Task Force Meeting Minutes, Brewster School Committee Minutes of November 18, 2021