

**MEETING MINUTES of the
ORLEANS SCHOOL COMMITTEE**

MEETING DATE AND TIME:
Monday, December 20, 2021 @ 3:30PM

This meeting took place in a **hybrid** manner 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: Gail Briere, Sassandra Roche, Ian Mack, Hank Schumacher, Ginger Marks

NON MEMBER ATTENDANCE: Brooke Clenchy, Interim Superintendent; Elaine Pender, Principal; Robin Millen, Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment

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

Chair Briere called the meeting to order at 3:30PM, and read the meeting participation and recording statements.

Agenda Changes:

There were no Agenda changes.

Citizens Speak:

Chair Briere opened the floor to citizen's comment(s)/public participation.

There were no citizen comments.

PRIORITY BUSINESS:

Chair Report: Gail Briere updated the Committee on three items; the Universal Preschool Program, Nauset Permanent Superintendent Search, and the Orleans Fire Station Feasibility Study.

Universal Preschool Program: As of today (12/20/2021), the Town is in the process of signing up six local providers as vendors and has received 17 applications from Orleans families.

Nauset Permanent Superintendent Search: Out of 17 applicants, seven have been identified as candidates to interview closed session between January 4th and 6th; with final candidates sent forward for consideration at the Superintendent Search Subcommittee on January 8th.

Orleans Fire Station Feasibility Study: The Town of Orleans had requested a meeting with Chair Briere to discuss a preliminary concept for the expansion of the fire station property on OES land as one of the feasibility sites; after consulting with legal counsel, Principal Pender, and Interim Superintendent Clenchy, a meeting was held on December 16th to hear about the concept of using OES land, and the takeaway was to have members from the Town of Orleans, Orleans Fire Department, Orleans Select Board, and Ron Collins meet with the full committee in January to discuss.

MOTION: It was moved by Sassandra Roche, seconded by Ginger Marks and voted unanimously (5-0) to listen as partners with the Town of Orleans and Orleans Fire Department to their ideas with understanding that Orleans School Committee is not committing to anything.

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 Report: Principal Pender's report was included in the Committee packet. Highlights included a big thank you to the PTC on all the holiday decorations in front of Orleans Elementary School, and for inviting families through to see the lights and get a treat from the Hot Chocolate Sparrow of Orleans; the first marking period has just been finished and children are learning, thriving, and having fun.

FY22 Expenditure Report Review: The expenditure report was included in the packet to the Committee; any questions about the report can be addressed by contacting Chair Briere and she will forward them to Giovanna Venditti.

REPORTS & INFORMATION:

- A. Cape Cod Collaborative: Hank Schumacher reported that the Collaborative will be moving to the new site in Yarmouth next fall.
- B. PTC: Sassandra Roche reiterated what Principal Pender reported to the Committee.
- C. School Council: Principal Pender reported that School Council has met to put together information on the Lifetime Learning; they have also connected with a reporter from Cape Cod Chronicle to write a couple of articles about the school.
- D. Policy Subcommittee: Ian Mack has stepped down from the Subcommittee; Gail Briere reported the Subcommittee has been working on the Policy Subcommittee Handbooks.

MOTION: It was moved by Ginger Marks, seconded by Ian Mack and voted unanimously (5-0) to appoint Sassandra Roche to the Policy Subcommittee for the remainder of the year.

- E. Behavioral Health Task Force: Ginger Marks reported to the Committee. Ginger Marks wanted to mention that Mary Buchanan, Director of Student Services and Mary Ellen Reed, District Nurse Leader are doing a marvelous job in our District. Highlights from the December 6th meeting included DESSA K-12 screener to begin in April 2022; the District is utilizing Care Solace, a 24/7 multi-lingual care concierge for students, families, and staff to help with services; vaping at the middle and high schools is a real problem, and COVID-19 pandemic has put a strain on initiatives; the Subcommittee is working to implement the initiatives again, bring speakers in to the schools and integrate abuse and prevention into the curriculum; Mass.gov has a toolkit for students available online.
- F. Preschool Enrollment Report: Report was included in in packet.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MOTION: It was moved by Sassandra Roche, seconded by Ian Mack and voted unanimously (5-0) to approve the minutes of November 15, 2021.

PAYMENT OF BILLS: Forthcoming.

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION: It was moved by Ginger Marks, seconded by Hank Schumacher and voted unanimously (5-0) to adjourn the meeting at 4:06PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Sarah Miller
Recording Secretary

Documents Reviewed and Available Upon Request

Superintendent's Report, Principal's Report, Preschool Enrollment, FY22 School Expenditure Report, Minutes of November 15, 2021

APPROVED