

NPS School Committee – Executive Session

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING – ORGANIZATIONAL SESSION

10 April 2019

Present: Zona Butler, Jenn Iller, Tim Lepore, Pauline Proch, Steve Sortevik

School Committee Clerk welcomed the School Committee members and the meeting was in Regular session at 8:10 a.m. Mrs. Proch joined the meeting as the unopposed winner, voted in at the ballot following Town Meeting. A motion was made by Pauline Proch and seconded by Steve Sortevik to enter into an Organizational Session to discuss the reorganization of the School Committee. The motion was unanimously approved and the School Committee Clerk was present for the nomination process.

Mrs. O'Connor asked of the Committee if there were nominations for the Chair position. Pauline Proch nominated Jennifer Iller. There were no further nominations and with all in favor to approve Jennifer Iller as the Chair for the 2019-2020, a motion was made by Pauline Proch, seconded by Steve Sortevik and carried. At this point, Mrs. Iller was welcomed as the Chair and tasked with running the meeting. Zona Butler made a nomination for Tim Lepore as Vice Chair. All were in favor, with Zona Butler making a motion, Pauline Proch seconding, and the motion was carried to approve Tim Lepore as Vice Chair for 2019-2020. Jenn Iller nominated Zona Butler to remain in the position of Secretary, Tim Lepore seconded. All were in favor, and the motion was carried to approve Zona Butler as Secretary for 2019-2020.

The School Committee reviewed the updated Sub-Committee and Task Force list. There was some general discussion concerning the upcoming Negotiations for the Teacher Collective Bargaining Agreement, the Cape Cod Collaborative and the Special Needs Advisory Council.

It is the Committee Chair's prerogative to determine sub-committee members. Mrs. Iller asked for member's preferences for the sub-committees. She went down the list and the following determinations were made:

Negotiations. Steve Sortevik volunteered for the Teacher negotiations contract. He stated, "the teachers trust me," and feels that last few negotiations have been challenging at times. He stated that now that he is no longer on the Town Insurance this frees him up from any conflict of interest regarding negotiations. Dr. Lepore, after many years, removed himself from participating on this sub-committee, because his daughter is now part of this Union, hired as a School Nurse. He acknowledged Mr. Sortevik having experience with the contract and that it might prove helpful. Joining Mr. Sortevik on this sub-committee will be Zona Butler.

Policy: Jenn Iller and Zona Butler will remain on this sub-committee.

Scholarship: Pauline Proch & Tim Lepore will remain on this sub-committee.

Sick Bank: Jenn Iller will remain and Steve Sortevik will again, be an alternate.

Transfers & Invoices: Three people are needed to appropriately sign off on the Town Warrant, and Jennifer Iller, Tim Lepore and Pauline Proch will remain on this sub-committee.

Mrs. Iller then asked for selections for the Task Forces Groups:

Ad Hoc Budget Advisory: The Town Manager has mandated this should be attended by the Chair & Vice Chair. Jenn Iller will attend as Chair and Tim Lepore will attend (when possible due to his work schedule) as Vice Chair.

Cape Cod Collaborative: Discussion about attending off island meetings and how timing of physically attending with boat and plane schedules can be difficult. There was again more discussion about remote participation. Steve Sortevik will attend remotely if possible and Zona Butler will attempt to get to some of the meetings on the Cape.

Communications & PR: Discussion about how best to continue with publicity and quality communication outreach. Zona Butler will remain on this task force joined by Tim Lepore. Mrs. Butler added she would like to develop a system for better communication, especially when there are issues to be addressed within the district and how they are rolled out to the community.

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Nantucket Educational Trust: Pauline Proch will remain on this sub-committee.

Safety & Security: Jenn Iller will remain and Tim Lepore will be an alternate on this sub-committee.

Student Support Services: Steve Sortevik asked to be reminded of what the SSS does, how often do they meet and who meets. Pauline Proch, who will remain on the task force and responded to Mr. Sortevik, three to four times per year, and the committee is made up of Principals, the Director of Special Services and a few key other people. The focus is on mental health, social emotional needs and overseeing what is happening in the system and how to best help our students and staff. Mrs. Proch will be joined by Jennifer Iller on this sub-committee.

Strategic Plan: All are involved. They did not designate specific representatives.

SNAC: There was discussion regarding the need for a different category name for this task force (not just SNAC) and to include other ancillary groups. All committee members could take turns to connect with the different factions - There was conversation about being more connected. Zona Butler asked Mrs. O'Connor to provide a list of the different groups. Steve Sortevik added he would like to include School Councils to this list and he is worried the Councils are not functioning properly with regard to legalities and he has questions regarding the regulations for such meetings.

Legislative Representative: Mr. Sortevik will remain the representative.

In wrapping up the meeting, Mrs. Iller reminded the Committee about the May 7th visit to NPS from Senator Cyr and Representative Fernandez. Dr. Lepore asked to have a list of topics prepared for the two gentleman and was hoping aloud to have some answers about the Foundation Budget. It was agreed when Representative Madden was in office, it was easier to connect with him because he is a local, so having questions/topics of interest ready ahead of time will ensure specific subjects are covered.

Mrs. Iller also mentioned she would like to schedule a retreat for the School Committee, stating it will good for the Committee to have the opportunity to meet and connect off campus. Dates were debated as well as how much time to reserve. It was decided to look at the middle to the end of June as possibilities.

With the meeting ready to close, Steve Sortevik made a motion, Tim Lepore seconded the motion, and as it was unanimous, the Organizational Session was adjourned at 8:36 am.

Respectfully submitted,
Logan O'Connor, School Committee Clerk