Chairman Russo called this meeting of the School Committee to order at 7:00 p.m. in the School Committee Room, Administration Offices, 123 Cambridge Street, Burlington, Massachusetts. Present: Mr. Stephen Nelson, Mrs. Christine Monaco, Mr. Thomas F. Murphy, Jr. and Ms. Martha Simon. Superintendent Eric Conti, Assistant Superintendent Patrick Larkin, and Director of Operations Bob Cunha also present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by Mrs. Monaco and seconded by Mr. Murphy to approve minutes of 4/10/18; motion carried 5-0-0.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

BEA President Diana Marcus spoke on behalf of union members expressing concern about: providing adequate funding for students’ education, financial guideline was met but will impact staffing, staff is dedicated and caring with students, but only so much can be done with so little for so long. She suggested that conversations begin with the town about additional educational funding to provide the education the community and the School Committee expects. BHS teachers and parents of Burlington students Arshad Khan and Joyce Carey expressed their concern including: not filling vacant positions including the middle school assistant principal, the need for additional textbooks, and the need for more teacher resources.

School Committee comments included: our teachers are very dedicated, funding needed for education for FY20 needs to be identified prior to the guideline meeting in the fall, expressed appreciation to the town for approval additional staff positions in the past. They further noted that this year will be a transition year with budgetary constraints and the School Committee needs to take a more active role in budget guideline setting for next year to identify needed staffing/funding.

The School Committee thanked all speakers for bringing their concerns to the Committee’s attention.

INFORMATION/REPORTS

Student Representative

Bailey Towle reported that AP exams have begun at the high school, seniors are preparing for upcoming graduation events and he will be attending Providence College next year. The School Committee congratulated Bailey on his hard work.

Subcommittee Reports

The Superintendent stated that a security meeting was held today with the principals, Deb Clark, Donna Sullivan, Chief Kent and a number of police officers. They reviewed details of recent drills held. They also discussed needs for the schools including: intercom and fire alarm replacement at Francis Wyman, replacement of the original BHS intercom system, walkie talkies and a repeater on top of the water tower to enable police to monitor school situations. Most of the schools’ security needs have been submitted as warrant articles at May town meeting.

Town meeting will begin on May 14 and the School Committee and administration expressed their thanks for the support Ways & Means has given to the schools.

INSTRUCTION/TECHNOLOGY

BEF

The Boermeisters were in attendance to provide a yearly update on the activities of the Burlington Education Foundation, which included descriptions of some of the over $20K in grants awarded this school year, building corporate sponsorships, fundraisers, and community events held. The School Committee thanked the BEF for their robust support of the school department and their volunteer organization. Dr. Conti further commended them for providing funding for innovation and rewarding creativity.

COMMUNICATION

Child Abuse Awareness/Mass Kids & MamaBear Effect

In attendance for this Child Abuse Awareness presentation were, Jetta Bernier, MassKids, Detective Anne Marie Brown, Cody Case from Representative Gordon’s office and Adrienne Simone, Mama Bear Effect.

Executive Director Jetta Bernier of MassKids provided a comprehensive presentation of their Enough Abuse Campaign1, a community mobilization and citizen education initiative to prevent adult perpetration and child-on-child sexual abuse. She reviewed a Prevention Guide for Parents2, prevention resources, and a list that included 20 Boundary-Violating Behaviors

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1 Sexual Abuse Safe-Child Standards
2 MassKids Prevention Guide for Parents
for Schools, Students & Parents\textsuperscript{3}. She also explained that 130 Burlington teachers took part in a survey last summer associated with the development of an online training tool for schools – Enough! Preventing Child Sexual Abuse in My School, which will be available for use by all Burlington school employees next year.

Adrienne Simeone, from the Mama Bear Effect organization, whose objective is to empower adults to protect children from sexual abuse by raising awareness and encouraging prevention methods. Ms. Simeone shared with the Committee the organization’s Rock the Talk\textsuperscript{4}, educational parent guides which they will donate to the schools for distribution to parents.

Cody Case explained that Representative Gordon was one of the first legislators to support Senator Lovely’s bill relative to preventing the sexual abuse of children. Moved by Mrs. Monaco and seconded by Mr. Nelson to send a letter of support from the School Committee for Senate Bill #295 – Comprehensive Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Act of 2017; motion carried 5-0-0.

The School Committee thanked all the presenters for their dedication doing this difficult work and providing ways to help families. Dr. Conti will: schedule a meeting with Middlesex League superintendents and invite Ms. Bernier and Ms. Simone to speak, new policy language will be provided by the end of June requiring employees to take child abuse awareness training, he will meet with Matt Jackling to discuss curriculum materials needed to teach abuse awareness, and finally he will speak with principals about distributing Rock the Talk pack and the 20 Boundary-Violating Behaviors list to parents in the fall.

Moved by Mrs. Monaco and seconded by Mr. Nelson to send a letter of support from the School Committee for Senate Bill #295 to Senator Friedman and Representative Gordon; motion carried 5-0-0.

\begin{center}
\textbf{Summer & 2018-19 School Committee Meeting Schedule}
\end{center}

The Committee reviewed the proposed School Committee meeting schedule which includes one meeting in July, August, November and December. The remaining meetings will be held on the second and fourth Tuesdays at 7 p.m.

\begin{center}
\textbf{OLD BUSINESS}
\end{center}

Revision of School Medical Policies – Second Reading

At the April 24 meeting, a first reading was held for these policies and procedures/guidelines. Moved by Mr. Nelson and seconded by Mrs. Monaco to approve policy JLCD Administering Medicines to Students as submitted; motion carried 5-0-0. Moved by Mr. Nelson and seconded by Mrs. Monaco to approve the Automated External Defibrillator policy as submitted; motion carried 5-0-0. Moved by Mr. Nelson and seconded by Mrs. Monaco to approve the Allergen Policy for Students with Life Threatening Allergies as submitted; motion carried 5-0-0. Moved by Mr. Nelson and seconded by Mrs. Monaco to approve the Life Threatening Allergy Procedures & Guidelines as submitted; motion carried 5-0-0.

\begin{center}
\textbf{NEW BUSINESS}
\end{center}

BHS Principal Sullivan has requested approval to add an intermediate algebra CP course to the 2018-19 Program of Studies. Moved by Mrs. Monaco and seconded by Mr. Nelson to add an intermediate algebra CP course to the 2018-19 program of studies for one year; motion carried 5-0-0.

Establish New Revolving Accounts

Mr. Cunha explained that the School Committee is being requested to approve the creation of two new revolving accounts for:

\begin{itemize}
\item Guidance/College testing – to deposit fees from student exams (such as PSATs, SATs, ACTs & AP exams)
\item Evening Academy to deposit funds collected in conjunction with the Evening Academy program; to rectify the finding on the Roselli, Clark & Associates Report on Applying Agreed Upon Procedures Over Compliance in Relation to Student Activity Account Guidelines
\end{itemize}

Moved by Mr. Nelson and seconded by Mrs. Monaco to establish two new revolving accounts for Guidance/College Testing and Evening Academy; motion carried 5-0-0.

\textsuperscript{3} 20 Boundary-Violating Behaviors

\textsuperscript{4} Rock the Talk
Out-of-Country Student Travel  
Moved by Mr. Nelson and seconded by Mr. Murphy to approve out-of-state travel to Canobie Lake, Salem, NH on June 20 for middle school students and chaperones; motion carried 5-0-0. Moved by Mr. Nelson and seconded by Mrs. Monaco to approve out-of-country travel to Iceland on April 13-19, 2019 for BHS students and chaperones; motion carried 5-0-0.

Miscellaneous  
Mr. Larkin commented that the BHS Band & Chorus won awards at the Montreal festival and Francis Wyman teacher Lisa Screnci was presented an exemplary teacher science award. Mr. Nelson stated he’d presented three students with a certificate recognizing them for their achievement of Eagle Scout: Nicholas Heisler, Ethan Rousseau, and Matt Tengtrakool. Dr. Conti explained this is Teacher Appreciation Week and he thanked all teachers for their hard work with students. It was proposed that an elementary homework discussion be held during one of the June School Committee meetings.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION  
None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION  
Chairman Russo announced that the Committee had a need for executive session to discuss contract negotiations because holding it in an open session would have a detrimental effect on the position of the public body. The School Committee will only return to public session for the purpose of adjournment. Moved by Mrs. Monaco and seconded by Mr. Nelson at 9:25 p.m. to enter executive session to discuss contract negotiations. Mrs. Monaco, aye; Mrs. Russo, aye; Mr. Nelson, aye; Mr. Murphy, aye; Ms. Simon, aye. Motion carried 5-0-0.

ADJOURNMENT  
Moved by Mr. Nelson and seconded by Ms. Simon at 10:15 p.m. to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried 5-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Gilbert          Date submitted:  5/22/18  
Recording Secretary      Date approved:  5/22/18