AGENDA*  
*Agenda subject to change  

1. Public Session – 6:30 p.m.

2. Executive Session – G.L. c. 30A, Section 21(a) Subsection 4: to discuss the deployment of security personnel or devices and to reconvene in Open Session.

3. Approval of Warrant

4. Public Participation

5. Information/Reports  
a). Student Representative  
b). Subcommittee Reports  
c). Ways/Means  
d). Announcements

6. Instruction/Technology (7:00 – 7:30 estimated time)  
a). BHS Dual Enrollment  
b). RCADS Pilot

7. Communication (7:30 – 7:45 estimated time)  
a). Spring 2019 MCAS  
b). MSBA Update  
c). Motor Vehicle Idling on School Grounds  
d). Great College Advice Presentation

8. Monthly Financials

9. Old Business (7:45– 9:00 estimated time)  
b). Collection Policy – Second Reading  
c). Elementary Space Needs

10. New Business (9:00 estimated time)  
a). Policies – First Reading  
   - EBC Emergency Plans (Revision)  
   - EEAEC Student Conduct on Buses  
   - EFD Meal Charge (Revision)  
b). Out-of-State Staff Travel - Approval  
c). Middle School Music Stipends - Approval

11. Public Participation

12. Executive Session – G.L. c. 30A Section 21(a) Subsection 3: To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the public body and the chair so declares – Burlington Educators’ Association, Burlington School Administrators Instructional Assistants, School Office Personnel, School Cafeteria Employees, Unit D of BEA, and Custodial Staff.

13. Adjournment
Chair Martha Simon called this meeting of the School Committee to order at 6:30 p.m. in the School Committee Room, Administration Offices, 123 Cambridge Street, Burlington, Massachusetts. Present: Mrs. Christine Monaco, Mr. Stephen Nelson (6:35 p.m. arrival) and Mrs. Kristin Russo. Superintendent Eric Conti, Assistant Superintendent Patrick Larkin, Business Manager Nichole Coscia and Director of Operations Bob Cunha also present. Mr. Thomas F. Murphy, Jr. absent.

PUBLIC SESSION

Chair Simon opened the meeting and stated: the Committee had a need for executive session under G.L.c.30A, Section 21(a) subsection 4: to discuss the deployment of security personnel or devices. The Committee will reconvene in open session. Moved by Mrs. Monaco and seconded by Mrs. Russo to enter executive session; Mrs. Monaco, aye; Mrs. Russo, aye; Chair Simon, aye. Motion carried 3-0-0. The Committee reconvened to open session at 7:05 p.m.

APPROVAL OF WARRANT

Moved by Mrs. Monaco and seconded by Mrs. Russo to approve the warrant; motion carried 3-0-1 Mr. Nelson abstained.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

BEA President Diana Marcus spoke at length regarding two recent job postings:\footnote{Postings} ELE Coordinator and Teacher Initiated Keys to Literacy Program. The School Committee advised her to direct her concerns through the grievance process.

INFORMATION/REPORTS

Student Representative

Bridget Concione absent.

Subcommittee Reports

Chair Simon provided an update on the most recent Youth & Family Services meeting.

Ways/Means

Sue Harrigan, John Iler and Diane Creedon in attendance.

Announcements

Chair Simon thanked the girls volleyball team for a successful fundraiser.

INSTRUCTION/TECHNOLOGY

RCADS Pilot

Guidance Coordinator Joe Attubato reviewed the social/emotional structure at BHS\footnote{Social/Emotional Structure at BHS}, steps being taken to address student needs including: a new Adjustment counselor, a school psychologist, partnerships with therapeutic agencies, and proactive steps being taken. BHS Social Worker Christine Concione presented the RCADS (Revised Child Anxiety & Depression Screener) pilot that the school district participated in spring 2019; no students in the elementary or middle school level screened in. Seventeen BHS students were screened in and these students were seen by a staff member, parents were contacted with their results and referral information was provided. She reviewed the team’s plans for next year to pilot the screener to a larger group of students, to conduct it twice a year, and future goals. The Committee thanked Ms. Concione for starting the program and to keep the Committee up to date. In response to resident Catherine Bond, Mr. Attubato explained the screener was only used for grade 9 students as the YRBS survey showed greater need for students, but they can also review adding more grades at the high school level and Ms. Concione responded they had also decided as a team on grade levels.

BHS Dual Enrollment

Guidance Coordinator Joe Attubato reviewed the Dual Enrollment Program at BHS\footnote{Dual Enrollment at BHS} which has been in existence since 2010, criteria for students to enroll, college credits earned, courses offered, and teachers. BHS students participate in college courses held at BHS for college credit at a reduced fee. The School Committee commented that dual enrollment was an excellent program for students and they are happy to see the program has grown.

Great College Advice Presentation

Mr. Attubato announced a presentation to be given tomorrow night; Great College Advice by Mark Montgomery a college counselor at 6 pm in the BHS auditorium.

COMMUNICATION

Spring 2019 MCAS

Asst. Superintendent Larkin reviewed with the Committee a powerpoint presentation on Burlington student outcomes and overall progress toward improvement targets from the spring 2019 MCAS\footnote{2019 MCAS} assessment as compared to state student outcomes. The district overall scored 67% progress towards goals. BHS, MSMS, and Memorial scored substantial progress, Fox Hill & Pine Glen scored meeting/exceeding progress, and Francis Wyman...
scored moderate progress. Mrs. Russo commented that it’s interesting to see the progression from grades 3-10, the information gives administration, department chairs, and teachers information on what areas students are doing well or areas that need to be addressed. Dr. Conti stated this data will be used to adjust the curriculum.

MSBA Update

Dr. Conti and Mr. Cunha had a telephone conference with a MSBA representative last week; it was confirmed that the MSBA will accept one priority project from each school district. If the BHS renovation is not approved in December, Burlington will have to choose either BHS or an elementary project as priority number one (although two projects may be submitted). Dr. Conti explained if an elementary project is priority #1, the district would submit Fox Hill with the consideration for combining two schools into one large school. Administrators would work with the MSBA during the design phase as the MSBA would need to approve the combining of two schools as well as the renovation. The deadline for new Statements of Interest is the second week in April 2020.

Motor Vehicle Idling on School Grounds

Dr. Conti gave a friendly reminder to parents of the prohibition of motor vehicle idling during the student school drop off and pickups.

Mr. Cunha provided an update on buses: the high school buses are coming in at least five minutes prior to the homeroom bell, but he expressed concern with arrival times in the case of inclement weather or accidents. He is watching elementary bus arrival times and there may need to be adjustments with preschool buses as potential new enrollments may cause capacity issues.

Monthly Financials

Ms. Coscia reviewed with the Committee four pages of monthly financials that were included in the Committee’s meeting packet. In response to Mr. Nelson, Ms. Coscia replied that School Choice funds (current balance of $176,000) are earmarked for the negative school lunch balance. Ms. Coscia also explained that there is also enough funding for Chapter 74 tuitions. In response to Mr. Nelson, Ms. Coscia explained that a portion of the funds in the International Students fund will be given to BHS as they no longer have a Principals account budget. In response to Mr. Iler, Ms. Coscia replied that utilities are in spent and encumbered rather than projected because she looked at the three year average, she weighted the average, and assigned a best guess amount.

OLD BUSINESS
Planning for Success 2019-22 - Second Reading

Chair Simon requested this item be postponed until the next meeting for approval as she had some questions she’d like to address with the Superintendent. Dr. Conti stated that he’d meet with Martha to add clarity and provide a revised Planning for Success document to the Committee at the next meeting. The Committee agreed to postpone approval until the October 29 meeting.

Rental Fees Collection Policy - Second Reading

The rental fees collection policy was reviewed for a first reading at the September 24 meeting. Moved by Mr. Nelson and seconded by Mrs. Monaco to approve the rental fees collection policy. Main motion amended by Mr. Nelson to amend the approval with the proviso the new policy name is Building Rental Fees Collection policy, motion carried 4-0-0.

Elementary Space Needs

Dr. Conti noted that he’d spoken to the MSBA regarding an elementary school renovation proposal but explained that the district will not be notified until December regarding the BHS renovation proposal. The Committee discussed at length: elementary building configuration, response to the online parent survey (they requested a copy of the survey for the next meeting), consider holding a parent forum to gather community input at an upcoming School Committee meeting either in November or January. The Committee agreed to hold a 30 minute block of time on the November 19 meeting to hear community input on a new elementary project. Mr. Iler explained that the Committee will need to explain in great detail why the school department needs a new elementary space, suggested making a video outlining what the issues are, why there isn’t an incremental solution, and to show building deficiencies as well as failing systems. Chair Simon stated that it’s the Committee’s job to continue talking about and researching what is needed for students educationally and also what makes sense financially. At the November 19 meeting, a 30 minute forum will be held with more detail for an elementary project being considered by the Committee with three or four options. Mr. Larkin departed at 9:20 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS
Policies – First Reading

Three policies are being submitted for a first reading. Policies EBC – Emergency Plans and EFD – Meal Charge are current policies in existence and are being submitted for revision.
Conduct on School Buses is a new policy with input provided by school counsel. Ms. Coscia was requested to review the content of the Meal Charge policy prior to the next meeting. These three policies will be on the October 29 agenda for approval.

Out-of-State Staff Travel - Approval

Moved Mr. Nelson and seconded by Mrs. Russo to approve out-of-state travel for Renee Sacco and Carrie Fortunato to attend the RTI conference in Wrightsville Beach, NC on October 28-29; motion carried 4-0-0.

MSMS Extra-Curricular Stipends

Dr. Conti stated the Committee is being requested to authorize four middle school music stipends because the new middle school schedule doesn’t allow for student pull outs during the school day and the ensembles will be offered to students after school. The positions are Chamber Strings, Select Chorus, and Stage Band for a stipend of $1,600 each and a String Director for $2,587. The BEA is aware of the proposed stipends. Moved by Mr. Nelson and seconded by Mrs. Monaco to approve four middle school music stipends for a total of $7,387; motion carried 4-0-0. Dr. Conti further explained that in the Committee’s meeting packet an initial proposal for a student middle school musical for $10,000 is included; Principal Purchase will be at the next meeting and will offer her thoughts on the proposal.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chair Simon announced that the body has a need for executive session – G.L. c.30A Section 21(3) subsection 3: to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the public body and the chair so declares – Burlington Educators’ Association, Burlington School Administrators, Instructional Assistants, School Office Personnel, School Cafeteria Employees, Unit D of BEA, and Custodial Staff. Moved by Mr. Nelson and seconded by Mrs. Russo to enter executive session at 9:40 p.m.; Mr. Nelson, aye; Mrs. Russo, aye; Mrs. Monaco, aye; Ms. Simon, aye; motion carried 4-0-0.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Mrs. Monaco and seconded by Mr. Nelson to adjourn the meeting at 10:05 p.m.; motion carried 4-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Gilbert
Recording Secretary

Date submitted: 10/29/19
Date approved: 10/29/19