

Transition Committee Open Session Minutes

Date: March 27, 2018

Start: 6:03 PM **Adjourn:** 7:59 PM

Location:

Mount Greylock Library Williamstown, MA

In Attendance:

Committee Members:	Also Present:
J. Bergeron	Kim Grady, Interim Superintendent
D. Caplinger	Mary MacDonald, Principal MGRS
A. Terranova	Joelle Brookner, Principal WES
R. DiLego	Martin McEvoy, Principal LES
S. Miller	School Building Committee
C. Dodig	
C. Greene	
Absent: D. Caplinger	

Item	Comments	Motion	Second	Vote
Call Open Session	Open Session called to Order by J. Bergeron at 6:0	3 PM		
to Order				
Building Project	Mike Giso, Project Manager from Turner			
Schedule Discussion	Construction gave a presentation regarding the			
	updated building project construction schedule.			
	S. Miller asked how much time the teachers			
	would have to settle into their space in the new			
	building. Principal MacDonald stated that the			
	expectation is that teachers will pack their			
	rooms after the conclusion of school this year			
	and items will be stored in staging areas such as			
	the gym. The timing for actually moving into the			
	new space is a bit up in the air based on the			
	work that will take place over the summer on			
	the parking lot; which will be completed over			
	the summer while students are out of school.			
	As of right now, it's looking like teachers will be			
	able to begin moving into the new building			
	during the last week in August after the			



completion of construction, building inspection		
and the issuance of the certificate of occupancy.		
Some discussion on the schedule for demo and		
abatement and how plans for some work to take		
place during spring break while students are not		
in the building. Discussion regarding what		
happens if the current schedule is not held to		
and the construction timeline runs late as it		
would delay the start of school. Trip Elmore,		
OPM from Dore and Whittier spoke to his high		
level of confidence in the construction timeline		
as presented and spoke to the week-to-week		
process that will take place to make sure the		
timeline is holding steady based on what takes		
place on the job site. J. Bergeron asked for an		
update on the availability of skilled trades based		
on the local competition in the area. M. Giso		
said that we were in a good spot and he had a		
high level of confidence that the building would		
be delivered on time. Discussion regarding		
having a "trigger date" to determine if the		
demolition should be delayed with the		
possibility of opening school in the old building		
on a contingency plan if there are significant		
unexpected delays with the new building.		
Discussion regarding if the committee needed to		
vote on the new phasing schedule to, in effect,		
amend the original contract where a different		
phase completion schedule was listed. The		
overall end date has not changed but the steps		
to completion have changed. After further		
discussion, the building committee will follow up		
with legal counsel to make sure that we follow		
the correct process to address the new phasing		
schedule. Public Comments made by a District		
parent, Chris Kapiloff, who has work experience		
building public schools (has worked on 75-100		
public schools). He commented that he believes		
the new schedule allows for a razor thin margin		
of error for delivering the new building on time		
and gave feedback on possible items that may		
delay the project further. Chris spoke generally		
to construction projects and their contracts and		



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	said that generally there are general conditions			
	within the master contract and all sub contracts			
	that outline your rights and remedies for every			
	given scenario. Chris felt that it was important			
	to contact legal counsel in order to make sure			
	that the District does not forfeit any rights and			
	remedies within the contract by not doing a			
	contract amendment. Chris also spoke to the			
	potential need to speak to the OPM and CM			
	regarding who will pay for temporary needs if			
	the building schedule has any further			
	unexpected delays. Further discussion after the			
	public comment regarding planning for any			
	unexpected delays to the project schedule and			
	following up to ensure that the District does not			
	waive any rights either through action or			
	inaction based on what is in the present			
	contract. J. Bergeron said that he was mindful			
	of summer planning, the end of the school year,			
	and the upcoming effective date of the			
	expanded regionalization on 7/1 and how all of			
	these effect the District's administration. He			
	would like to see a multi-committee effort to			
	layer in some visibility into the project so that			
	everyone stays aware of how things are			
	progressing and how to further improve efforts			
	as a team so that administration is free to close			
	out the year, plan for summer and get across			
	the finish line for regionalization. C. Greene said			
	that it would be very helpful to have M. Schiek			
	involved in the weekly meetings. (C. Greene			
	Exits)			
Approval Of	Motion to approve the minutes of March 20,	S. Miller	R. DiLego	5-0-0
Minutes	2018			
	Discussion: Page 2 In the FY19 discussion			
	regarding public hearing clean up bond, include			
	that the committee made an earlier decision to			
	phase in the constructions cots over 2 years and			
	this is the last year we expect to have a change			
	due to that reason.			
Tuition Agreements	(C. Greene Enters) C. Dodig reported on the	C. Dodig	S. Miller	6-0-0
	latest negotiations meeting that occurred with			
	Superintendent Dillon and members of the New			



Ashford School Committee. The New Ashford School Committee voted 2-1 to accept a phased in Tuition Agreement wherein the New Ashford tuition rate would reach the DESE per pupil rate less transportation and special education costs. Motion to approve the tuition agreements for the Town of Hancock and the Town of New Ashford as presented. The committee will confirm that the signatory should legally be the town and not the school committees. Preliminary Discussion of the 2018-2019 School Calendar Announcements C. Greene announced that Joe Bergeron is being honored at the Berkshire Community College Foundation 40 under 40. Congratulations Joe! (C. Greene Exits) Discussion of draft lease agreements lease agreements K. Grady gave an update on the work that has occurred thus far on the draft lease agreements for the elementary schools. The LES agreement in the packet is red-lined and the red-line edits need to be reviewed by the committee as they have been accepted by Lanesborough and any edits the committee does not accept will mean edits will need to be made to both the LES and WES agreements. A final version of the lease agreements must be voted on and executed by July 1, 2018. Subcommittee ESP negotiations have started. Thursday evening 4/5 will be used to conduct superintendent interviews and selection. Discussion about the conditions under which the committee could go into executive session during this process. The deliberations must occur as part of an open public meeting. Other Business K. Grady, S. Miller and Pat Correira met earlier in the week. A draft of the policy manual will be shared with the committee so that all can begin reading through it in its entirety in preparation for voting the manual and putting it in place to be in effect by July 1, 2018. Bycoming Meetings SBC – April 10 at 5:30 Transition – April 5 at 6 PM Motion to Adjourn Motion to Adjourn Motion to Adjourn at 7:59 PM.	T				
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Respectfully Submitted, Jonathan Nopper Mount Greylock Minutes Recorder

A digital recording of this meeting in its entirety is available on the District website.