

OAK BLUFFS SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

8:00AM, Wednesday, May 31, 2023

At the Oak Bluffs School

Committee Members Present:	Kathryn Shertzer (Chair), Rizwan Malik
OB School Staff Present:	Dr. Megan Farrell (Principal), Denitsa Alton
Superintendent's Office:	Richie Smith, Mark Friedman, Hope MacLeod
Public:	Maura McGroarty, Juliet Mulinare (Recorder)

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 8:07am by Chair Kathryn Shertzer.

Approval of Minutes

The draft minutes under consideration for approval are: April 25, 2023.

MR. MALIK MOVED TO APPROVE THE 4/25/23 DRAFT MINUTES; MS. SHERTZER SECONDS, NO FURTHER DISCUSSION, ROLL CALL VOTE:

MALIK – AYE, SHERTZER – AYE.

Motion passes unanimously (2-0).

Public Comment

Ms. McGroarty stated that she has questions about the financial picture for the school, but can wait until finances are being discussed.

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Smith reported that the school year is almost over and he would like to express his gratitude to this Committee for their consistent dedication and commitment to the Oak Bluffs School.

Mr. Smith also stated that he is reviewing the non-union salaries and appropriate raises for the new year. Based on the union contracts and the cost of living on the island, Mr. Smith said he is considering a 5% raise for non-union employees; he will return in June with an actionable request.

Special Education Director's Report

Ms. MacLeod reported that a consultant group came and reviewed the infrastructure of all the schools on the island, particularly as they relate to special needs. The policies and procedures for each school and the district were also reviewed and there will be report issued on how to make improvements.

The report will include recommendations for the schools individually, as well as regionally.

Financial Report

Dr. Farrell reviewed the financials and stated that the budget is healthy; any negatives will be covered when the accounts are balanced at the end of the year. Dr. Farrell listed the summer projects that will be taking place, including the classroom division, updating the WIFI system, exterior painting projects, the boiler design and improvements to the irrigation system.

Dr. Farrell addressed some of the negative lines in the budget and stated that she will be looking at utility lines like gas and electric very closely. She also needs to have the phones upgraded so they are compliant with 911/Emergency standards.

Ms. McGroarty asked about future financial planning and whether school building and maintenance projects were included in the town's capital plan. Dr. Farrell responded that large projects, like the new boiler and the future new K-4 playground are included on the capital plan.

Principal's Report

- Student Dress Code – Third Reading
*MOTION PLACED ON THE FLOOR BY MR. MALIK TO APPROVE THE THIRD READING OF THE STUDENT DRESS CODE POLICY. MS. SHERTZER SECONDS THE MOTION, NO FURTHER DISCUSSION, ROLL CALL VOTE:
MALIK – AYE, SHERTZER – AYE.*
Motion passes unanimously **(2-0)**.

Dr. Farrell reported a successful school year that will be capped off with a celebration of cultural diversity event on June 9th. Other fun end-of-year events include a movie night with a screen set up in the school cafeteria, the 8th grade trip to Philadelphia and Graduation, which will take place on June 13th at the Tabernacle.

Old/New Business

The Committee reviewed a resignation request from Ian Lisi and Leave of Absence requests from Juliana Dostal and Tom Ward. Mr. Lisi has accepted a full-time position at the Edgartown School and Ms. Dostal and Mr. Ward are requesting maternity and paternity leave.
*MR. MALIK MOVED TO APPROVE THE RESIGNATION AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE REQUESTS; MS. SHERTZER SECONDS THE MOTION, NO FURTHER DISCUSSION, ROLL CALL VOTE:
MALIK – AYE, SHERTZER – AYE.*
Motion passes unanimously **(2-0)**.

Adjournment

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 13, 2023 at 8:00am.
*AT 8:55AM, MR. MALIK MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING; MS. SHERTZER SECONDS, NO FURTHER DISCUSSION, ROLL CALL VOTE:
MALIK – AYE, SHERTZER – AYE.*
Motion passes unanimously **(2-0)**.

Documents on File:

- OB School Policy for appropriate student attire-3

Minutes submitted by: Juliet Mulinare