

OAK BLUFFS SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

8:00AM, Tuesday, September 19, 2023

At the Oak Bluffs School

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

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 8:10am by Chair Rizwan Malik.

Approval of Minutes

The draft minutes under consideration for approval are: May 31, 2023 and June 13, 2023.

MS. SHERTZER MOVED TO APPROVE THE 5/31/23 and 6/13/23 DRAFT MINUTES; MR. MALIK SECONDS, NO FURTHER DISCUSSION, VOTE TAKEN AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY (2-0).

*Ms. O'Brien not present at time of vote.

Public Comment

None.

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Smith expressed his gratitude to this Committee for the members' willingness to step up and fill roles when needed. Mr. Smith stated that the results of MCAS testing will be released today so the press may reach out to the Committee; Mr. Smith will send out the details of the results when they are made available.

Special Education Director's Report

Ms. MacLeod reported that the tiered focusing audit was conducted and a report has been provided. This audit process is conducted every few years to review policies and procedures for Special Education and Civil Rights. The audit reviews the policies generated by the central office but also looks at each of the schools individually. The results of the audit were favorable, with only a few items needing to be addressed; which are already taking place.

Ms. MacLeod said she will send out last years' snap shot for the OB School for review at the next meeting. The year is off to a great start and all special education positions have been filled.

Financial Report

Dr. Farrell stated that the financials are in a good place but there are still some account rollovers from the previous fiscal year that need to happen. The summer was successful and a number of projects were completed including the division of the classroom, electrical work, interior and exterior painting and extensive organizing and inventorying of the custodial storage area.

*Ms. O'Brien arrives to the meeting.

Dr. Farrell continued that the entire Wi-Fi system was updated, extensive landscaping was completed and the back field and playground project were also completed.

Principal's Report

- Facilities Update:

Dr. Farrell informed the Committee that three options for the boiler replacement have been presented. Currently, the system is powered by oil and runs at 80% efficiency. The first option is to replace the oil-fired system with a propane system which would bring it up to 96% efficiency. This would cost approximately \$1.3 million. The other two options are to merge the existing system with a new electrical system that would require changing all the internal controls, at a cost of \$6.4 million; or, to merge the existing heat system and the A/C with a new electrical system, which would cost \$7.2 million. Dr. Farrell said she plans to bring the three options to the Capital Committee; Ms. O'Brien asked if the Town's Energy Committee had weighed in.

Dr. Farrell said she has researched grant opportunities for this work and there is not much funding available. She also said the existing A/C system is currently functioning well.

Old/New Business

The Committee reviewed resignation requests from Akia Sharp Barbosa and Mary Hillman. The Committee reviewed a retirement request from Robert Oslyn.

Mr. Oslyn served as the Head Custodian for the School for many years. With his departure, Dr. Farrell stated she spoke with the Town Administrator about creating a Facilities Manager position for the school, instead of a Head Custodian. Dr. Farrell said this position should be a contractor with the technical knowledge to address issues with the school's mechanical systems. The Committee discussed this as a local position versus having a district wide facilities manager and agreed that a local facilities manager would be better for the town.

MS. O'BRIEN MOVED TO APPROVE THE TWO RESIGNATION REQUESTS AND THE RETIREMENT REQUEST. MS. SHERTZER SECONDS THE MOTION, NO FURTHER DISCUSSION, VOTE TAKEN AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY (3-0).

Correspondence: School Use – MV United Youth Soccer

The Committee reviewed a school use request from MV United.

MS. O'BRIEN MOVED TO APPROVE THE APPLICATION FROM MV UNITED; MR. MALIK SECONDS THE MOTION, NO FURTHER DISCUSSION, VOTE TAKEN AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY (3-0).

Adjournment

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 24th, 2023 at 8:00am.

AT 9:00AM, A MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING WAS MADE, SECONDED AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY (3-0).

Minutes submitted by: Juliet Mulinare