

# **LONG ISLAND SCHOOL BOARD REGULAR MEETING**

Wednesday, April 7, 2021, 7:00 p.m.

Remote Meeting

## **MINUTES**

Citizens in the audience are invited to speak during public comment and/or on a topic that is introduced during the course of the meeting under New Business. Each citizen is to be limited to one presentation per citizen, per topic, of not more than three minutes unless the chair gives special permission. Audience participation shall cease on a topic at such time as the chairman calls for board discussion.

Access for the Wednesday, April 7 meeting was made using a Zoom link.

### **1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

Chair Pierre Avignon called the meeting to order at 7:02. Also present were Board members Sam Whitener and Paul Thornton, Lead Teacher Marci Train and Superintendent Barbara Powers.

### **2. ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA**

New business was moved to item 6 in order to accommodate one board member's need to leave the meeting early.

### **3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- March 3, 2021

Mr. Whitener moved approval of the March 3 minutes. Mr. Avignon seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.

### **4. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

There were none.

### **5. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

- New superintendent visit

Mrs. Powers announced that the new superintendent, Dominic Depatsy, will be visiting the school in person on Wednesday, April 28. Mrs. Powers further noted that she had a

conversation with Mr. Depatsy about his earlier than anticipated departure from the Saco School Department. She noted that his reasons were legitimate and it was all handled legally and without further recourse.

- Schedule and enrollment update

She then noted that enrollment is now down to 13 with the departure of one family from the island. Also, resumption of the regular full day school schedule has occurred without incident and everyone is very pleased to be back in school. GDI students are primarily being transported by private boat but have on occasion ridden the ferry in inclement weather.

- Graduation

LIS is pleased to offer in person graduation this spring given new rules about outdoor public gatherings. The intent is to hold it on the tennis court on the early evening of Wednesday, June 8 (June 9 rain date) with appropriate social distancing in the seating arrangements. The public will be invited to witness the event as well. Masks are still required at this time.

- Boat passes

Mrs. Powers noted that with Portland High School finally offering live instruction 2 x week for grades 10, 11 and 12 this spring, the question of purchasing boat passes came up. She decided to offer families reimbursement for purchased tickets rather than buying expensive passes, as CBL won't offer discounts for shorter periods of time. A letter has gone out to the four families impacted by this change in schedule.

## **6. NEW BUSINESS**

- Approval of 2021-22 School Calendar

Mrs. Powers then reviewed the proposed 2021-22 School Calendar. She noted that it primarily matches the Portland Public Schools calendar, though the start date is proposed to be one day later, Wednesday, September 1. This will allow staff to have two teacher workshop days on August 30 and 31. Professional time is built in on most months on a Wednesday afternoon early release, though those afternoons in October and April will be for parent conferences. One day in October is a full professional day in order to allow attendance at the Island Institute.

Mr. Avignon moved approval of the 2021-22 school calendar. Mr. Thornton seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.

- Capital improvement options for summer work

Mr. Whitener then expressed support for contracting with Peter's Hardwood Floors for sanding and resurfacing of the two classrooms and hallways during the summer. His estimate was \$7000, which is substantially less than a previous estimate. He explained that it takes him 3-4 days with plans to have 4 coats of commercial grade varnish added. Peter also suggested buffing and recoating the floors every 3 years. Mr. Whitener was asked to represent the board in his position as facilities manager for the TOLI and enter into contract for this work. Mr. Whitener will also be in touch with the Sheriff about getting a work crew from the jail to move everything out of classrooms any time beginning the week of June 17. He said we are still awaiting a painting estimate, as it would be perfect timing to also paint out the classrooms and hallway while they are emptied of furnishings.

## **7. OLD BUSINESS**

There was none.

## **8. LEAD TEACHER'S REPORT**

Mrs. Train first noted the change in energy for all the children being back together again in school and what a pleasure it has been to resume a regular day! With the longer school day, many specials have returned to the schedule including PE, music, technology, and art. A parent who is also a certified librarian has also begun her services again, working with the children on Fridays. Mrs. Train also reported that a loyal volunteer has again seeded the kelp line so the children can monitor growth.

She next reported that the Parent's Club decided to hold a month long raffle this year instead of an auction with prizes awarded daily during the month of July. Donations are arriving and sales of the calendars will begin shortly.

## **9. MOTION TO ADJOURN**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05.

## **DATES TO REMEMBER:**

Saturday, May 15: Town Meeting

Unless otherwise posted, School Board meetings will be held on the first Wednesday of every month:

May 5

June 9

