

# **PUTNAM BOARD OF EDUCATION**

## **SECRETARY'S REPORT**

**February 21, 2024**

The Putnam Board of Education met in special session on February 21, 2024, in the Joseph V. Pempek Memorial Conference Room at 7:00 PM.

Attendance: Julie Blouin, Kelly Gazzola, Laure LaBonte, Michael Morrill, Chad Neal, James Purdon, Carolyn Riendeau, and Chris Stewart

Absent: Christopher Steinbrick

Others: Steven R. Rioux, Superintendent of Schools and Nancy T. Cole, Business Administrator

James Purdon called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

### **Pledge of Allegiance**

### **Student Representatives**

Student representative Savannah Loiselle reported on events happening in the schools.

### **1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Chad Neal made a motion to approve the December 12, 2023 regular meeting minutes, the December 13, 2023 special meeting minutes, and the February 1, 2024 special meeting minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Julie Blouin and passed unanimously.

### **2. CORRESPONDENCE**

There were three emails of substance that were forwarded.

### **3. PRESENTATIONS**

There were no presentations.

### **4. CITIZENS COMMENTS**

There were no citizen's comments.

### **5. REPORTS OF OFFICERS AND STANDING COMMITTEES**

#### **a. Committee Reports**

#### **1) Policy Committee Report**

No report

#### **2) Facilities Committee Report**

The Facilities Committee met on February 21, 2024. The PES roof project, HVAC project, and other facility projects were discussed.

#### **a) January 3, 2024 Facility Committee Special Meeting Minutes**

The minutes from the January 3, 2024 Facility Committee special meeting were included in the packet.

### **3) Curriculum Committee Report**

No report

Michael Morrill reported the CABA and EASTCONN updates.

### **b. Financial Report**

Nancy Cole updated the board on the year-end expenditure report for FY 2023-2024. A Budget Overview, Excess Cost Report, the Family Resource Center Report, and the January Financial Reports were also included.

### **c. Superintendent's Report, Steven R. Rioux**

#### **1) District Update**

A district update was included in the packet. Superintendent Rioux shared advocacy opportunities and grant funds received through DonorsChoose. Superintendent Rioux will present the Board of Education approved budget to the Board of Finance on Monday, February 26, 2024.

#### **2) Beagary Charitable Trust Grant**

Superintendent Rioux reported the receipt of a grant from the Beagary Charitable Trust for the music programs.

#### **3) Achievement Data 2022-2023 - Science**

A data report was presented by Jacqueline Vetrovec, Director of Curriculum.

#### **4) Enrollment Update**

An updated enrollment report was included in the packet.

#### **5) Personnel Report**

An updated personnel report was included in the packet.

#### **6) School Monthly Board Reports**

School Monthly Reports were included in the packet.

### **d. Board Chair Report**

#### **1) Discussion regarding standing committees**

The open positions on the committees were filled by the board members. The open Board of Education committee positions were filled by Kelly Gazzola - curriculum committee, Julie Blouin - facilities committee, and Chris Stewart - policy committee. The open school committee liaison positions were filled by Chris Stewart - All Hazard Safety and Security committee and Julie Blouin - Wellness committee. Julie Blouin was added to the Adopt a School listing for Putnam Elementary School.

#### **2) PMS Principal Search Committee**

This was tabled to the March meeting.

## **6. BUSINESS**

### **a. Propose 2024-2025 District Calendar**

Michael Morrill made a motion to approve the 2024-2025 District Calendar with the correction to the notes section. The motion was seconded by Carolyn Riendeau. The motion passed with James Purdon opposing the motion.

### **b. Propose Board of Education Calendar of Regular Meetings: January 2025 - June 2025**

Kelly Gazzola made a motion to approve the calendar of regular meetings for January 2025 - June 2025 as presented. The motion was seconded by Chad Neal and passed unanimously.

**c. Proposed Board of Education FY 2024-2025 Budget**

Chris Stewart made a motion to approve the Superintendent's Proposed Budget for FY 2024-2025 as presented in the amount of \$21,057,907. The motion was seconded by Chad Neal and passed unanimously.

**d. Increasing Educational Diversity Plan**

Kelly Gazzola made a motion to approve the draft version of the Increasing Educational Diversity Plan as presented. The motion was seconded by Julie Blouin and passed unanimously.

**e. Authorize the Superintendent to Approve Revisions on behalf of the Board of Education to the Increasing Educational Diversity Plan**

Carolyn Riendeau made a motion to authorize the Superintendent to make revisions to the Increasing Educational Diversity Plan on behalf of the Board of Education. The motion was seconded by Laure LaBonte and passed unanimously.

Michael Morrill made a motion to enter executive session at 9:19 PM for the purpose of negotiations and invite Superintendent Rioux and Nancy Cole. The motion was seconded by Laure LaBonte and passed unanimously.

Executive session ended at 9:42 PM

**f. Paraprofessional Negotiations – Approve Contract**

Michael Morrill made a motion to approve the Paraprofessional Contract as presented in Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Kelly Gazzola and passed unanimously.

**g. Approval of Non-unionized Salary Agreements**

Michael Morrill made a motion to approve the non-unionized salary agreements as presented in Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Julie Blouin and passed unanimously.

**h. Superintendent Contract Amendment**

No action was taken.

**7. ADJOURNMENT**

Kelly Gazzola made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Julie Blouin and passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 9:43 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Riendeau  
Board Secretary