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## Teaching and Learning Subcommittee

Remote

April 12, 2022 @ 5:30 p.m.

Open Meeting Minutes

**PRESENT:** Jessica Barnhill (Chair), Beverly Hugo, Tiffanie Maskell, Valerie Ottaviani

**ABSENT:** None

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Assistant Superintendent for PreK-12 Education Amy Bright, Director of the Office of Multilingual Education Dr. Aradhana Mudambi, Director of Health and Wellness Judy Styer, Director of Special Education Laura Spear, Principals Carolyn Banach, Cynthia Page, Frank Rothwell, James Bergeron, Kerry Wood, Lawrence Wolpe, Lauren Carreiro, Elizabeth Simon, Michelle Melick, Rosario Alvarez, Sara Yuen, Patrick Johnson, Maria Davis, Juliana Kessler, and Michele Schecter, Executive Assistant to the School Committee Joanna Hastry, principals

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### Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m. She noted all in attendance and said that the meeting was being held remotely, was being broadcast live on Facebook, and was also being recorded.

### Public Comment

There was no-one in attendance for public comment.

### Discussion and Vote on School Improvement Plans

Assistant Superintendent for PreK-12 Education Amy Bright shared a presentation on School Improvement Plan Updates that included the District's strategic objectives, measurable annual goals, school challenges, and the School Improvement Plans for each school. She noted that the Principals of each school were in attendance in case there were any questions.

Ms. Barnhill asked if there were any initiatives or incorporation into the District's Strategic Plan to help build relationships and make sure students have a trusted adult relationship within the schools. Ms. Bright said that this is embedded in different places, although calibrated in different areas throughout the schools. She said that it could be added to the Strategic Plan in the future, but more likely as action steps and not its own objective. Ms. Hugo said that we are hearing from parents that there are major behavioral issues that are all over the country, it can be hard to get proper Special Education supports for students without parent approval, and asked what can be done to get those students what they need and improve the school climate. Ms. Bright said that is a major concern of everyone in education nationally, with the pandemic and mental health crisis and maxed out services. She said that we can partner with the parent and speak to outside providers to build a plan to incorporate all stakeholders in the child's life.

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She said it is not always a Special Education issue either, and there is a need to look at all supports, such as mental health and other tiers of support. She spoke about collaborating across the schools for responses to behaviors within the Code of Character, Conduct, and Support. Director of Health and Wellness Judy Styer spoke to relationships being fundamental to the success we are going to have, including relationships with parents.

**Motion:** To send the School Improvement Plans to the full School Committee for approval.

**Moved:** Ms. Hugo                      **Seconded:** Ms. Maskell

**Discussion:** Ms. Maskell asked for data on what attendance looks like for teachers and staff in every school as this has an impact on our students for consistency and lessons being taught.

**Roll Call Vote:** Unanimous (4-0-0) (Yes: Barnhill, Hugo, Maskell, Ottaviani)

### Review of Goals from 2020-2021

The goals specific to the Teaching and Learning Subcommittee from 2020-2021 were shared on the screen and edits were made during the meeting. There was discussion on if these goals are supposed to be specific to the School Committee or the District. Discussion included expanding goals from just BLOCKs to all of early education expansion, to have anti-racist training for the School Committee, and what outcomes and research needs to be part of studying a later start time for the high school.

**Motion:** To keep the goal of Anti-racist practices and change the wording to meet our needs.

**Moved:** Ms. Maskell

There was no second and discussion continued including edits to the wording of the goal.

**Motion:** To strike out the goal “Employee engagements through FTA to have better back and forth dialogues and support educators” as this pertained to the time during the pandemic in March 2020.

**Moved:** Ms. Ottaviani              **Seconded:** Ms. Maskell

**Discussion:** Ms. Hugo said that she does like that goal as a way for collaboration and work as a team.

**Roll Call Vote:** Unanimous (4-0-0) (Yes: Barnhill, Hugo, Maskell, Ottaviani)

**Motion:** To approve the goals as edited and send to the full School Committee for approval.

**Moved:** Ms. Maskell              **Seconded:** Ms. Hugo                      **Roll Call Vote:** Unanimous (4-0-0)  
(Yes: Barnhill, Hugo, Maskell, Ottaviani)

### Approval of Minutes

**Motion:** To approve the minutes of December 6, 2021.

**Moved:** Ms. Hugo                      **Seconded:** Ms. Ottaviani                      **Roll Call Vote:** Unanimous (4-0-0)  
(Yes: Barnhill, Hugo, Maskell, Ottaviani)

### Adjournment

**Motion:** To adjourn.

**Moved:** Ms. Hugo              **Seconded:** Ms. Ottaviani      **Roll Call Vote:** Unanimous (4-0-0)  
(Yes: Barnhill, Hugo, Maskell, Ottaviani)

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

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Meeting Materials

Agenda

Update on School Improvement Plans Presentation

Teaching and Learning Goals 2020-2021

Draft December 6, 2021 Minutes