



LOWELL SCHOOL COMMITTEE

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Date: June 17, 2020
Time: 6:30PM
Location: City Council Chamber, 375 Merrimack Street, 2nd Floor, Lowell, MA 01852

(In the Mayor's discretion, the meeting may be moved to the following Zoom room, if conditions require such a change).

Topic: School Committee meeting

Time: Jun 17, 2020 06:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/98843720351?pwd=SUYva0NtV2I3amhsWG12RWdsc3VHdz09>

Meeting ID: 988 4372 0351

Password: Wednesday

1. SALUTE TO FLAG

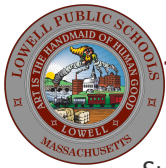
2. ROLL CALL

On a roll call at 6:35 p.m., all members were present, namely: Ms. Martin, Ms. Clark, Mr. Descoteaux, Mr. Dillon, Ms. Doherty, Mr. Hoey and Mayor Leahy.

3. SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

3.1. This Meeting Is Being Held Remotely In Accordance With The Governor Of Massachusetts' March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions Of The Open Meeting Law G.L. C. 30A, Section 20.

The meeting took place in the City Council Chambers with the full Committee present and in person.



Superintendent Boyd announced to the Committee that he has appointed Michael Fiato as the new Head of School at Lowell High School. Mr. Fiato is a passionate and visionary educator with over 20 years of experience in the field of public education. Currently, Michael serves as a Targeted Assistance Manager for the State Wide System of Support at the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. Michael partners with schools and districts that have schools identified as requiring assistance and intervention on the state accountability system. Prior to joining DESE, Michael served as the Headmaster of Lawrence High School, and has extensive knowledge of school improvement, redesign, and turnaround practices at the secondary level. In his role as headmaster, Michael was instrumental in developing an early college program, and career pathways for students. This model includes an internship program partnering with the public and private sector and the development of career pathways where students have opportunities to deeply explore specific industry and career related themes. Fueled by a belief that ALL students should have access to high quality academic and enrichment programming he also expanded opportunities through better funding and support for theater, music and the arts. Prior to serving as Headmaster, Michael served as a principal of one of the six high schools at Lawrence High for eight years. During that time, his school increased the graduation rate and reduced the dropout rate, and consistently improved academic outcomes on the statewide accountability system. Over the course of his career, Michael served in a variety of roles including academic dean, athletic coach, academy administrator, principal and headmaster. Michael draws his passion for public education, equity and social justice from his roots in community organizing and youth development in the early stages of his career. He firmly believes that high schools should ensure that all students graduate with a dignified next step in the form of a post-secondary plan that will propel them into success in the 21st century.

Superintendent Boyd then announced that he has appointed Ian Charles as Principal of James Sullivan Middle School, effective July 1, 2020. Ian N. Charles began his career in education as a long-term substitute teacher in 1998 serving the Lowell Public School community in the field of special education, humanities and social studies. He worked at the Rogers, Robinson and Pyne Arts while attending the University of Massachusetts at Lowell in the evening. He was a resident of Lowell during his time within the district. His children attended the Pyne Arts School after returning from Florida where he continued his career in education at Olympia High School as a history and economics instructor. He later returned to Massachusetts where he served as a social science instructor at the Peabody Middle School in Cambridge. While working at the Peabody Middle School, Mr. Ian Charles attended Cambridge College in the evening as he pursued a career in education administration. He was hired as an interim assistant principal at the Healy Middle School in Somerville. He was given a permanent placement as the assistant principal of the Winter Hill Community Innovation School. He was later hired in Medford to help lead the McGlynn Middle School. His exceptional work as an educational leader got the attention of the Medford Public School community and district administration. He was appointed assistant principal of Medford High school where he oversaw the successful transition of the incoming freshmen class of more than 325 students. His work garnered the attention from a Charter School in Dorchester where he later served as principal of Codman Academy. Ian Nigel Charles achieved a B.A. in the field of public policy and administration with a concentration in political science from the University of Massachusetts at Lowell class of '99. Mr. Charles also holds a M.Ed. in curriculum and instruction from the University of Massachusetts at Lowell class of '02. He also holds a Certificate of Advanced Graduate Study (C.A.G.S.) from Cambridge College Class of '11 with a concentration in administrative policy and school reform. Ian N. Charles is currently a doctoral candidate at Northeastern University's College of Professional Studies in the field of administrative leadership. He holds a Massachusetts certification in educational leadership for grades 5-12. He also holds a Massachusetts certification as a superintendent for grades K-12.



4. MINUTES

4.1. Approval of the Minutes of the Regularly Scheduled Lowell School Committee Meeting of Wednesday, June 3, 2020

Mr. Descoteaux made a motion to approve and place on file the Minutes of the Regularly Scheduled Lowell School Committee Meeting of Wednesday, June 3, 2020, Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Lowell School Committee of June 3, 2020, the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Lowell School Committee of June 8, 2020 and the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Lowell School Committee of June 11, 2020; seconded by Mr. Hoey. 7 yeas APPROVED

4.2. Approval of the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Lowell School Committee of June 3, 2020

Mr. Descoteaux made a motion to approve and place on file the Minutes of the Regularly Scheduled Lowell School Committee Meeting of Wednesday, June 3, 2020, Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Lowell School Committee of June 3, 2020, the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Lowell School Committee of June 8, 2020 and the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Lowell School Committee of June 11, 2020; seconded by Mr. Hoey. 7 yeas APPROVED

4.3. Approval of the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Lowell School Committee of June 8, 2020

Mr. Descoteaux made a motion to approve and place on file the Minutes of the Regularly Scheduled Lowell School Committee Meeting of Wednesday, June 3, 2020, Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Lowell School Committee of June 3, 2020, the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Lowell School Committee of June 8, 2020 and the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Lowell School Committee of June 11, 2020; seconded by Mr. Hoey. 7 yeas APPROVED

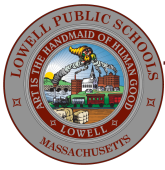
4.4. Approval of the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Lowell School Committee of June 11, 2020

Mr. Descoteaux made a motion to approve and place on file the Minutes of the Regularly Scheduled Lowell School Committee Meeting of Wednesday, June 3, 2020, Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Lowell School Committee of June 3, 2020, the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Lowell School Committee of June 8, 2020 and the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Lowell School Committee of June 11, 2020; seconded by Mr. Hoey. 7 yeas APPROVED

5. MOTIONS

5.1. **[By Jackie Doherty]**: Request the Lowell School Committee join with MASC and other school committees across the state in support of a Resolution regarding full state reimbursement for COVID-19 expenses.

Ms. Doherty made a motion to approve; seconded by Mr. Descoteaux. 7 yeas APPROVED



5.2. [By Hilary Clark]: Motion to have the Lowell School Committee Participate in collective bargaining with all unions instead of the Human Resources & Labor Relations Subcommittee.

Ms. Clark made a motion to approve; seconded by Mr. Dillon. 7 yeas APPROVED

5.3. [By Hilary Clark]: Motion to close offices and schools on July 3, 2020 in recognition of the July 4th holiday, which falls on Saturday for building services personnel and request that the Administrative Assistants use it as a paid holiday pursuant to their contract in light of the current budget situation.

Ms. Clark made a motion to approve; seconded by Ms. Doherty. 7 yeas APPROVED

6. REPORTS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

6.1. Districtwide Budget Update

Superintendent Boyd and Ms. Turner, Chief Financial Officer provided an update to the Committee on the budget. The following areas were addressed and discussed:

- Revenue Forecast
- Approach to Cost Savings
- Strategic Steps Taken
- Scenario Based Planning
- Current Scenarios
- Potential for Future Reductions
- Next Steps
- Timeline
- Questions from the Committee

Mr. Hoey made a motion to accept the following Reports of the Superintendent 6.1 through 6.4.2 as reports of progress; seconded by Mr. Descoteaux. 7 yeas APPROVED

6.2. Return to School Task Force

Ms. Desmond, Chief Academic Officer and Dr. Guillory, Chief Schools Officer provided a return to school task force mid-phase 1 report to the Committee. The report included the following:

- Developing a Framework for 3 Different Scenarios
- Task Force Phase 1 Objectives and Timeline
- Full, In Person Subgroup (list of participants) and Full, In Person Scenario Planning
- Hybrid Group and Hybrid Scenario Planning
- Remote Subgroup and Remote Scenario Planning
- Lowell High School Scenario Planning Timeline
- Next Steps



Mr. Hoey made a motion to accept the following Reports of the Superintendent 6.1 through 6.4.2 as reports of progress; seconded by Mr. Descoteaux. 7 yeas APPROVED

6.3. Personnel Report

The Personnel Report officially informs the Committee of all retirements, resignations, promotions and new hires.

Mr. Hoey made a motion to accept the following Reports of the Superintendent 6.1 through 6.4.2 as reports of progress; seconded by Mr. Descoteaux. 7 yeas APPROVED

6.4. Report on Motions

Superintendent Boyd provided the Committee with an updated report on the status of outstanding motions and asked the Committee if they had any concerns or questions.

Mr. Hoey made a motion to accept the following Reports of the Superintendent 6.1 through 6.4.2 as reports of progress; seconded by Mr. Descoteaux. 7 yeas APPROVED

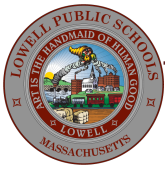
6.4.1. Response to Motions 3.CFO of 04/01/20 by Bob Hoey

(By Bob Hoey): That the superintendent produce a report by April 1, 2020 meet with the following information charting out spend expenditures by year for the last 15 years (or as far as back as possible)

- Number of total special education budget; | Percentage of kids receiving special location services;
- Amount of money spent on out of district services; | Percentages of children utilizing out of district services;
- Number of employees working in Special Education (please also provide their job descriptions);
- Total of number of employees within the district per year.

Ms. Turner, Chief Financial Officer provided a report to the Committee that included nine (9) years of data and have disclosed the following:

- Total Special Education spending has increased from \$22.6 million in 2011 to \$43.3 million in 2019.
- Special Education spending has increased from 15% of total budget in 2011 to 21.9% in 2019.
- Special Education spending totals includes approximately 70% on in district spending and 30% out of district spending year to year.
- Special Education out of district spending rose from \$7.9 million in 2011 to \$13 million in 2018. This amount decreased to \$11.8 million in 2019 due to the opening of the Janice Adie Day School.



- Students receiving out of district Special Education services rose from 98 in 2011 to 140 in 2018. This amount decreased from 140 to 114 in 2019.
- Total enrollment has increased from 13,708 in 2011 to 14,663 in 2019.
- 2105 students in 2011 received Special Education services which represents 15% of total enrollment. In 2019, 2543 students received Special Education services which represent 17% of total enrollment.
- Special Education staff increased from 324 in 2011 to 493 in 2019. In 2011, Special Education staff represented 18.8% of total staff (1723). This rose to 23.4% of total staff (2110) in 2019.

Mr. Hoey made a motion to accept the following Reports of the Superintendent 6.1 through 6.4.2 as reports of progress; seconded by Mr. Descoteaux. 7 yeas APPROVED

6.4.2. Response to Motions 10.CAO of 05/20/20 by Mike Dillon Jr.

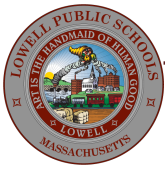
Request the Superintendent provide an update on the Creegan TV Studio (staffing, technology capabilities, and usage) for discussion on incorporating online content production into future technology planning.

Mr. Wilkins, Lowell High School Educational Program Coordinator provided a report to the Committee that addressed the following areas:

- What has been Accomplished
- Digital Film Course Offerings
- Dual Enrollment Graphics Collaborates with the Raider Report
- Work toward getting a Sponsor for Our Truck Program
- Staffing
- Technology & Usage
- Broadcast Studio (In-House)
- Live Broadcast Portable Cart
- Digital Cinema/Film Technologies
- Electronic News Gathering Camera Kits (ENG)
- Digital Media Lab (Teachers Classroom)
- Advanced Level Edit Rooms
- Online Content Production Technology
- Live Streaming Technologies
- Discover Video Media Server

Mr. Dillon asked for follow up on whether the district can stream through YouTube. Mayor Leahy asked for a little more detail on what the staffing needs are.

Mr. Hoey made a motion to accept the following Reports of the Superintendent 6.1 through 6.4.2 as reports of progress; seconded by Mr. Descoteaux. 7 yeas APPROVED



7. NEW BUSINESS

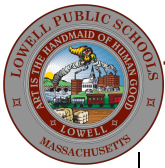
7.1. Vote to Accept a Donation to Bailey School from HubSpot

The Bailey School received a donation of twenty (20) refurbished MacBook Air laptops along with ten (10) chargers from HubSpot.

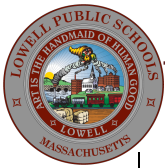
Ms. Doherty made a motion to accept and approve the donation to the Bailey School from HubSpot; seconded by Mr. Dillon. 7 yeas APPROVED

7.2. Budget Transfer

Fund	Organizational ID	Object	DESE		Amount Requested	Source of Additional Funding***			DESE		Amount (transfers only)
0010	99341203	512901	1200	Asst Supt - Curriculum & Instr	1,467.52	0010	99341312	577766	1100	SC - Expenses	(3,881.10)
0010	99341212	570701	1200	SO - In State Travel	2,200.00	0010	99341312	577732	1100	SC - Subscriptions	(2,484.37)
0010	99341224	570100	1400	Program & Analytical Services	3,150.00	0010	99341312	577769	1100	SC - Memberships	(2,450.00)
0010	99341224	577600	1400	Admin. Tech. - Contracted Scvs	14,339.20	0010	99341218	530041	1400	Contracted Svcs - Legal	(13,490.00)
0010	99341224	577717	1400	Admin. Tech. - Software	337,172.03	0010	99341224	575422	1400	Photocopier Maintenance/Service	(8,587.85)
0010	99300004	512159	2100	DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH & ACCOUNT	2,024.15	0010	99341230	512162	1400	STRATEGIC ADVISOR	(7,355.60)
0010	95441103	512101	2200	LDS Principal	6,680.37	0010	99341224	570402	1400	Internet Service Provider	(1,000.00)
0010	95537055	530002	2350	Washington SA - Prof. Dev.	179.90	0010	99341218	531800	1400	Printing & Binding	(678.94)
0010	99310008	512155	2350	ACADEMIC COACHES	3,269.24	0010	99341230	512902	1400	Clerical Staff - Admin. Office	(15,633.69)
0010	99311204	540900	2450	Instructional Tech. Software	63,138.00	0010	91941102	530002	2200	Laura Lee SA - Other Exp.	(870.00)
0010	98735003	512105	2700	Rogers Guidance Counselor	1,991.39	0010	97541106	530002	2200	McAuliffe Other Expenditures	(566.25)
0010	99035003	512105	2700	LHS Guidance Counselor	6,438.64	0010	93541106	530002	2200	LeBlanc OTHER Expenditures	(560.00)
0010	99347109	544400	4000	Maintenance - Supplies	26,150.00	0010	99310103	512402	2300	Long Term Substitute Teachers	(86,000.00)
0010	99347103	513002	4000	Overtime - Use of Buildings	118,886.00	0010	99313103	577760	2300	Field Trip Admission Fees	(28,744.76)
0010	99310301	514800	5100	Longevity - System	144.11	0010	98311503	512903	2300	Bartlett English Teacher	(26,154.54)
0010	99345006	563600	5200	Employee Health Insurance	55,110.22	0010	99010718	544400	2300	LHS SA - General Supplies	(16,406.19)



						0010	99337007	512301	2300	Intervention/Enrichment Tutors	(13,350.00)
						0010	93610112	544400	2300	Pawtucket SA - General Supplie	(9,795.39)
						0010	92010112	544400	2300	Lincoln SA - General Supplies	(7,792.65)
						0010	99338003	512923	2300	ELL Tutors	(5,545.00)
						0010	91813003	512903	2300	Pyne Arts Science Teacher	(4,686.09)
						0010	92510112	544400	2300	Molloy SA - General Supplies	(4,501.20)
						0010	91210103	512903	2300	McAvinnue Elementary Teacher	(4,088.07)
						0010	92712903	512903	2300	Moody Reading Teacher	(3,856.77)
						0010	94010112	544400	2300	Reilly SA - General Supplies	(3,571.96)
						0010	93510112	544400	2300	LeBlanc SA - General Supplies	(1,918.24)
						0010	91510803	512903	2300	Greenhalge Kindergarten Teache	(1,810.86)
						0010	99312808	530112	2300	Band Camp - LHS	(540.00)
						0010	91920109	544400	2300	Laura Lee SA - General Supplie	(297.09)
						0010	91510112	544400	2300	Greenhalge SA - General Suppli	(73.92)
						0010	90210112	544400	2300	Bailey SA - General Supplies	(35.24)
						0010	91210112	544400	2300	McAvinnue SA - General Supplie	(20.98)
						0010	99337006	531904	2350	Tuition Reimbursement	(61,882.15)
						0010	99310008	571801	2350	Teacher Acad. Incentive Pmts.	(31,200.00)
						0010	99310008	518300	2350	Teacher Acad. Instructor Stipe	(28,935.00)
						0010	99312804	542000	2400	Instrumental Music Program	(4,207.53)
						0010	99338007	541600	2400	ELL Textbooks	(21.26)
						0010	99030510	541000	2450	LHS SA - Technology Exp.	(4.70)
						0010	99036003	512103	2500	LHS Library Media Specialist	(3,747.15)
						0010	99335551	512104	2800	Psychologists	(1,875.17)
						0010	99341504	530002	3100	Student Sppt - Contracted Svcs	(6,067.81)
						0010	99339004	512112	3100	District Support Specialists	(4,672.88)



						0010	99341506	545700	3100	Student Sppt - Supplies	(1,878.58)
						0010	99341504	530000	3100	PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	(400.00)
						0010	99348012	577615	3300	Transportation - Regular Educ.	(35,000.00)
						0010	99348006	530002	3300	Transportation - Cont. Svcs.	(2,968.27)
						0010	99348009	544400	3300	Transportation - Supplies	(767.07)
						0010	99031003	512902	3500	LHS Athletics Clerk	(30,001.19)
						0010	99031012	577615	3500	LHS Athletics - Transportation	(27,985.00)
						0010	99031005	530000	3500	LHS Athletics - Cont. Trainer	(17,800.00)
						0010	99031003	512114	3500	LHS Coaches - Intramural	(11,002.00)
						0010	99031006	530002	3500	LHS Athletics - Cont. Svcs.	(4,558.25)
						0010	99031003	512113	3500	LHS Coaches - Interscholastic	(3,661.00)
						0010	99031009	544400	3500	LHS Athletics - Supplies	(81.60)
						0010	99030504	544400	3520	LHS Student Activity Supplies	(18,672.41)
						0010	94010105	512111	3520	Reilly - Student Activities	(2,250.00)
						0010	99347112	537600	4000	Utility - Water/Sewer	(58,314.53)
						0010	92047103	512960	4110	Lincoln Custodian	(2,818.17)
						0010	98847103	512960	4110	Sullivan Custodian	(972.98)
						0010	99347206	584600	7000	Capital Improvements	(3,849.32)

642,340.77

(642,340.77)

Reason for budget transfer: Due to the COVID-19 school closure, we have surpluses in accounts that typically would be fully expended.

Ms. Doherty made a motion to approve the budget transfer of \$642,340.77; seconded by Mr. Dillon. 7 yeas APPROVED

7.3. Consideration of Option for One Year Extension of Current Lease for 155 Merrimack St (1st, 4th, 5th Floors)

This agenda item was deferred until the next regularly scheduled Lowell School Committee meeting.



7.4. Resolution- School Committee Support of Resolution Regarding Full State Reimbursement for COVID-19 Expenses

Ms. Doherty made a motion to have the School Committee support the Resolution Regarding Full State Reimbursement for COVID-19 Expenses; seconded by Ms. Martin. 7 yeas APPROVED

8. PROFESSIONAL PERSONNEL

8.1. UTL: Sick Leave

The Members of the United Teachers of Lowell hereby donate twenty-four [24] sick leave days to Janet Meehan, Murkland School Paraprofessional.

Mr. Hoey made a motion to approve; seconded by Mr. Dillon. 7 yeas APPROVED

8.2. UTL: Sick Leave

The Members of the United Teachers of Lowell hereby donate ten [10] sick leave days to Maureen Rogers, Daley School Paraprofessional.

Mr. Descoteaux made a motion to approve; seconded by Mr. Dillon. 7 yeas APPROVED



9. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Martin made a motion to adjourn at 8:01 p.m.; seconded by Mr. Hoey. 7 yeas APPROVED

Respectfully submitted,

**Joel D. Boyd, Ed.D., Superintendent and
Secretary to the Lowell School Committee**

JDB/mes