

South Hadley Public Schools School Committee Meeting Minutes

January 20, 2022

Video Conference Meeting Accessible via SHCTV1 or SHCTV1.com

I. Call to Order

Noticing a quorum, Chairperson, Allison Schlachter called the virtual School Committee Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. A Zoom video conference meeting accessible via SHCTV15 and SHCTV.com made possible by Governor Baker's June 16, 2021, remote meeting provision to the March 12, 2020, COVID-19 Emergency

In Attendance: Allison Schlachter, Chairperson

Dr. Jahmal Mosley, Superintendent of the South Hadley Public Schools

Jennifer Matos, Assistant Chairperson

Danielle Cooke, Member

Eric Friesner, Member

Lynda Pickbourn, Member

Kaily Godek, Student Representative

Jennifer Voyik, Business Manager, South Hadley Public Schools

Guests: Amy Foley, President of SHEA

Principal Hank Skala

Principal Cindy Flynn

Principal David Gallagher

Assistant Principal Patrick Lemieux

II. Introduction of New School Committee Member

Chairperson Schlachter introduced Dr. Lynda Pickbourn as the new School Committee member that replaced Allyson Garcia. She was appointed on Tuesday, January 18, 2022 by a joint meeting of the School Committee and Selectboard. She was sworn in on Wednesday by the Town Hall.

Dr. Lynda Pickbourn was chosen from a few applicants that were submitted from the School Committee posting. Lynda Pickbourn has a background in education on two continents. She taught English and Economics in Ghana. She is currently faculty at both Hampshire College and University of Massachusetts in Amherst. Lynda is the mother of a second-grade student. Chairperson Schlachter gives a warm welcome to Dr. Lynda Pickbourn to the School Committee. There has been a lot of movement and thanks her for joining them. Lynda Pickbourn thanked the School Committee and the Selectboard for appointing her. She's happy to be there and she is looking forward to working with them for the next three months.

South Hadley Public Schools School Committee Meeting Minutes

January 20, 2022

Video Conference Meeting Accessible via SHCTV1 or SHCTV1.com

III. Approval of Minutes

Chairperson Schlachter stated that Lynda Pickbourn has the option to either vote or abstain. She provided instructions on how to vote. Motion was moved by Danielle Cooke and second by Eric Friesner. No further discussion. Motion passed: 4/1 (Matos, Cooke, Friesner and Schlachter / Pickbourn - Abstained).

IV. Approval of Warrants

Jennifer Matos read the approval of warrants. Chairperson Schlachter confirmed whether Danielle Cooke would be able to vote on these warrants. She confirmed that she was able to do so. Chairperson Schlachter states that this will be one motion. Jen Matos requested the motion to approve the bi-weekly payroll as read by her, second by Danielle Cooke. No further discussion. Motion passed unanimously: 5/0 (Matos, Cooke, Friesner, Pickbourn and Schlachter).

Date	Number	Amount
January 4, 2022	Warrant #2021-162	\$48,577.38
January 6, 2022	Bi-Weekly Payroll	\$733,810.24
January 11, 2022	Warrant #2022-166	\$219,344.89

V. Reports of Standing Committees

Racial Justice Task Force

Jen Matos states that the RJTF has been working with The Collaborative for Educational Services in Northampton (The Collaborative) for listening sessions that the community can participate in, as well as a training for the School Committee. We are scheduled to have a 1.5 hour listening session and a 2-hour training session. They would like dates and times that work for us. Jen Matos could start a Doodle Poll and propose some dates and let them know the majority of votes from that poll. Chairperson Schlachter agrees with the Doodle Poll. Dr. Mosley asked what would the trainings be on? Jennifer Matos stated that the training is geared towards all of them having the same vocabulary when it comes to their racial justice work so that they all have a common vocabulary, and one is not using a different set of terms than the others. When we talk about prejudice or privilege, we are all on the same page. They will also do this for the community so that we all have the same vocabulary. Dr. Mosley asked if it was virtually or in-person? Jen Matos makes the assumption that it's virtual, but she will make confirm with The Collaborative. Chairperson Schlachter confirmed that it was two different sessions. Jen Matos agreed and stated that she has attended two-hour trainings for different organizations, such as Group Norms in a Community Setting and Introduction to Terms. There are a lot of breakout sessions and an Action

South Hadley Public Schools

School Committee Meeting Minutes

January 20, 2022

Video Conference Meeting Accessible via SHCTV1 or SHCTV1.com

Plan. You will need to have actionable items and they will follow-up on your plan and goals. Kaily Godek asked if this was also for the student representative of the School Committee? Jen Matos states she feels like Kaily is a part of the School Committee and had her in mind when that was proposed. Dr. Mosley asked once we move beyond this, are there other pieces besides the racial justice training? Jen Matos stated that she can't speak to that because she is only speaking for the Racial Justice Task Force, which is their focus. Jen Matos had a follow-up question whether we should include weekends in the potential dates and times. Chairperson Schlachter confirmed that we should add all options.

Contract Negotiations

Eric Friesner states that contract negotiations started last week. It will continue next week and meet every two weeks after that until we reach an agreement.

Joint Labor Management Committee

Eric Friesner states they plan to add members, but currently it's Dr. Jahmal Mosley, Amy Foley, Jennifer Voyik, Eileen Garvey and Christine Glenn and himself. It was a nice, productive meeting and they were able to discuss a lot of stuff. They focused on some actionable items that they can start working on:

- Home Testing – Governor Baker will be asking families to test at home soon. We need to get information out on how to test; and when to test. There were discussions on having a COVID calendar or possibly doing a PSA because those tests are not easy.
- School Calendar – Going from pandemic to endemic, we will have to shift things around for the school calendar. We would have to look at holidays and the weeks following holidays. Certainly, we did not discuss dates, but we discussed ways we should look at it moving forward, realizing that COVID is going to be here for a while. We want to keep everyone in school and as happy and safe as possible.

Chairperson Schlachter was surprised by that and asked if this is a discussion that is happening on a broader scale – looking at calendar dates in the public schools? Is that something that you're hearing more about? Eric Friesner replied that it was a quick jumping off point, but he believes that Holyoke as a District delayed going back after Christmas. Which probably, at least next year, is going to make sense for families being together that's when we're going to see the spikes, so adjusting around that would be helpful. Dr. Mosley confirmed that he covered it. He stated that they were looking at ways to be creative, such as having a 5-7 interval of days that we could have off following the holiday. Holyoke was one school district that we talked about, in that they started the school year a week earlier so they could have two-week Christmas break. That was very helpful in lowering some of their cases of COVID in the schools. He continued, there's a lot of things they talked about many different things. We have to talk about how we as a District and a community we deal with COVID and testing. It was a very healthy discussion.

South Hadley Public Schools School Committee Meeting Minutes

January 20, 2022

Video Conference Meeting Accessible via SHCTV1 or SHCTV1.com

Chairperson Schlachter asked whether there should be additional School Committee members in the group. Eric Friesner believes that one is sufficient for now as it's a super collaborative group, but he will bring it up to them.

Anti-Bullying Coalition

Danielle Cooke stated a survey to the participants interested in the Anti-Bullying Coalition. They are still waiting for a response. They are looking for additional staff members that may be interested in joining them in the formation of this group. They need to know everyone's thoughts about bullying in our community. They must focus a lot like the Racial Justice Task Force to reach out to our resources in the community. They plan to create a clear Mission Statement for the work they will be doing with the Anti-Bullying Coalition.

VI. Public Comment

None.

VII. Discussion and Action Items

a. SHEA Updates

Amy Foley welcomes Dr. Pickbourn to the School Committee. They welcome her and commend her on making this commitment at such a challenging time. She further states that Scott Beaulieu has stepped down as The SHEA President. He has taken another opportunity and will not be with us the rest of the year. She has stepped in his role as The SHEA President. She thanks Scott Beaulieu for his service.

She appreciated the discussion provided by Eric Friesner with regards to the JLMC. Chairperson Schlachter asked her to elaborate on the JLMC. Amy Foley stated it's the Joint Labor Management Committee. Right now, their focus is on COVID, since it started the whole time. She doesn't believe that will be their only focus. They have effective communication and are extremely collaborative. They review the facts and focus on:

- COVID Testing and Education
- Proper Mitigation Strategies
- Benefits of Vaccinations
- Wearing Masks Properly

She believes they have a game-plan going forward on how they are going to tackle these issues. They have a group that are willing to work together and create some solutions in South Hadley.

South Hadley Public Schools School Committee Meeting Minutes

January 20, 2022

Video Conference Meeting Accessible via SHCTV1 or SHCTV1.com

Amy Foley states that negotiations did start, and they are looking forward to creating an agreement that works for our students, our staff, and our District.

She further discussed that she reached out to different communities within SHEA, starting with Special Education educators to discuss their challenges and concerns. She heard the teachers and feels she's a little more knowledgeable of the challenges in the district. She appreciates Dr. Mosley's warm welcome. She states that they have had some productive conversations. She looks forward to collaborating with everyone and moving forward so we can come up with some solutions and agreements, so our students are safe and grow in the community.

Chairperson Schlachter congratulates her on stepping into this role during this challenging time.

b. Report of the Superintendent

Dr. Mosley welcomed Dr. Lynda Pickbourn to the School Committee. The more eyes we have on the budget, the better off we're going to be... We're really going to use your expertise. He curtails his Superintendent Report to allow for information with regards to COVID. The Governor and DESE has changed some of the recommendations for Test & Stay. We will release some information after this meeting.

Dr. Mosley compliments the teachers and nurses on how they assist students during COVID and going above and beyond. On a civility note, he states that the teachers and nurses are doing the best they can and following DESE regulations. He understands families being upset, but he wants the public to realize that this is a daily challenge and they are following what is necessary for the state. It's a challenge for every district in the area.

c. Report of the Chair and School Committee

Chairperson Schlachter opens the floor to any other School Committee members. Eric Friesner stated that Town election nomination papers are available for School Committee, Selectboard, etc. They are due February 22, 2022, to the Clerk's Office. Town elections coming up in April.

Chairperson Schlachter discussed an email from 3rd Grade Teacher Leah McCarthy who informed the school about her students: Hannah Halpern, Willa Alatalo, Waverly Estes and Payton McFarland. They took the initiative to create a business model; hold meetings; hand out and flyers; reach out to the community to discuss their passion to help other children in

South Hadley Public Schools School Committee Meeting Minutes

January 20, 2022

Video Conference Meeting Accessible via SHCTV1 or SHCTV1.com

need. They held a Toy Drive over the holidays and collected over 200 hundred items (toys, fidgets, books, Legos, action figures, etc.) to provide to these children. She wanted to thank them for brightening the days of so many. School Committee applauded them.

Jen Matos wonders if we could send a letter or certificate to these young leaders from School Committee to recognize them for doing this good service. Danielle Cooke echoed Jen Matos request and stated that this falls in line with our Civility Policy and the types of behaviors we want to reinforce in our school community. It's a small gesture and it reinforces P.A.W.S. Chairperson Schlachter states that we need help increase these compassionate and empathetic behaviors. She thinks that we need help increasing our emotional intelligence and our emotional awareness. For some people it's instinctual and natural. Here is an example of that... She wants to thank the teacher, Ms. McCarthy for bringing it to their attention.

d. Report of Student Representative

Kaily Godek would like to welcome Dr. Lynda Pickbourn to the School Committee. I look forward to working with you on the committee!

Kaily Godek provided information regarding events at each school:

- Plains
 - Nothing to Report
- Mosier
 - Nothing to Report
- MESMS
 - Nothing to Report
- SHHS
 - Athletics
 - Congratulations to field hockey junior, Meghan Carey for being named The Gazette Field Hockey Player of the Year.
 - Class of 2022
 - The Class of 2022 has extra lawn signs and magnets for sale. There are a limited number of signs and magnets up for grabs and it will be first come first serve. Magnets are \$5 and lawn signs are \$15. Please reach out to Kaily Godek at khgodek2022@student.shschools.com or to our class's Instagram page at @shhs_2022 to get your sign(s) or magnet(s) today.
 - Class of 2023
 - The Class of 2023 is currently selling raffle calendars for the month of February. Calendars are \$5 each and checks can be made out to SHHS. If

South Hadley Public Schools

School Committee Meeting Minutes

January 20, 2022

Video Conference Meeting Accessible via SHCTV1 or SHCTV1.com

you are interested in purchasing a calendar please reach out to a junior or me and I can get you in contact with a junior class officer.

- NHS
 - NHS will start working on their service projects in the coming months to help out our community.
- Music Department
 - Rehearsals are under way for the spring musical, *Into the Woods*.
- StuCo
 - Bag the Community
 - Due to a significant increase of COVID infections in our community, the annual 'Bag the Community' event scheduled for January 15th was postponed. The Student Council of SHHS will be hosting a replacement community activity when the current health risks are eliminated. Unfortunately, the needs of our neighbors cannot be postponed. Please consider a donation to Neighbors Helping Neighbors Food Pantry. For more information about the pantry, visit: <http://www.nhnfoodpantry.org/> Thank you for your patience and your generosity during these challenging times.
 - Virtual District Wide School Store
 - StuCo is starting to work on creating a district-wide virtual school store with more information coming soon.

VIII. Make-up Days at the High School

Dr. Mosley asked to bring Amy Foley, SHEA President, back to the panel. He acknowledged that the make-up days is a difficult situation for a variety of reasons. It comes down to what are the best way to make these days up given the circumstances. When they initially discussed the make-up days, they looked at everything and the best way to do these make-up days. They are cognitive of snow days and February break. They didn't originally discuss COVID and whether it would spike, time, 5-days vs. 10-days, etc. They want to use time effectively. They are requesting approval via a vote to change the make-up days to Saturdays, which will free up February break for our students and teachers. It would also allow the students and staff to use that week as a time when we are all separated. (see attached, Memorandum of Understanding) Amy Foley stated that whatever plan we come up is not a good plan. She states that we do not have control of this situation, but we are not frustrated with each other. She believes that this is the best plan going forward to keep everyone safe. Dr. Mosley states that if it snows on Saturday, we have to reassess. Danielle Cooke asked if they counted the hours since it was mentioned. She also stated that the late one in June was unexpected and how does it affect the seniors. Amy Foley stated that the last day was one of our original days. We didn't want to add them all on at the end of

South Hadley Public Schools School Committee Meeting Minutes

January 20, 2022

Video Conference Meeting Accessible via SHCTV1 or SHCTV1.com

the year for a couple of reasons. There was a chance that it would change our graduation date. They decided to place one of those dates at the end and that's respective to snow days. Danielle Cooke states that saving the spring days for the potential snow days makes sense. Chairperson Schlachter entertains a motion to accept the updated Memorandum of Understanding. It was moved by Jen Matos and second by Danielle Cooke. No further discussion. Motion passed unanimously: 5/0 (Matos, Cooke, Friesner, Pickbourn and Schlachter).

IX. COVID Mitigation Protocol

Dr. Mosley briefly discussed the presentation that was prepared for COVID for the community. They plan to provide an Open Forum in the future for the community.

South Hadley High School

Assistant Principal Patrick Lemieux on behalf of Principal Elizabeth Wood

Patrick Lemieux welcomed Dr. Pickbourn and discussed some of the items that they put back in place:

- Handsanitizer placed throughout the building and in every classroom
- Lunch tables renumbered and QR coded for contact tracing
- Sanitizing wipes available in all classrooms as well as hand sanitizer
- Sanitize Lunchroom in between lunch sittings
- Directional traffic reinstated
- Seating charts and sign out log continued use in each classroom
- Social distancing reminder signs replaced and updated
- Reminders sent to staff regarding desk distance when possible in classrooms as well as limit group projects and movement in the classroom.
- Staff utilizing KN95 Masks supplied by SHPS
- Auditorium seating has been spread out to a minimum of 3 feet and social distanced
- Water fountains turned off and can be used only as bottle fill stations

Follow-up Questions/Responses:

- **How are the students handling the changes?**
 - As of right now, this is what the kids know based on their experience last year. We will embrace them as this is who we are and what we do from this point forward. We will get rid of them and bring them back as much as needed to keep everyone, including adults and kids, as safe as possible.

South Hadley Public Schools

School Committee Meeting Minutes

January 20, 2022

Video Conference Meeting Accessible via SHCTV1 or SHCTV1.com

- **Is there any additional space or are we doing anything for tables to provide space between students during lunch times?**
 - The difficult thing is we allow Juniors and Seniors to leave for lunch, which was an approved recommendation. However, as the weather is colder, less kids leave, but many will sit in their cars and eat lunch or go home. Their numbers are down because they have the open lunch option that other schools don't have available.
 - You're never a full 15 minutes face-to-face with someone without a mask.
- **Is contact tracing pointing towards problem in the cafeteria?**
 - The cafeterias don't seem to be the issues. The pockets seem to be students that are around each other for multiple classes and extra-curriculars.

Michael E. Smith Middle School

Principal [David Gallagher](#)

- The mask mandate will continue to be followed by all individuals in the building.
- Automatic hand sanitizer stations are located in the main foyer, cafe, and at the doors where students enter after recess.
- Students will be asked to sanitize their hands when they enter a classroom.
- The limit on the number of students permitted in a bathroom is reinstated. We will continue to ask students to sign in and out.
- We will continue to photograph students' lunch tables. These pictures are used for determining close contacts.
- ***The cafeteria will be sanitized between lunches*** (I am waiting for input on this)
- Water fountains will be used as fill stations only. He thanked Josh Vadakin, Head Custodian, for going above and beyond to disconnect the water fountains and reroute the system to the fill stations.
- Students will be directed to stay to the right in hallways, walk in a single file, and not congregate.
- Signage regarding social distance, hand hygiene, and health protocols have been reposted.

Follow-up Questions/Responses:

- **Is there any additional space or are we doing anything for tables to provide space between students during lunch times?**
 - It has been a concern since the beginning of the year. Last year we had less students and had a half-time schedule. Checking if we are able to utilize half the gym. They are reminding students to put their masks between bites and during conversations.
 - Will try to get children outside more as weather improves.
 - There are 25 table of 8 students per table.
 - Pretty much all of the empty space is used up at this time.

South Hadley Public Schools

School Committee Meeting Minutes

January 20, 2022

Video Conference Meeting Accessible via SHCTV1 or SHCTV1.com

- They discussed changing the schedules, but it wasn't happening, but they can look at it again.
- **If classrooms are an issue, would having lunch in the classrooms with the windows open be a solution?**
 - If you are trying to supervise a complete grade at a time, you don't have the staff to do it because teachers are contractually obligated to have their lunch hour. Plus, you have the issue of whole grades of transporting their food throughout the school.

Mosier Elementary School

Principal Cindy Flynn

Principal Flynn welcomes Dr. Pickbourn and Eric Friesner since she has not had a moment to meet him.

Mask Mandate: Any person or student coming into Mosier will be required to wear masks that securely cover their nose and mouth at all times. Neck gator masks, bandanas, or vented masks are not permitted.

Hygiene Protocols are an important safety practice throughout each school day. Visuals are posted reminding students and staff of hand washing hygiene, respiratory etiquette, and sanitizing practices. All water bubblers are operational, however it is recommended that all students bring a water bottle to school each day. Use of outdoor grounds, including the courtyard, will be suggested whenever possible.

*Seating charts will be kept for all groups. Classroom carpet areas are only utilized for 15 minute intervals.

***Protocols are utilized regarding hallway usage and traffic. Air ventilation/Air purifier is continuously monitored throughout the school year. Plexiglass dividers, although not required, are available as needed/requested. Normal school cleaning procedures will continue. Additional PPE is always available from the school nurse.*

School Nurses: Are the point of contact for all student health questions and concerns. Nurses will evaluate students who report with Covid-19 symptoms or other health related concerns. We will follow the recommendations for quarantining etc. as they are defined.

Lunchroom/Recess Procedures and Protocols have been returned to pre-pandemic procedures, however seating is assigned and seating charts are always kept and monitored. We are prepared to adjust if DESE guidelines change.

South Hadley Public Schools School Committee Meeting Minutes

January 20, 2022

Video Conference Meeting Accessible via SHCTV1 or SHCTV1.com

Follow-up Questions/Responses:

- **Is contact tracing pointing towards problem in the cafeteria?**
 - No data leading to any particular part of the day being worse than others. We have not shown data that it has been an obstacle.
- **How are you handling windows at Mosier? Are you cracking any windows?**
 - They actually did the best on the HVAC and air circulation testing at the school. The air filters are still operational and being replaced on a regular basis. They allow windows to remain open at night. Principal Flynn keeps her window open all the time. Custodians will go back and make sure everything is locked tight.

Additional Questions

Chairperson Schlachter asked if there was anyone in this meeting that would know what the recommendation would be between a good working HVAC system and windows? What are the different schools doing with the windows. Danielle Cooke stated that her understanding that the air circulation test was done with the test closed. Patrick Lemieux stated that the high school is above the 85% recommendation. They still have a variety of teachers who open their windows. Plus, they have the district provided air purifiers. After additional discussion, it was decided that they should discuss with the Town Facilitators. Jennifer Voyik informed had thorough testing and a report provided last year. Dr. Mosley and Jennifer Voyik discussed the moisture issue which caused the mold and the old HVAC system at the high school that needs to be addressed by capital improvement moving forward in order to revamp these issues. We do not want to families or staff to get nervous to think that being in the buildings isn't safe. They spent a lot of money to have thorough testing and worked with the Union to make sure that the air quality was a safe place to be for staff and students. Chairperson recommends that the reports from last year showing that all four buildings are safe be added to the website for the public's review. Danielle Cooke wanted to clarify that we are discussing air turnover, which is different from the moisture issue for the HVAC system. We have passed tests to make facilities safe for mitigating COVID. Jennifer Voyik confirmed that is correct and our dampers are all open in all four buildings to at least 80% so that we are pulling in that fresh air through our HVAC system. We will lower those dampers back to 30% during the summer and we will reopen them back in September, if need be, when the school year starts.

Chairperson Schlachter asked if we comfortable saying that windows should remain open as teachers want them open; or do we ask that during COVID spikes like we're in now that they're open? Dr. Mosley asked her to elaborate whether she was suggesting that they mandate the teachers to open the windows? She confirmed. He believes that's a difficult decision to mandate due to the weather. After discussion throughout the School Committee, Central Office and SHEA representative, Amy Foley, it was decided to go back to the union and get clarity then move

South Hadley Public Schools

School Committee Meeting Minutes

January 20, 2022

Video Conference Meeting Accessible via SHCTV1 or SHCTV1.com

forward. We don't want the message to get misconstrued by the teachers and not mandate it at this time.

Plains Elementary School

Principal Hank Skala

Many of the protocols are what they use all along. The social distancing is a bit of an issue in Pre-school and Kindergarten. Social and emotional learning is fundamental at this time. The challenge at their level is kids need to learn to do things together. They cannot maintain the distance that is required to nurture and grow while being safe.

However, the protocols currently in place include the following:

Face masks are required inside the building except when students/staff are eating. Face masks are also required on all school transportation and health offices. The use of face masks is not required at this time for outdoor recess or outdoor events. Parents are expected to provide their child's mask, but we will have a limited supply available at school

Hand Hygiene will be an important strategy throughout the school day. Visuals are posted reminding students and staff of hygiene, respiratory etiquette (mask to cover nose, coughing/sneezing into elbow), and sanitizing practices.

Physical distancing will be difficult with school at full capacity. We will do our best to promote social distancing when possible given present guidelines. Plains School protocols will be followed by existing guidelines regarding hallway usage and traffic. Students will be escorted to destinations in their own cohort and always supervised by an adult staff member. Teachers will maintain accurate seating charts for classroom tables, desks, small group instruction by time period.

Air ventilation will be monitored throughout the school year. Plexiglass, although not required, is available as needed/ as requested. Normal surface cleaning will continue.

School Nurses will be the point of contact for all student health questions and concerns. Nursing staff will evaluate students who present and/or families who report with Covid-19 symptoms or other health related concerns. We will follow the recommendations for quarantining and isolation etc given by DESE/DPH.

All lunch room schedules will continuously be worked on to create a safe space, however, we will be prepared to adjust, if and when necessary by having alternative plans in place. Students will be spaced apart as much as possible. We will utilize seating charts to keep accurate accounts of student placement at the tables each lunch.

South Hadley Public Schools School Committee Meeting Minutes

January 20, 2022

Video Conference Meeting Accessible via SHCTV1 or SHCTV1.com

School- wide assemblies and event protocols need to be addressed in order to adhere to current health and safety conditions.

School Opening and Dismissal Procedures will remain in the same status as during the 2020-2021 school year. Students enter the building and report directly to classrooms. At dismissal bus students organize by bus using both the gymnasium and front lobby while students who are picked up will meet parents outside with duty staff support. Preschool will enter and dismiss by the Pre-K Pod. YMCA will be dismissed into the cafeteria.

Teaching and Learning Protocols At the elementary level with full in person return, it will be critically important that instruction reflect best practice with small group instruction, center time, meeting time and options for building healthy minds and bodies. Distancing will be in place when possible.

Return to in-person learning:

- All staff and students at Plains will utilize the Class Dojo platform for communication.
- Frequent communication from Plains administration/staff will occur either via School Messenger or Class Dojo.
- Explicit instruction in health and safety protocols will be provided when necessary.

Follow-up Questions/Responses:

- **What are the rates for COVID for Plains since some of them are not able to vaccinated? Are there massive shut downs often?**
 - Actually, the massive shut downs have stopped since they have Test & Stay. They have many students that are vaccinated now. They had two classes today that had exposure and they didn't have to send anyone home.

Additional Questions

Jen Matos asked with students from Mt. Holyoke and other areas preparing to come into the classrooms soon are there any policies of who is allowed in or what people have to show before they come into the schools? Dr. Mosley responded that we don't pick and choose who will be able to come into the schools or not. We have a mask mandate and any visitors have to follow building based procedures for COVID mitigation, but they don't make that distinction. They don't require people to show proof of vaccination or treat the unvaccinated differently than the unvaccinated. Jen Matos further asked if there were any types of masks required, i.e. KN95 vs. cloth masks. Dr. Mosley states that they would prefer to offer any employees and staff that we have KN95 masks available. Jennifer Voyik confirmed that we have enough to get through February break. Further discussion of the expectations from the schools by college students and volunteers. Chairperson Schlachter stated that South Hadley Public Schools should create a set of rules for visitors and volunteers whomever may be entering the school buildings.

South Hadley Public Schools School Committee Meeting Minutes

January 20, 2022

Video Conference Meeting Accessible via SHCTV1 or SHCTV1.com

X. Information Only

XI. Unfinished Business

XII. New Business

None.

They will be going into Executive Session under M.G.L. Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(3) to discuss strategies with respect to collective bargaining for all bargaining units A, C, D and E. They will not be returning to open session. Motion moved by Danielle Cooke and second by Jennifer Matos. Motion passed unanimously: 5/0 (Matos, Cooke, Friesner, Pickbourn and Schlachter)

With no further business to discuss, the School Committee Meeting adjourned at 8:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Christina Stevenson
Executive Assistant, South Hadley Public Schools.

Reviewed and Approved by,
Allison Schlachter
Chair, South Hadley School Committee
Date: February 3, 2022