

South Hadley Public Schools School Committee Meeting Minutes

February 17, 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

II. Approval of Minutes

Chairperson Schlachter asked if everyone reviewed the minutes for February 3, 2022, and whether any changes were needed for the minutes. Members acknowledged that they were reviewed and no further changes. Chairperson Schlachter requested a motion to approve the minutes, it was moved by Jen Matos and seconded by Eric Friesner. No further discussion. Motion passed unanimously: 5/0 (Matos, Cooke, Friesner, Pickbourn and Schlachter).

III. Approval of Warrants

Jennifer Matos read the approval of warrants. Jen Matos made a motion for approval of warrants and bi-weekly payroll. 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).

Date	Number	Amount
February 2, 2022	Warrant #2022-186	\$129,423.36
February 3, 2022	Bi-Weekly Payroll	\$757,391.84
February 8, 2022	Warrant #2022-191	\$354,031.30

South Hadley Public Schools

School Committee Meeting Minutes

February 17, 2022

Video Conference Meeting Accessible via SHCTV1 or SHCTV1.com

IV. Reports of Standing Committees

- a. School Committee Liaison Reports
- b. Advisory Committees
- c. Site-Based Committees

Racial Justice Task Force

Jen Matos discussed questions received from public following the Public Forum for the Accelerated Program. They wanted clarity with regard to equity. One of the perceptions was that there were more white students in the accelerated programs than there were students of color. Being a School Committee that has a DEI Statement in place, that warrants to look at that perception. *Example:* If we had a STEM program with all male participants, we would ask why are there no female scientists? Thinking along that line, if we're missing a disparity like that, so who's voices are missing and why? Every aspect that we look at as a School Committee we have to stop and think does this meet our DEI Statement. If this is the case, what can we do to make it more equitable so there's not a mismatch in representation.

Danielle Cooke continued that it's important that we remember that the scope of DEI is not just surrounding race, but it's across all aspects of education. So, we look at all our policies and all of our curriculum and making sure it's equitable and accessible to all of our population. There is a cohort for an acceleration program and with that there is:

- What is the process in which they are selected?
- Why is there this many people going into an accelerated program?
- What makes that program so accelerated that it could not be applied to a larger body if there's a large number of students being recommended to it?
- What is the accessibility to everyone?

Chairperson Schlachter was appreciative of this clarification and would like to have more community-wide discussions on the accelerated classes. She thinks this would be a great discussion for the future with the community.

Eric Friesner wanted clarification of the Community Forum since he was unaware. Chairperson Schlachter explained the Public Forum that was held with MESMS with regards to the 8th grade accelerated program changes, which discussed a miscommunication about this program and families were startled and upset. The process was cleared up during the forum by Dr. Mosley, Dr. McLaughlin and Principal Gallagher. During that conversation, the word equity came up which expanded the discussion. This is something all around us but it's difficult to talk about. So, tonight was about clarification on what was this about anyways? Why was the Racial Justice Task Force talking about this?

South Hadley Public Schools School Committee Meeting Minutes

February 17, 2022

Video Conference Meeting Accessible via SHCTV1 or SHCTV1.com

Dr. Mosley affirmed the summary. From the public perspective, that was taking place. Internally teachers had questions. There was a discussion about differentiating instructions as well as questions about programs of study. There were questions on how the process unfolded; and really a lot of misinformation out there. We had to clarify that the accelerated classes would be offered. He thinks that the most important thing that came from this is we could probably facilitate a 2-hour forum with regards to “equity”. It seems that everyone came the forum with a different perspective, definition, viewpoint of equity. He felt at times that people were sharing their viewpoint of equity. We should have a forum with regards to equity as far as who we are and then get into the schools, curriculum and programs of study. What we did not want to do is connect equity with misinformation. Those are two separate things. He thinks that’s what took place. He does think that we need to as a School District have deeper discussions what that feels like. There are several different definitions in the community of what equity is and that’s okay.

Jen Matos states that Liz Wood, Principal of SHHS, has been working with The Collaborative of Educational Services and they will be doing some listening services for the community of South Hadley so we can start having these conversations.

Dr. McLaughlin added the process is so important in curriculum. How are conversations like this to be had and what are the steps in the conversation. Who is to be included in the conversation? What are the proper ways to bring a conversation that’s clear and complete and has gone through the process of good research and investigation, identifying the challenge that we seek to address? The process in which we have addressed the challenge. These things are best done when they are part of a Process. The truth is and it was said all along, this was a very preliminary conversation that sort of got legs in a way that this is something, when in reality it was never that... It was the beginning of the dialogue that must be about process.

Jen Matos stated that there would be two (2) Listening Sessions coming up in case the community can not get to the first one, there will be another opportunity.

Superintendent Goals

Chairperson Schlachter and Jen Matos have been meeting with Dr. Mosley with regards to Superintendent’s goals and they are looking forward to the presentation.

V. Public Comment

None.

South Hadley Public Schools School Committee Meeting Minutes

February 17, 2022

Video Conference Meeting Accessible via SHCTV1 or SHCTV1.com

VI. Discussion and Action Items

a. SHEA Updates

Amy Foley, SHEA President, stated that with regards to negotiations, we are still working on finalizing our proposals and get to the hard work to coming to an agreement so their educators will be able to continue to successfully support our students in the classroom. Ms. Foley states that she has been communicating very effectively with Dr. Mosley to establish short-term and long-term solutions with regards to special education.

SHEA conducted a survey of its membership. She provided a summary of the responses with regards to the lifting of the mask mandate in our schools. There isn't one person that reported that stated they are comfortable wearing masks. We understand that at the student level and the staff level. At the same time, our staff wants to make sure that we are safe and thoughtful of when masks are made optional in our schools. The majority of the members are not comfortable with the masks being removed on Monday, February 28, 2022. In the survey, the staff was given the data from the South Hadley Public Schools COVID dashboard in response to vaccination rates in the schools and many of the educators at the elementary level were concerned about vaccination rates and the difficulty in socially distancing our youngest students. The survey also revealed that the majority of the members were comfortable waiting a couple of weeks after vacation or after a vacation before making masks optional. This is based on the fact historically we have seen everywhere in schools a spike in our COVID numbers. She hopes that you take this information into consideration when deciding about removing masks.

Finally, she shared some takeaways from recent professional development and conversations that she has been having in the district with our educators. The possible impact it may have on budget decisions. As she has transitioned as SHEA President, she has been introducing herself at faculty meetings to hear the needs and concerns of our educators first-hand. It has become clear that there are many challenges at many levels of education. She is looking forward to working with the district to hear all the voices of the stakeholders; and to develop a plan together to support the staff and most importantly meet the needs of our students. SHEA briefly discussed the recent professional development session and their opinions with regards to the budget.

Chairperson Schlachter asked the percentage breakdown of how many answered the survey. Amy Foley, SHEA President, believes that fifty-five (55%) percent of the membership responded to the survey, which she thought was very good. In past surveys, that had about a third in average responses. One of the questions submitted was... "Do you think the mask

South Hadley Public Schools School Committee Meeting Minutes

February 17, 2022

Video Conference Meeting Accessible via SHCTV1 or SHCTV1.com

mandate should be lifted?" She believes that sixty (60%) percent of the staff responded "No". Chairperson Schlachter asked if it was specified vaccinated or unvaccinated students? Amy Foley stated that it was not a separate question. She believes that it was just vaccination in general. One of the concerns that some people have are the breakthrough cases. When we see teachers that are out, they are breakthrough cases. Vaccination rates are extremely important, which is why they included the vaccination rate for each building. However, as to who was going to mask and who wasn't going to ask... that wasn't a question that was presented in the survey. Chairperson Schlachter asked if the survey proposed was one question. Ms. Foley stated that it was three questions. They proposed the vaccination rates for the COVID dashboard. The South Hadley High School (SHHS) was at seventy-two (72%) percent. The other three (3) schools are just over fifty (50%) percent. They presented this information and stated in the survey, "With this information, do you feel comfortable lifting the mask mandate on February 28th? The response was approximately 50-60%. "If it was lifted, when would they like to see it lifted?"

1. February 28th
2. Approximately two (2) weeks after
3. Friday after April vacation; and
4. Two (2) weeks after April vacation

The response that received the most votes was the two (2) weeks after February break. Chairperson Schlachter estimated March 14th date received the most votes that they were most comfortable. She thinks that staff feels more comfortable keeping the masks optional and making the decision as the weather gets better to keep windows open more often in classrooms; or they can get outside with classes. She thinks that makes a really big difference.

Lynda Pickbourn asked if we can get a breakdown by the schools of the numbers. Amy Foley does not have a breakdown. She did have a breakdown of the schools that they worked at, and it was pretty equal as far as the number of people who responded at each building. She was happy that everyone had equal say, but they didn't break it down by school.

b. Report of the Superintendent

Dr. Mosley briefly discussed the following areas:

- Added to Amy Foley's discussion – Just coming out of a surge. Less than a month ago reinstating COVID structures.
- Professional Development – Sandy Hook Promise
 - Say Hello
 - See Something / Say Something
 - S.O.S. – You are not alone

South Hadley Public Schools School Committee Meeting Minutes

February 17, 2022

Video Conference Meeting Accessible via SHCTV1 or SHCTV1.com

- Dialogue between SHEA and the District
- Tiger Times – “Teaser on the first page
 - Black History Month
 - Challenges in the district
- Capital Improvement
 - Tours of Facilities
- Twitter - @SHPublicSchools
- Masking Mandate
 - Discussion on masking
 - Vaccination Clinic – To Be Announced
- Test Kits for parents
 - Decentralization to the schools
 - Chairperson Schlachter asked if we could send the tests home with the students and have them checked out by the CNA to the students.
 - Dr. McLaughlin discussed their concerns about quality control with the younger students. As well as the ingestion of the agent used in the testing could be fatal to children.
 - Lynda Pickbourn discussed the restrictions of the different schedules to pick up the testing to be flexibility for parents.
 - Dr. Mosley states that as soon as they come in, we try to get them out. They will try to provide more flexible times in the future.

c. Report of the Chair and School Committee

Chairperson Schlachter doesn't have a report this evening.

d. Report of Student Representative

Kaily Godek provided the following information with regards to the South Hadley Public Schools:

- **Plains**
 - Nothing to Report
- **Mosier**
 - Ms. Flynn would like to congratulate the 2nd-grade students and teachers on a wonderful week-long celebration of the 100th day of school.

South Hadley Public Schools

School Committee Meeting Minutes

February 17, 2022

Video Conference Meeting Accessible via SHCTV1 or SHCTV1.com

- **MESMS**
 - MESMS is happy to participate in the 8th grade National Assessment of Educational Progress on Friday, 2/18. Mr. Gallagher would like to thank our students for their hard work and attention towards this task.
- **SHHS**
 - ***Athletics***
 - Cheer
 - Congratulations to the Cheer team for their win this past weekend at West Springfield High School's Love is a Battlefield Competition. An amazing job by all in representing our amazing cheer team.
 - Senior Nights for the winter sports season are coming up:
 - Thursday 2/17, Boys Basketball vs. Granby Varsity 7 at SHHS
 - ***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 to get your sign(s) or magnet(s) today.
 - ***Cotillion***
 - On Saturday, March 12th, SHHS's cotillion will be held at Wyckoff Country Club in Holyoke from 6-10 pm.
 - ***Good Luck!***
 - Good Luck to SHHS graduate, Kyle Zych, who will be competing in the 2022 Winter Paralympic Games
 - ***National Honor Society***
 - The high school's National Honors Society is currently selling pizzas, cookie dough, and \$25 gift certificates from Hillside Pizza. All proceeds will go towards the National Honors Society Scholarship Fund, our chapter's service projects, and a local charity. If you would like to purchase any of these items please feel free to contact Kaily Godek at khgodek2022@student.shschools.com now through 2/28.
 - ***Positivity Committee***
 - SHHS's Positivity Committee is in the process of planning some surprise acts of kindness to develop a community that feels supported.
 - ***Student Council***
 - ***Leadership and Dialog Training***
 - Members of Student Council participated in their 3rd leadership and dialog training last week that focused on issues around mental health.
 - ***Virtual District-Wide School Store***
 - Student Council is starting to work on creating a district-wide virtual school store with more information coming soon.

South Hadley Public Schools

School Committee Meeting Minutes

February 17, 2022

Video Conference Meeting Accessible via SHCTV1 or SHCTV1.com

e. Mask Mandate and COVID Mitigation

Dr. Mosley understands that no matter what he presents half will agree and half will not agree with him. The goal no matter what the decision is to keep children in school. Currently, we have a mix results of vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals in our schools. Dr. Mosley provided a presentation on the current state of our school system with regards to the mask mandate (see attached).

Questions and Comments from School Committee

Chairperson Schlachter asked where did he get the date of March 15th?

- Dr. Mosley responded that he just made up a tentative date. He used that date because it was approximately two (2) weeks after the February 28th date. We can use any date, March 12th or 17th. Danielle Cooke stated March 14th, which is close.
- The grace period gives the Board of Health some time. In addition, if there's a wave that comes through, it gives us that two week buffer to ride that wave. At that point, we can reevaluate the masking mandate.

Chairperson Schlachter reiterated to the community that the state-wide mask mandate will end on February 28th, which means that some districts will start on March 1, 2022 unmasked. That will not be our district because of a few reasons:

- The Board of Health will meet on March 1, 2022 to make a decision.
- Communication will go out to the entire communication that we will continue with the mask mandate until March 3, 2022
 - Once we know what the Board of Health decides on March 1st, if they drop the mandate, the School Committee will convene on March 3rd as planned to make their decision.
 - If the Board of Health decides they're going to keep the mask mandate then we have to fall in line with our Board of Health.
- School Committee will continue with mask mandate on March 1st and make their decision on March 3rd.

Danielle Cooke stated that it's important that we make sure that the mask mandate will stay in effect until at least March 3, 2022. Chairperson Schlachter stated until at least March 4, 2022. Danielle Cooke provided some of the feedback that we have received from that some of the cases have been due to extra-curricular activities. She knows that MIAA said they would follow the DESE guidance and they are also leaving masking up to the student athletes town in which they reside. She just wants to think a little about when does the indoor winter sports season end and what does that mean for our student athletes. Because she doesn't believe

South Hadley Public Schools

School Committee Meeting Minutes

February 17, 2022

Video Conference Meeting Accessible via SHCTV1 or SHCTV1.com

that basketball ends until the middle of March (March Madness). Dr. Mosley can get that information.

Eric Friesner asks if we have enough extra masks for all of the kids coming in on the 28th that are not going to have masks with them? Jennifer Voyik responded that we do have masks, but not enough if every student comes in without a mask. She will have to check with Mary Walsh, Nurse Leader, the number of masks available since we just received a shipment recently.

Kaily Godek stated that she can assist with the winter sports discussion since she works with the teams.

- Basketball has Western Mass next week and State on the 28th
- Spring sports starts March 21, 2022 and all of those are outdoors

Jen Matos realizes that we are part of a community. This community elects the people that make decisions. The Board of Health is going to make a decision. Jen Matos understands the frustration with masks. No one likes COVID, we're all tired. So that people are well informed, do we know what the consequences are according to the Board of Health for not following the mask mandate? Chairperson Schlachter asks, "not following the Town mask mandate?" Jen Matos confirms because that's the one we're following and reiterates, when we return on February 28th, we will continue to wear mask in compliance with the local Board of Health. Chairperson Schlachter confirms. Jen Matos asked how is that being enforced, what are the consequences? If a school full of students come into class on the 28th without a mask, then what? Chairperson Schlachter thinks it's just a total nightmare for administration and teachers. She thinks instead of focusing on educating our students, we're focusing on trying to get them to mask. She confirms with Jen Matos if she means if they outwardly refuse to mask? Jen Matos confirms and further states that one thing that has been consistent throughout the pandemic is mixed messages. So, it's important for us to be crystal clear. She wants to make sure that families know that this is serious and we have to wait for word from our local Board of Health. What does that mean if students don't show up with masks? Jennifer Voyik responded that our current mask mandate policy is still in effect until March 3, 2022. If you look at the policy, there is a list of things that happen. It starts with a verbal redirection and a teacher conference with the student. Then moves on to a counselor conference, with the principal and the parents. Then finally it states that visitors in violation to this policy will be denied entry into the school district facility. That is currently in our district policy. Dr. Mosley wanted to make sure that Jen Matos was stating what are the consequences from the Town, not the schools. Jen Matos agreed and stated that this is a Board of Health mandate and we have a school policy around following it. Dr. Mosley stated that the Town has been very good about following the mask mandate. He hasn't seen a conflict with the mask at Town hall.

South Hadley Public Schools

School Committee Meeting Minutes

February 17, 2022

Video Conference Meeting Accessible via SHCTV1 or SHCTV1.com

Chairperson Schlachter asked if he doesn't believe it to be an issue. Dr. Mosley states that Dr. Matos question had to do with the public. In schools, it's very different. Eric Friesner stated that he was aware that the Board of Health decided on a fine to levy against people that were in violation. He's not sure if those fines are being levied anywhere in town. He believes our school policy is fine for consequences of violations.

Dr. Mosley asked whether we see the need for a two-week grace period after the students return from break? That's the question you will need to answer as a committee. Eric Friesner agrees with a two (2) week grace period; and possibly discussing on March 17th the mask mandate. Lynda Pickbourn also believes that we should wait until March 17th. Jennifer Voyik wanted to remind the School Committee that March 17 is the Budget Review meeting and if we add the mask mandate discussion, it may be a little overwhelming. Chairperson Schlachter would personally like to vote on Masking on March 3, 2022. She believes it's going to be very hard not to have an answer after DESE drops their mask mandate. If DESE drops our mask mandate and the Board of Health drops our mask mandate, we will be putting our administrators into a very difficult situation. She thinks they should have this discussion on March 3rd and come up with our decision. Dr. Mosley had an idea to ask the Board of Health that if they drop the mask mandate for public buildings, except for the school, to provide the school department a two (2) week grace period. Chairperson Schlachter stated that we can always ask but the decision is up to Board of Health.

School Committee members continued an in-depth conversation that will be continued prior to their final decision. Chairperson Schlachter stated that they should reach out to pertinent parties, such as the Board of Health. She wants to communicate with families that we will continue to be masked until at least March 3, 2022. Dr. Mosley will send out notification to families. Once they have more data, they will reconvene at the next School Committee to make a decision for the health and safety of our staff, students and their families.

f. Capital Improvement

Dr. Mosley wants us to be transparent in how we are paying for and moving funding around to cover financial obligations to pay for our reports for high school and other matters. We do need a vote on the transfer, but I also think that it's important that we report to the School Committee and the public this process. Dr. Mosley stated that Jennifer Voyik will review the financial transfers and what we are getting for our money, as well as the timeline to get the report back from the high school.

South Hadley Public Schools

School Committee Meeting Minutes

February 17, 2022

Video Conference Meeting Accessible via SHCTV1 or SHCTV1.com

Jennifer Voyik briefly discussed the major mold issue at the South Hadley High School. After the mitigation of the mold happened in the high school, they noticed a lot of moisture. The Department of Public Works provided recommendations in a detailed report (see attached) which was provided to the School Committee with regards to their findings, as follows:

- Long-Term recommendation to conduct a building wide ventilation system assessment
- Based on historical issues, there's moisture exposure in the area
- Take a look at the outside area of SHHS and look at the drainage area because the high school is backed to a wetlands area

After this report, Liz Wood and Jennifer Voyik reached out Jones Whitsett Architects (JWA) and they had a couple of meetings with them. They sent a proposal to research what's going on in the building when we spend the money to hopefully stop the moisture and stop the humidity that's going on in the inside of the building. Once we know exactly what's going on and we are doing the right type of mitigation for the space.

In the Moisture Study Proposal on page 4 for Phase I and II under the Investigation and Reporting Recommendations and Cost Estimates, we are looking at a 10-14 weeks' timeline for that information to come back to us with the hopes of having a thorough report with recommendations of what should be done in order to mitigate what's going on in the high school. What we are proposing is to move forward with this mitigation and in order to do that we had to take a look at the budget. After looking at the budget, we had a little bit less spent this year for out-of-district homeless transportation. Her recommendation would be to move \$30,000 from the Homeless Transportation line to our Extraordinary Maintenance expense in order to fund this feasibility study. The Feasibility Study is so important because once we have a plan, we can go to capital planning and the Town about what is going to be the next steps to fix this issue.

Eric Friesner clarified that this doesn't change anything as to where we are taking money from, this is just funds that we have not spent that we have budgeted. Jennifer Voyik confirmed.

Kaily Godek asked if we know where we are at with the weight room being mitigated from the mold. Jennifer Voyik confirmed that it's in process and being mitigated and equipment is being moved from the weight room to the gym. Principal Wood would be the best person regarding that because she has been coordinating that change.

South Hadley Public Schools School Committee Meeting Minutes

February 17, 2022

Video Conference Meeting Accessible via SHCTV1 or SHCTV1.com

Jennifer Voyik asked for a vote for the transfer between lines from the School Committee since it's over a thousand dollars and between lines in compliance with our school policies. Chairperson Schlacter, with assistance from Jennifer Voyik, proposed a motion to vote on the transfer of Thirty Thousand and 00/100 (\$30,000.00) Dollars from Homeless Transportation Out-of-District Line to the System Maintenance Project Extraordinary. Moved by Jennifer Matos and second by Eric Friesner. Motion passed unanimously: 5/0 (Matos, Cooke, Friesner, Pickbourn and Schlachter)

Dr. Mosley confirmed that Capital Improvement was covered in his goals. He would like to reiterate there are other priorities taking precedent over the swimming pool.

g. Superintendent Goal Presentation

Chairperson Schlachter states that she has been working with Jen Matos and Dr. Mosley about the Superintendent Goals. This is an opportunity to ask questions and have dialogue around the Superintendent's Goals. She informed the audience that MASC representatives, Liz Lafond, Director, and Glenn Koocher, Executive Director were in attendance for this presentation. Because we are a new committee and in case the committee has any questions that we can't get through ourselves, MASC is available for them to ask. Otherwise, they are here for observation.

Dr. Mosley provided a presentation to the School Committee (see attached)

- Goal I District Improvement
 - Capital Improvement Projects
 - SHHS Mold Remediation
 - Mosier Repairs
 - Short and Long-Term Plans (Ongoing)
 - Next Steps and Recommendations
 - Building Committee
 - Roles
 - Frequency
 - Goals
 - Communication to public through Tiger Times
 - Timeline for Submissions

South Hadley Public Schools School Committee Meeting Minutes

February 17, 2022

Video Conference Meeting Accessible via SHCTV1 or SHCTV1.com

- Student Learning
 - COVID Goals
 - Operations
 - Protocols and Procedures
 - Distribution of Testing Materials
 - Additional Medical Staff (Nurse Leader and CNAs)
 - Utilizing Resources /Collaboration
 - Budget Prioritization
 - Guidelines of DESE
 - Mitigation addressing COVID
 - Impact on our Student and Staff
- Communication
 - Tiger Times
 - SHPS Website
 - Twitter
 - Plans to increase our social media
 - Wants to avoid miscommunication
 - Visibility in the school facilities
- Leadership
 - True Servitude of Leaders

Questions from the School Committee:

Chairperson Schlachter states that Goal IV is still in the beginning stages and will be reviewed with the subcommittee for finalization.

Eric Friesner requested clarity on Goal II: Student Learning. Is the focus on content? Or is it making sure that students are learning with the interruptions of COVID? Dr. Mosley stated the latter. Dr. Mosley asked if we could discuss the Standards after we are done with the goals.

Lynda Pickbourn asked for elaboration on Student Learning portion. Dr. Mosley looks at student learning in terms of the whole child as social / emotional readiness to learn. What he has found is the theme that a bunch of things are going on. That is sometimes good and sometimes bad. When you have 500 things going on, then you really don't have anything going on. How do you do three (3) things with fidelity is what he thinks is important. In order to do a critical, in-depth and meaningful conversation about social and emotional, we have to see it through. We have to have those continued dialogues and they take time. He strongly believes that if you build and get a foundation of social and emotional, not only from our students but our staff, then you will get more efficacy. They plan to carry on with professional development. He is concerned about the social, emotional state of our kids. He's concerned about the number of bullying and harassment

South Hadley Public Schools

School Committee Meeting Minutes

February 17, 2022

Video Conference Meeting Accessible via SHCTV1 or SHCTV1.com

incidents. It does us no good when there are multiple agencies out there that we can access for our kids. When you do one thing with fidelity, other things come through. How do we build a school system in a post-COVID (and even during COVID) environment? These are discussions that tie into the learning.

Danielle Cooke is struggling with the wording. She is curious what artifacts you're considering would demonstrate the achievement of the Student Learning goal. Chairperson Schlachter stated that she was thinking something similar and appreciated her inquiry. Chairperson Schlachter confirmed that she was thinking something similar. Dr. Mosley responded that he could see himself submitting artifacts as follows:

- Procedures and protocols with regards to COVID;
- Facilitation of protocols and procedures that kept our kids in school; and
- Readiness for the next steps
 - Remediation program
 - Data from our kids and those outcomes (Recovery of Loss Learning)

He is speaking hypotheticals and will speak with his committees to find options that hit the goal. Dr. Mosley asked Danielle Cooke what did she see for the division. Do you see two things or one thing?

Danielle Cooke may be getting caught up in semantics with it being called Student Learning. That's why she asked about artifacts. It seems like the artifacts we were intending was to examine the different structures that are in place. The slides about documents about COVID regulations and Testing are all very measurable things that we can all see have had an impact on keeping kids in school. But she's not sure what you were intending to do to capture the student learning in terms of the social and emotional pieces. She thinks it's a very large goal on its own – social and emotional wellness of our students. It may be worth while to separate it from COVID. Dr. Mosley agrees.

Chairperson Schlachter asks if there are any other comments. She said they will bring it back to sub-committee to review. She complimented Dr. Mosley on his rationale and introduced his goal with background. She realizes it's a lot of information. When they looked at the Superintendent Goal, they wanted to align with the District Improvement. We realize how quickly things change. A couple of weeks ago we were discussing stricter COVID mitigation strategies and now we are looking at the future of unmasking. She states there is some flexibility in the goal process.

Eric Friesner wanted to revisit what we discussed a couple of months ago. We are on a short calendar for these goals and these are.. What's our deadline, like June? Dr. Mosley confirmed. Mr. Friesner is fine with scaling some of the bigger ideas back, if it helps us get to something more manageable. We don't have to look too far forward to what post-pandemic education looks for.. A lot of what this year was, was COVID, and a lot of what this evaluation has already passed. This

South Hadley Public Schools School Committee Meeting Minutes

February 17, 2022

Video Conference Meeting Accessible via SHCTV1 or SHCTV1.com

isn't a year from now evaluation. Scaling some of the bigger items back, he's fine with so we can get to something more manageable and allow for more concrete artifacts. It doesn't have to be huge. It just has to be manageable.

Chairperson Schlachter agrees with meaningful artifacts (quality over quantity). She appreciates Eric Friesner's points. The artifacts may already be there. They may not be something that happens in the next couple of months.

This will be on the agenda in a shorter, abbreviated discussion and the fourth goal will take place in the next meeting.

VII. Information Only

None.

VIII. Unfinished Business

None.

IX. New Business

None.

Chairperson Schlachter stated that they will be going into Executive Session and not returning to open session. She would like to entertain a motion to exit open session and will go into Executive Session under Massachusetts General Law Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(3) to discuss Collective Bargaining of Units A, C, D and E. Motion moved by Jen Matos and second by Lynda Pickbourn. No further discussion. Motion passed unanimously: 5/0 (Matos, Cooke, Friesner, Pickbourn and Schlachter) With no further business to discuss, the School Committee Meeting adjourned at 8:39 p.m.

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

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