

**Richmond Consolidated School
School Committee
Conference Room
1831 State Road, Richmond, MA 01254
Minutes**

Wednesday, December 4, 2019 at 4:30 pm

Approved

Present: Susan Benner, Dewey Wyatt, Jill Pompei

Absent: Adeline Ellis, Peter Dillon

1. Call to order: 4:30pm
2. Review Advisory Committee and appoint members.
The guiding document that was prepared for the Advisory Committee was reviewed and updated. The need to be sworn in at town hall needs to be confirmed. DW to contact MASC and Legal Counsel for clarification. Updated timeline. "Review and understand Roles and Responsibilities for a Superintendent" was added.
The list of volunteers was reviewed, but no action was taken as we needed to verify we had all submissions. We decided to review again in the SC meeting the next week when Adeline was present. There was some concern by SB and DW about the committee being too large but we also recognize the value of broad perspectives and input.
3. Other unforeseen items: None
4. Adjournment: Motion 5:20pm SG, Second DW, all in favor

Advisory Committee to the RCS School Committee

Date: December 5, 2019

DRAFT – reviews on 12/4, to be finalized on 12/10

Purpose:

Review and assess the operational and financial aspects to support the School Committee's negotiation of a contract with Berkshire Hills for the next Superintendency arrangement which meets the needs of the Richmond Consolidated School and the Town of Richmond.

Timeline:

- Nov 22-Dec3: Call out for volunteers
- Dec 4: RCS SC initial reviews of submissions, selection criteria, identify follow up questions, selections (if possible).
- Dec 10 6pm: Regular monthly School Committee meeting, additional discussion /input, finalize of advisory committee members.
- Dec 10, 3:10pm: School Committee meeting with RCS Staff, and public.
- Dec 2019: initial committee meeting to review the objective, scope, expectations, deliverables, and initial timeline.
- Dec – ~March 2020: Advisory Committee work

The Advisory Committee will ...

- Operate according to the Open Meeting Laws (public posting, minutes).
- Stop at Town Hall to be sworn in (DW to confirm requirements from MASC and Legal Counsel)
- Be advisory in nature, not a decision making body.
- Provide monthly report outs to the RCS School Committee.
- Assign a Chair person who will drive the committee, organize meetings, be the main point for contact for the School Committee.
- Consult with outside experts provided by the Massachusetts Association of School Committees (MASC), the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESC), and Fred Dupere, legal counsel to the School Committee,
- Review and understand Roles and Responsibilities for a Superintendent.
- Meet with BHRSD shared services representatives at appropriate time during the review to cross check expectations.
- List, quantify and prioritize service levels to meet the needs of all Richmond students, including high school students.
- Assess financial aspects of a shared Superintendency services model (Superintendent, Business Manager, SPED services, etc).
- Assess financial implications for Richmond with regard to funding high school tuition costs for Richmond students relative to the BHRSD high school building project.
- Consider opportunities, concerns relating to busing, support for custodial, maintenance, other.
- Identify terms and provisions to be included in a contract to allow for modification or exit if certain requirements can't be met.
- Review current contracts for any impact related to any future Superintendency agreement.
- Evaluate and review the current School Union agreement with Hancock and New Ashford to determine next steps and needs for Richmond going forward.
- Report on any opportunities for further consideration that may enhance the education provided to Richmond students.

Member Selection Criteria (collective, not all for any individual):

Select one per category below. However, where the SC feels more than one can add to the committee function and output, additional appointments can be made. (Note: parent/guardian to be a Richmond resident)

Public education background (teacher, admin)

Financial assessment, planning background, especially as it relates to municipal or public education finance.

Project planning, committee experience.

Interest in maintaining autonomous K-8 program, familiarity of RCS and what makes it special.

Awareness of Berkshire County public education challenges, such as declining population, rising costs.

Time commitment (estimated 2 meetings per month, plus work outside committee meetings).

Category	Candidates		
Parent (Middle)	Penny Saupe	Melissa Holler	Kara Smith
Parent (Elementary)	Erin Roney 3 rd & 5 th	Melissa DiMassimo 1 st & 5 th PTA VP (nonresident)	
Staff (Middle)	Rachel Kanz		
Staff (Elementary)	Beth Smith		
Community	Ryan Sabourin	Karen O'Donnell, Lauren Broussal	Ina Wilhelm
Selectman	Neal Pilson		
Finance Committee	Bob Gniedek		
Principal	Jill Pompi		