

## Meeting notice

Board/Committee Name: Petersham School Committee

Day/Date: Wednesday, July 22, 2020

Time of Meeting: 6:30PM

Location: Teleconference Meeting at

<https://meet.google.com/hyj-kgbz-igp>

To join by phone, dial 609-483-6072 and enter this PIN: 180 436 598#



## School Committee Minutes

1. Call to Order - Lynn Peredina called the meeting to order at 6:34pm.  
Members Present: Jennifer DeJackome, Tina Leslie  
Others Present: Dr. Zielinski, Michele Tontodonato, Eric Glazier, Aaron O'Connor, Alissa Roy, Casey Chisholm, Christina Thompson-Boyer, Christine Warburton, Gail Russ, Kim Waugh, Nichole Ruggles, Wendie LeBlanc, Jennifer Howes..  
Minutes taken by Christine Rodriguez.
2. Public Comment - none
3. Report of the Teachers' Union - Wendie LeBlanc reported that a request was sent to the Superintendent to bargain for health and safety regarding reopening of school. She is also working on a survey for staff to get a better understanding of their concerns and what needs to be done in regards to safety.
4. July Items
  - a. New Member - Lynn introduced Tina Leslie. Tina is a nine year resident of Petersham and parent of two PCS students. She has also been involved in coaching and many other activities throughout the community.
  - b. 2020-2021 Budget - Michele reviewed the current budget. She stated that the town meeting was held in June and version 4 of the budget, at an amount of \$2,033,110.00, was approved. Michele said the district is currently in good shape however, Chapter 70 funds are still unknown and it is possible that could be cut by 10 to 20 percent. She is expecting to hear the final Chapter 70 figure at the end of July or beginning of August. She also reported that the district received more Title I funds than last year and through the CARES act, there are three grants that we have received or are in the process of applying for. The first is the ESSER grant in the amount of \$20,000.00 and that will help cover PPEs and technology expenses. There is a technology percentage match grant which is in the application process, for technology and internet access and that amount

is based on the community wealth factor. The final grant that will be submitted for soon is the COVID relief fund. That will cover technology and PPEs, is based on the foundation budget and allows \$225.00 per student (school choice students are not included).

- c. COVID-19 (update and information) - Dr. Liz stated she received Information from the commissioner today regarding transportation guidelines and those are to be released tomorrow. In Petersham, 40 to 60 percent of students are currently driven in by parents and going forward, the district will need to get commitments from parents if they are going to drive their children to and from school. These parents may get something as a thank you for their efforts. She also reported that the steering committee, made up of school committee members, board of health members and school administrators, are reviewing proposals for plans as well as reviewing school committee policies that need to be adjusted and approved by local boards of health. All three principles have presented a brief outline of their three plans (all in, hybrid and remote). The final models need to be submitted by August 10th. Also, Dr. Liz is setting up meetings with the union regarding a request for bargaining related to working conditions. The school calendar will most likely need to be revised to have students start after labor day. She is also looking at dates after August 10th for "town hall" meetings with the communities in all three districts to answer questions and has recently sent out a second letter with updates to the community. There is still no guidance on sports.

Eric Glazier thanked everyone that has worked with him on the reopening plans. They have determined that by using space upstairs, they can bring all kids back and meet the six foot distancing guideline. They are still working out details around lunch, specials, nurses responsibilities etc and looking at a potential hybrid model. We decided the best hybrid model is: two cohorts that attend two separate days per week with one day for cleaning the building. Online model - looking at programs (WOrder) if we are going to go remote. Eric expressed appreciation for Jay Burke's hard work on the medical waiting room in the nurses suite. He also reported that they have purchased some of the PPEs including masks, gloves, cleaning supplies, mobile hand sanitizing stations etc.

Lynn also stated she is very appreciative of everyone's hard work.

## 5. Matters for Action or Vote

### a. School Committee Reorganization/Subcommittees & Liaisons

Chair - Jennifer DeJacome nominated Lynn Peredina as Chair. Lynn accepted the nomination.

***On a motion made by Jennifer DeJackome and seconded by Tina Leslie, the committee voted unanimously to appoint Lynn Peredina as Chair of the Petersham School District.***

Vice Chair - Lynn Peredina nominated Jennifer DeJackome as Vice-Chair. Jennifer accepted the nomination.

**On a motion made by Lynn Peredina and seconded by Tina Leslie, the committee voted unanimously to appoint Jennifer DeJackome as Vice Chair of the Petersham School District.**

Secretary - Lynn Peredina nominated Tina Leslie as Secretary. Tina accepted the nomination.

**On a motion made by Lynn Peredina and seconded by Jennifer DeJackome, the committee voted unanimously to appoint Tina Leslie as Secretary of the Petersham School District.**

Subcommittees:

Leadership Accountability and Measurement - *Jennifer DeJackome*

Communications and Policy - *Tina Leslie*

Resources and Capacity - *Lynn Peredina*

Union #73 representative - *Lynn Peredina, Jennifer DeJackome and Tina Leslie*

Representative to the Mahar School Committee - *Lynn Peredina*

Payroll warrants - *Lynn Peredina, Jennifer DeJackome and Tina Leslie*

Clerk - *Alyssa Magoffin*

CAPS - *Dr. Elizabeth Zielinski*

Regionalization - *Lynn Peredina*

Sick bank - *Jennifer DeJackome and Tina Leslie*

Teachers Negotiations - *Tina Leslie*

ESP Negotiations - *Tina Leslie*

**On a motion made by Jennifer DeJackome and seconded by Tina Leslie, the committee voted unanimously to approve the subcommittee appointments as outlined.**

b. School Physician - Lynn explained that Dr. Matthews served as the school physician for Mahar and Orange and PCS was served by the Barre Health Center (Dr. Earls/Hargraves). Dr. Matthews retired and the Barre Health Center began covering both Mahar and Orange this past year. Using the same school physician will help to structure the same protocols and policies that need to be changed due to COVID and to build consistency between the nursing offices. On a motion made by Tina Leslie and seconded by Jennifer DeJackome, the committee voted unanimously to appoint the Barre Health Centers Physician, Dr. Earls and Hargraves as the Petersham Center School District Physician.

c. Calendar - Dr. Liz explained that the committee will not be voting on this calendar until the next meeting in August but would appreciate a discussion on changing the student's start date for the 20/21 school year to after Labor day. She also noted that they are considering a staggered start for students to help them adjust to school with the COVID-19 changes. The committee was in support of changing the calendar to allow students to start after Labor day.

6. Subcommittees and Board Liaison Reports
  - a. Report of Union #73 Committee - no meeting
  - b. Report of the R.C. Mahar Representative - Lynn reported that this met yesterday and reviewed the same items as this committee. She noted that on August 3rd there is an override vote in Orange that will impact their budget.
  - c. Report of the Leadership, Accountability & Measurement Subcommittee - no meeting
  - d. Report of the Resources & Capacity Subcommittee - Lynn reported they met about the budget and closing FY20. She also said the Selectboard plans to help out in terms of the gutter repair and PPE money if needed. The COVID medical space funding is also coming from the town.
  - e. Report of the Communications & Policy Subcommittee - no meeting
  - f. Report of the CAPS Representative - none
  
7. Superintendent's Report - Dr. Liz's report highlighted COVID issues, appreciation for food service workers and volunteers delivering meals, the construction of the nurses suite and a nice welcome as Superintendent.
  
8. Approval of the Minutes of April 6, 2020 - this vote was tabled until next meeting.
  
9. Next Meeting - Monday, August 3rd at 6:30pm.
  
10. Executive Session: ***On a motion made by Lynn Peredina and seconded by Jen DeJackome, the committee voted to go into executive session at 7:36pm for the purpose of M.G. L. Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(3), to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares.***
  
11. *The meeting adjourned at 7:56pm*

Approved: 8/3/20

Signature of Secretary: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

The agenda reflects topics that the Chair reasonably anticipates will be discussed.

Public Comment Protocols

The School Committee welcomes public comment on items that are within the scope of the School Committee's responsibilities. The Public Comment agenda item is reserved for this purpose. Members of the public wishing to address the Committee should be aware of the following guidelines:

- The Chair will recognize those wishing to speak and give them the floor. Only persons recognized by the Chair may speak. For purposes of the minutes, speakers should identify themselves at the beginning of their remarks.

- ❑ The purpose of Public Comment is to receive input from the community, not to engage in prolonged conversation with the Committee. The Chair will ensure that any comment or question that requires a response from the committee or the School Department will be addressed in a timely manner.
  - ❑ All comments should be addressed through the Chair, not any individual committee member or to others in attendance.
- Speakers are expected to respect confidentiality. This includes the confidentiality of the speaker's own child/ren as well as that of school staff and personnel.