

**Revere School Committee
July 16, 2019**

A meeting of the **Revere School Committee** was called to order on **Tuesday, July 16, 2019** at **6:10 PM** in the Ferrante School Committee Room at Revere High School.

1. Pledge of Allegiance/Call to Order

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Brian Arrigo, Chair; Mr. Michael Ferrante, Vice-Chair; Ms. Susan Gravellese; Mrs. Stacey Rizzo; Mr. Fred Sannella, Ms. Carol Tye, Mr. Gerry Visconti, Secretary.

Mayor Brian Arrigo was absent.

2. Recognition (None)

3. Superintendent's Report

a. New plans for RHS Chromebooks

Dr. Perella shared a presentation that outlined a new plan for the 1:1 Chromebooks program, Freshman and sophomores will be issued a Chromebook; 9th and 10th grade curriculum is based on google docs for assignments, research and standardized testing.

Dr. Perella also shared that most juniors and seniors are not utilizing the school issued Chromebooks in their day to day schoolwork. This upcoming year there will be expansions of the previously piloted bring your own device (BYOD) to include both grade levels. 11th and 12th graders will also be allowed to check out a Chromebook for the entire year or, if they prefer, "borrow" a Chromebook for a day/week and return it at the end of the day/week. The only exception to this is if there are students who are still taking standardized tests. The insurance for the Chromebooks has tentatively shifted the individual policy at \$37 to a group policy for \$25 per device.

Distribution Plan:

Tuesday 8/20 9:00 A.M.-12:00 P.M. in the RHS Field House (all students)

Wednesday 8/21 12:00 P.M. -3:00 P.M. in the RHS Field House (all students)

6:00 P.M. – 8:00 P.M. during Orientation (incoming Freshman only)

Thursday 8/22 10:30 A.M. – 1:30 P.M. in the RHS Field House (all students)

Committee question how the daily rental of Chromebook will be handled. Dr. Perella informed committee that if students would like a daily rental of a Chromebook there would be no cost of insurance to the student. If student would like the Chromebook longer than the one day period, they will be required to purchase insurance.

b. School Safety Update

Dr. Vadala shared an update on lessons learned from last school year and where safety for the new school year will be shifted. The goal is that all students are physically safe, emotionally safe and psychologically safe. Highlights from 2018-2019 school year are the collaboration with RPD and RFD both at large events (i.e. Thanksgiving, graduation) and day to day. RFD coordinates fire drills for every school within the first three days of school and then follows that up with quarterly drills. We will continue training for all security personnel with our School Resource Officers, biweekly meetings with SRO's, and annual safety plan developed

with and approved by RPD/RFD by October 1st. Enhanced drills next year are scheduled for ACW/SBA, Beachmont/Seacoast and RHS.

Increase communication between schools RPD and RFD is a primary objective going forward is to. Captain Fortuna, RFD suggested that all safety plans be electronically available to RPD and RFD. He also suggested meeting in August to plan out all drills for the upcoming school year which Dr. Vadala will coordinate. The school department will continue to work on social and emotional wellbeing to decrease threats as well. Enhanced drills will include a focus on reunification areas and clarity of communication with a unified command center.

New updates to our school security technology for this upcoming year are the addition of five additional security cameras at RHS totaling 300 cameras district wide with online viewing to monitor. A grant with RPD will allow 6-8 additional cameras per building, enhanced door access capabilities, implementing visitor ID scanners in each lobby to print out badges that fade after 24 hours, and upgrades to the city-wide radio system to include a repeater station on which all superintendents/principals, RPD, RFD and medical personnel could talk in case of an emergency.

Partnership around violence prevention, anti-bullying, and mental health care for the 19-20 school year will include the Attorney General's Office, Sandy Hook Promise, and Riverside Trauma. The partnership with Sandy Hook Promise will include SAVE Promise Clubs which will be student run afterschool clubs to get students involved proactively and preventatively. We will also implement a Safety Assessment Team to work with RPD and RFD. Participants will learn to assess threat credibility, how to vet a threat, and how to implement a safety assessment protocol. This team will be made up of Dr. Vadala, school resource officer, school psychologist, representative of SAVE Promise Club, a teacher, and a school administrator. Finally, Dr. Vadala shared information about a "Share It" app pilot through which students, parents, and community members can inform the school department when they hear good things but also any troubling issues. Dr. Vadala emphasized that it is a balance to keep the schools welcoming and also keeping them safe.

Chief Guido addressed the committee on questions they had about the grant and shared his thanks to Mayor Arrigo for matching the grant in the amount of \$95,000. Chief Guido shared that the grant will also allow for a license plate reader to be installed at a couple of schools as well as alert training for RPD and RFD in 2020 when the schools are closed. All police cars will be equipped with new laptops to be readily available to access information if there is an incident. It will be over two years before every aspect of the grant is in place. Chief Guido informed the committee that there will be active shooter training along with RFD this August. He is happy to have a member of the command staff, Captain O'Hara overseeing the school police, and feels the school department and police have a great relationship with open communication.

Captain Fortuna from RFD addressed the committee and informed them that there were recent fire exit drills during the last semester of school. The plan is to conduct a meeting in August to review the findings of these drills and use this information to continue practicing in case of school emergencies. He said the schools all did very well on the exit part of the drill. The next step to prioritize is identifying everyone outside after an event occurs. We will be practicing this next year. This will include tactical EMTs, Hazmat, and the rest of the organizations.

Officer Turner from RPD came forward to answer questions about ALICE training and how to implement this training in a school district. He stated that all staff and all students would need to be trained to have the program be effective. A good place to start would be with teachers. Officer Turner commended RPS and their commitment to implement a Command and Control with RPD/RFD involving administrators. Next level would be to look at the staff to be a command and control for kids. He acknowledged that ALICE is a lot easier to implement in a town than a city but we could start with teachers. Officer Turner shared that ALICE is a run, hide fight system like other systems across the country and resistance to training is usually around “I don’t know how to handle” that situation as opposed to I can’t do that.

Officer Turner reiterated that the direction that RPS is working in with RPD and RFD, including active shooter training that is now being done every year is the right direction. He is working with SRO’s to train them for the drills that are being implemented during the year. All officers including SROs are involved in the work and training for all different scenarios. Not just active shooter training but also mental health and crisis intervention classes.

Dr. Kelly thanked RPD and RFD and said their partnership with the school department is invaluable to our students, staff, and families. She clarified that RPS has not implemented ALICE as a specific response program to crisis issues. RPS engages staff in professional development and implements scenarios that are unknown to staff/students that have entire buildings use all training. This helps all members of the school community practice quick responses.

Dr. Kelly discussed concerns that if there was an emergency at the high school, it may be difficult in corralling adolescents to meet at a centralized location rather than just leaving all together. Her office is in the very beginning stages of working with the coding students to create a check in app where students would check in stating that they were safe and state their location. Chief Guido suggested that in light of an incident that occurred earlier in the school year at RHS, that social media be used by a designated administration/central office to put factual information immediately out to avoid panic by students, parents and staff.

c. Budget update – pending release

Dr. Kelly informed the committee that the Legislature has not released the budget as of yet. Dr. Kelly will postpone the budget update until the August 20, 2019 meeting.

4. Student Representative Report (None)

5. Public Participation (None)

Consent Calendar (Vote Required)

Ms. Gravellese

MOVED: That the acceptance of donations and gifts be removed from the consent calendar.

VOTED

Mrs. Rizzo

MOVED: That we accept and approve the consent calendar.

Roll Call:

Mr. Ferrante -	Yes	Mr. Sannella -	Yes
Ms. Gravellese -	Yes	Ms. Tye -	Yes
Mrs. Rizzo -	Yes	Mr. Visconti -	Yes
	Mayor Arrigo -	Absent	

VOTED

Mr. Visconti

MOVED: That we accept a donation from the Museum of Science in the amount of \$25,000.

Dr. Kelly informed the audience that this donation was made from the Oracle Corporation and through the Museum of Science for their Wee Engineer Program to be used in our Early Childhood classes.

Roll Call:

Mr. Ferrante -	Yes	Mr. Sannella -	Yes
Ms. Gravellese -	Yes	Ms. Tye -	Yes
Mrs. Rizzo -	Yes	Mr. Visconti -	Yes
	Mayor Arrigo -	Absent	

VOTED

Mr. Visconti

MOVED: That we accept the SEL grant for the Sea Coast High School in the amount of \$5,000.

Dr. Kelly informed the audience that this grant is the Social Emotional Learning Innovation grant which Sea Coast was awarded last year. These funds will be used to continue to train staff in the implementation of Restorative Justice Practices. The grant foundation will receive a letter of thanks from the Revere Public Schools.

Roll Call:

Mr. Ferrante -	Yes	Mr. Sannella -	Yes
Ms. Gravellese -	Yes	Ms. Tye -	Yes
Mrs. Rizzo -	Yes	Mr. Visconti -	Yes
	Mayor Arrigo -	Absent	

VOTED

Mr. Visconti

MOVED: That we accept a gift to the Paul Revere Innovation School from the Paul Revere PTO in the amount of \$9379.50

Dr. Kelly informed the audience that this gift will be used to stipend thirteen Paul Revere teachers to attend three day training of Project Based Learning outside of the regular work day. Dr. Kelly also stated that this money was raised by the Paul Revere School PTO.

Roll Call:

Mr. Ferrante -	Yes	Mr. Sannella -	Yes
Ms. Gravellese -	Yes	Ms. Tye -	Yes
Mrs. Rizzo -	Yes	Mr. Visconti -	Yes

Mayor Arrigo - Absent

VOTED

6. Report of Sub-Committees (None)**7. Old Business (None)****8. New Business (None)****9. School Committee Interests**

Ms. Tye would like to invite everyone to the International Sand Sculpting Festival on Revere Beach beginning Friday July 26, 2019. Ms. Tye also informed the audience that our own RHS robotics team is involved in this event.

10. Motions (None)**11. Executive Sessions (None)****12. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 PM

The next regular meeting of the School Committee is scheduled for August 20, 2019 @ 6:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

DK/rp

Dianne K. Kelly, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools