

Chair, R. Cohen, called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m. in the Central Office Conference Room.

Present: A. Bonavita, B. Burbank, D. Juzba, C. Mineo, S. Reed, W. Rua, & R. Clickstein

R. Cohen turned the meeting over to Mr. Clickstein who said he had assembled packets of material that included survey comments and deliberation sheets.

Next, reference checks for each finalist were discussed. Mrs. Juzba and Mrs. Reed shared the following comments, which were made by Mrs. Sheila Hoffman, Mrs. Cheryl Salomao, and Superintendent Sapelli on behalf of finalist Steven Lemanski:

- Very easy to talk to
- People person
- Great way with parents
- Common sense approach to problems
- Takes difficult situations and makes them better
- No difficult situation too difficult for him to handle
- Works great with his peers

Next, Mr. Mineo and Mrs. Rua shared the following comments, which were made by Mr. Andrew Churchill, Mrs. April Rist, and Superintendent Sapelli on behalf of Allison LeClair:

- Calm demeanor, consistent, fair, & equitable
- Group processing skills are excellent
- Professional leader
- Very supportive, especially regarding special education
- Strong sense of humor
- Decade of central office experience will make transition seamless
- Very good handling difficult situations

Next, site visits for each finalist were discussed. Mrs. Juzba, Mrs. Rua, Mr. Mineo, and Mayor Cohen shared the following comments that were made on behalf of Mr. Lemanski:

Strengths

- Great relationship with everyone
- Approachable
- Sense of humor
- Multi-tasker
- Climate & culture of schools is 98% positive
- Leads by example and is hands-on
- Never gives up
- Open door policy
- Inclusive with special education students

Weakness:

Lack of central office experience
Knowledge of whole district
Knowledge of K-12 curriculum

Next, Mr. Bonavita, Mr. Burbank, and Mrs. Reed shared the following comments that were made on behalf of Dr. LeClair:

Strengths

- Strong knowledge of curriculum & budget
- Listens then reacts
- Not afraid to say no
- Well respected, talented, & approachable
- Supportive & handled recent staff member death extremely well
- Diplomatic and talented
- Very engaged and follows through
- Resolves 90% of parent issues before they reach the Superintendent
- Knows nuts and bolts of position

Weakness

Handling political side of position
Charisma – reserved personality

Next, discussion took place regarding the final round of questions for the finalists. It was the consensus of the Committee that cumulative scores would not be used. Mrs. Reed suggested that the Committee should look for basic answers to each question as a guide. Each Committee member then shared the general topic of their question. A. Bonavita – budget; S. Reed – goals; W. Rua – community; R. Cohen – communication; B. Burbank – district level; D. Juzba – priorities; C. Mineo – hiring.

Mr. Clickstein said that he will compile all of the questions and send them out on Wednesday, April 19th.

After a brief review, on a motion made by W. Rua, 2nd by C. Mineo, the Committee voted to accept the deliberation sheet as presented.

Vote: 7 - 0

Next, Mr. Clickstein collected the notes taken at the site visits pointing out that they are part of the public record. He also asked Committee members to bring him any other notes they may have taken during the first round of interviews to the April 27th Special Meeting.

Prior to adjournment, it was the consensus of the Committee that the two finalists will be notified the night of April 27th after the final deliberations concluded.

There being no further business, on a motion made by W. Rua, 2nd by C. Mineo, D. Juzba, & S. Reed, the Committee voted to adjourn.

Vote: 7 - 0

Time: 8:14 p.m.

Alexis Ferioli
Executive Assistant to the Superintendent & School Committee

Diane Juzba
Committee Secretary