

# DEDHAM PUBLIC SCHOOLS SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

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## MEETING MINUTES

August 18, 2015

### MEMBERS OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE PRESENT:

Tom Ryan, Chair	Susan Butler-Walko, Vice Chair
Mayanne Briggs	Kevin Coughlin
Rachel McGregor	Lisa Laprade

### AGENDA: JOINT MEETING WITH THE BOARD OF SELECTMENT AND VOTE ON CANDIDATE AND SELECTION OF NEW MEMBER FOR OPEN SCHOOL COMMITTEE SEAT

Location: Town Hall, 26 Bryant Street, Dedham, MA

Meeting began at 7:00 p.m.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Mr. Ryan called the School Committee Meeting to order.

Mr. Butler stated that this is joint meeting with the board of selectmen to appoint candidate to open School Committee vacancy for the unexpired term.

Mr. Butler read the important paragraph from Lauren Goldberg's public document from Town Counsel:

*We discussed what might be best practice with regard to procedure. First, we discussed that it would be useful to inform the members of the Board of Selectmen and School Committee of the procedure to be used, and further to inform the candidates. We similarly discussed that the Chair would announce the procedure at the beginning of any action on the appointment so that all those involved, and the public, would know what to expect. The Chair of the Board of Selectmen would invite all names of potential appointees to be placed in nomination at the same time. A roll call vote would then be taken on all three candidates, and appointment would require a majority of the votes of all those eligible to vote (assuming eleven appear – five members of the Board of Selectmen and six members of the School Committee - then six votes in favor of one of the candidates would be required to fill the vacancy). If for any reason only a plurality were reached (for example, a vote of 5-4-2 on the three candidates), the plan would be to take out of the running the candidate receiving the lowest number of votes, and to then take a roll call vote with the remaining two candidates. If there were a tie in the first round between the candidates receiving the second and third lowest number of votes, the Chair would call for a second vote on the three candidates to see if any member of the Board or the School Committee might shift their vote. The Chair could continue in this manner until there was a candidate receiving a majority of the votes of all the members eligible to vote, or, the Chair could seek a vote to table the matter and put it on the agenda at the next Board meeting.*

Mr. Ryan stated that the state law that underlies this process requires the majority vote of the members present, the reason why we have to undergo this process, to ensure that the 6 of the 11 members vote for one of the candidates.

Mr. Butler stated that the state law Chapter 41 Section 11 was used to develop the process that was just read.

Mike Butler thanked the three people who put their names forward; Sharna Borsellino, Stephen Bilafer and Dimitria Sullivan. Mr. Ryan echoed Mr. Butler's statement and as a reminder the term is for only 7 months and encouraged all candidates to run again in 7 months.

Mr. MacDonald motioned to put all the three names in for the School Committee vacancy. Mr. Guilfoyle seconded, no discussions, all voted unanimous.

Mr. Ryan polled each School Committee member to vote:

Mrs. Butler Walko voted for Dimitria Sullivan  
Mrs. McGregor voted for Dimitria Sullivan  
Mrs. Laprade voted for Steve Bilafer  
Mr. Coughlin voted for Steve Bilafer  
Mrs. Briggs voted for Steve Bilafer  
Mr. Ryan voted for Steve Bilafer  
Mr. MacDonald voted for Dimitria Sullivan  
Mr. Keough voted for Dimitria Sullivan  
Mr. Teehan voted for Steve Bilafer  
Mr. Guilfoyle voted for Steve Bilafer  
Mr. Butler voted for Dimitria Sullivan

Mr. Steve Bilafer is the new member of the School Committee with six out of the eleven votes.

Mrs. Briggs motioned to adjourn, Mrs. Butler Walko seconded, voted unanimous.

Meeting concluded at 7:09 p.m.

