

City of Biddeford
School Committee
June 15, 2022 7:00 PM Little Theater at BHS

Public Viewing

Public Viewing:
Local Public Access Station
City of Biddeford Website

Please click the link below to join the webinar:
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88491596333>
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US: +1 312 626 6799 or +1 646 558 8656
Webinar ID: 884 9159 6333

Public Participation - Further Instructions

[Further Instructions 6_15_2022 \(1\).pdf](#)

A. Call to Order:

B. Roll Call:

C. Pledge of Allegiance:

D. Adjustments to Agenda:

E. Consideration of Minutes:

E.1. Minutes 5/25/2022

[Biddeford Minutes 5_25_2022.pdf](#)

F. Consent Agenda

F.1. Appointments:

Kayla Raymond ~ BHS Food Service Prep Cook ~ Replacing Natasha Young

Joan Brown ~ BIS Ed Tech II ~ Replacing Janet Lambert who moved to a new position in the district

Stephanie Moulton ~ BPS Ed Tech III ~ 1 Year Only ~ Brenda Cole who moved to a new position in the district

Samantha Mucci ~ JFK Ed Tech II ~ Replacing Helen Dillon

Mildred Axelsen ~ Ed Tech III SEL ~ Replacing Steve True

Director of Nursing Stipend

Nominations:

Sarah Kaiser ~ Special Education Teacher BIS ~ Replacing Leslie Kiesel

Stephen Zahradnik ~ BHS Special Education Teacher ~ Replacing Melissa Libby who moved to a new position in the district

Rachel Wakefield ~ BIS 3rd Grade Teacher ~ Replacing Ashley Collette

Sadie Bowden ~ BIS 4th Grade Teacher ~ Replacing Jodi Jeannette

Mark Adam Booker ~ BHS Alternative Education Teacher ~ New Position

Shannah Cotton ~ BPS Special Education Teacher ~ Replacing Jesse Maywalt

Allison Tropin ~ BMS 5th Grade Teacher ~ Replacing Ashley Grob

Transfers:

Janet Lambert ~ BHS Special Education Self-Contained to JFK Special Education Ed Tech II

Khulood Al Hasan ~ BMS ELL Ed Tech to BHS Math Teacher replacing Debra Dineen

Resignations:

William Worthley ~ BMS Ed Tech III

Joann Pion ~ BPS Special Education Teacher

Lionel Beaudoin ~ Food Service Driver ~ Retirement

Carolyn Hutchings ~ BHS IEP Coordinator

Kim Tison ~ BMS Librarian ~ Retirement

Lucille Poisson ~ BPS Ed Tech II

Kathy McGuire ~ BMS Ed Tech II ~ Retirement

Ashley Grob ~ BMS 6th Grade Teacher

Amanda Kimball ~ Accounts Payable Associate Leadership Office

[Director of Nursing Stipend.pdf](#)

G. Superintendent's Report:

G.1. Nursing Overview

[Nursing Update 6.15.22.pdf](#)

H. Committee Reports: Finance/Building, Grounds; Curriculum; Policy; Waterhouse Advisory Committee

I. Old Business:

J. New Business: Public participation opportunity after each item listed below (3 minutes per item)

J.1. Future Grade Level Configuration

Budget Validation Update/Revolving Renovations

2021-2022 Equity Assessment

[21-22 Equity Assessment.pdf](#)

[Grade Level Building Configuration Committee Memo.pdf](#)

[JL Student Wellness Strike.pdf](#)

[JL-R-NUTRITION PROGRAM GUIDELINES Biddeford \(1\).pdf](#)

[JL - WELLNESS Biddeford.pdf](#)

K. Public Participation: (3 minutes; any item)

L. Communications:

M. Executive Session:

N. Adjournment: - *School Committee Members: Alan Casavant, - Chair, Brianna Gilbert, Tony Michaud - Vice Chair, Heather Mills, Dennis Anglea, Karen Ruel, Crystal Blais, Lisa Vadnais*

Student Members: Cassie Riley - BHS, Washima Fairoz - BHS

Instructions for Public Participation

The Biddeford School Committee will hold a meeting on Wednesday, June 15, at 7:00 PM.

This meeting will be held in person by the School Committee only in the Little Theater. The meeting for the public will be conducted using [Zoom Webinar](#), a web-based video conferencing tool, under [1 M.R.S.A. § 403-A](#), which authorizes the school department to hold remote meetings during the state of emergency declared by the Governor due to the outbreak of COVID-19.

Topic: Biddeford School Committee Meeting

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You will not be shown as a meeting viewer on the camera, and your microphone will be muted by default.

What controls should I use to participate in the meeting?

If you would like to participate during the meeting, click the “raise your hand” button at the bottom of the screen at the appropriate time for comment. The host of the meeting will see that you would like to participate and will be able to turn your mic on for you when it is your turn to speak.

If you have joined the meeting by phone only, you will need to use the following codes:

***6-Toggle mute/unmute**

***9-Raise hand**

Do I have to use Zoom to watch the meeting?

No, you will still be able to watch a live stream of the meetings as you usually would on Public Access Channel 1301 or on the city website.

Watch Video: [City of Biddeford Website](#)

Due to the COVID-19 PANDEMIC, the Biddeford School Committee will meet in person but will conduct the public hearing and meeting telephonically. The public will not be allowed to attend the meeting in person. However, the meeting may be viewed live on the City’s Public Access Channel or on the City’s website: www.biddefordmaine.org, selecting the Government tab and then clicking on “Video/Agendas/Minutes”. Copies of the agenda and minutes are available on the City’s website and School website www.biddefordschools.me. Questions or comments may be emailed prior to the meeting to [School Committee Members](#), Superintendent, [Jeremy Ray](#), Assistant Superintendent, [Christopher Indorf](#), or Director of Instruction & Innovation, [Mandy Cyr](#).

Biddeford School Department
Wednesday, May 25, 2022
7:00 pm **Minutes**
School Committee - Little Theater BHS in Person
Public Viewing - Zoom & Public Access

Public Viewing:

Local Public Access Station
City of Biddeford [Website](#)

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84658557741>

Or Telephone:

Dial(for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):

US: +1 301 715 8592 or +1 312 626 6799

Webinar ID: 846 5855 7741

Public Participation - [Further Instructions](#)

- A. Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Mayor Alan Casavant at 7:00 pm.
- B. Roll Call:** Mayor Alan Casavant, Nate Bean, Amy Grohman, Randy Forcier, Lisa Vadnais, Rebecca Henry, Jeremy Ray, Mandy Cyr, and Chris Indorf were all present
- C. Pledge of Allegiance:** The pledge was led by Mayor Alan Casavant
- D. [Presentation:](#)** 6th-grade students from BMS showcasing what they have learned with hydroponics kits purchased with a grant from the Biddeford Education Foundation
- E. Adjustments to Agenda:** None
- F. Approval of Last Meeting's Minutes:** Minutes from [5/11/2022](#) ~ Nate Bean moved to approve the minutes from 5/11/2022, Randy Forcier seconded the motion and all were in favor
- G. Consent Agenda:** ~ Nate Bean moved to approve the consent agenda, Amy Grohman seconded, and all were in favor

Nomination:

- a. Kimberlee Bennett ~ BRCOT Assistant Director ~ Replacing Timothy Stebbins

Appointments:

- a. Normand Gosselin ~ FSW Cook BHS ~ Replacing Patti Patoine who moved to a new position in the district
- b. Robin Gosselin ~ Food Service Worker ~ Replacing Donna Cadorette
- c. Julie Chretien ~ Custodian BHS ~ Replacing Patrick Morneau

Resignations:

School Committee Members:

Alan Casavant-Chair	Randy Forcier
Lisa Vadnais-Vice Chair	Meagan Desjardins
Michele Landry	Nate Bean
Amy Grohman	Rebecca Henry

cc: Jeremy Ray- Superintendent
cc: Chris Indorf-Asst. Superintendent
cc: Mandy Cyr- Dir. Instr. & Innov.

- a. Jeffery Veltsos ~ Maintenance District
- b. Paul Philbrick ~ Custodian COT
- c. Stephanie Sullivan ~ Ed Tech II Behavior BPS
- d. Angela Rowe ~ Ed Tech II BPS
- e. Roland Desrosiers ~ Full-Time Bus Driver
- f. Kathleen McGuire ~ Ed Tech II BMS ~ Retirement

Transfer:

- a. Patti Patoine ~ FSW Kitchen Manager BHS ~ Replacing Julie Gudbrandsen

H. Superintendent's Report:

- a. [Local Delegate to MSBA Annual Delegate Assembly](#)
- b. [MSMA Legislative Update](#)
- c. [Nursing Update](#)

Plenty of Covid tests are available at the schools for anyone in need. Looking forward to Friday night when our class of 2022 gets to cross the stage to graduate. We are watching the weather to make a determination on whether it will be inside or outside. We all know that today was a rough day for school administrators, teachers, and families. I hope that you will all continue to use your voices so that these senseless acts continue not to happen. Finally, as you know we have had three meetings for our grade level configuration committee. We have one more next week and hope to have some information for you at the next meeting.

I. Committee Reports:

J. Old Business:

K. New Business:

- a. First and second reading of the policy ~ [JJF Student Activities Fund Fees](#) ~ A motion to approve the first reading was made by Nate Bean, seconded by Rebecca Henry, and approved by all. A motion to suspend the rules to grant the second reading was made by Nate Bean, seconded by Rebecca Henry, and approved by all. A motion to approve the second reading was made by Nate Bean seconded by Rebecca Henry and approved by all.
- b. First and second reading to revise the policy [JLCDA](#) ~ Medical Marijuana in Schools ~ A motion to approve the first reading was made by Nate Bean, seconded by Rebecca Henry, and approved by all. A motion to suspend the rules to grant the second reading was made by Nate Bean, seconded by Rebecca Henry, and approved by all. A motion to approve the second reading was made by Nate Bean seconded by Rebecca Henry and approved by all.
- c. First and second reading to approve the policy [JLCDA-E](#) ~ Parent/Medical Provider Request to Administer Medical Marijuana at School ~ A motion to approve the first reading was made by Nate Bean, seconded by Rebecca Henry, and approved by all. A motion to suspend the rules to grant the second reading was made by Nate Bean, seconded by Rebecca Henry, and approved by all. A motion to approve the second reading was made by Nate

School Committee Members:

Alan Casavant-Chair	Randy Forcier
Lisa Vadnais-Vice Chair	Meagan Desjardins
Michele Landry	Nate Bean
Amy Grohman	Rebecca Henry

cc: Jeremy Ray- Superintendent
cc: Chris Indorf-Asst. Superintendent
cc: Mandy Cyr- Dir. Instr. & Innov.

Bean seconded by Rebecca Henry, and approved by all.

- d. [Approval to continue work with ECTS](#) as our eRate consultant on round 3 of the ECF grant ~ A motion was made by Nate Bean, seconded by Randy Forcier and approved by all
 - e. [Learning Works 21st Century Grant/Portland Boys and Girls Club/APEX - 21st Century Grant](#)
 - f. ESEA Application FY23 ~ Chris Indorf ~ Title I, Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESEA) provides financial assistance to local educational agencies like Biddeford with high numbers or high percentages of children from low-income families to help ensure that all children meet challenging state academic standards. Federal funds are currently allocated through four statutory formulas that are based primarily on census poverty estimates and the cost of education in each state. Each year, we write a grant to the MDOE applying for funds, including goals, outcomes, and other accountability standards. The grant is informed by a committee of educators, administrators, board members, parents, and the public. I welcome the invitation of the public; please register your interest by calling the Supt's office. In addition, we are required to complete a CNA for each school and the district as a whole. Those documents will be posted presently on our website, and we welcome public feedback on the contents thereof.
 - g. School Committee Meeting Date - June/July ~ The school committee meeting for June was moved to June 15th at 5:00 pm
- L. Public Participation:** (3 minutes; any item) Raise digital hand
- M. Communications:**
- N. Executive Session:**
- O. Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 pm. Nate Bean moved to approve, Randy Forcier seconded, and all were in favor

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Signed:



Date: June 7, 2022

Jeremy Ray ~ Superintendent of Schools

School Committee Members:

Alan Casavant-Chair	Randy Forcier
Lisa Vadnais-Vice Chair	Meagan Desjardins
Michele Landry	Nate Bean
Amy Grohman	Rebecca Henry

cc: Jeremy Ray- Superintendent
cc: Chris Indorf-Asst. Superintendent
cc: Mandy Cyr- Dir. Instr. & Innov.

Co-Curricular Job Description

Position Title: Director of Nursing

Classification: Stipend

Reports To: Superintendent

General Purpose: The Director of Nursing assumes responsibility and accountability for the delivery of nursing services within the Biddeford School Department

Main Job Tasks and Responsibilities:

- Coordinates health assessments in collaboration with nursing and instructional staff
- Coordinates immunizations, as needed (students and staff)
- Oversees electronic recordkeeping and maintains health records to be in compliance with FERPA
- Orders and tracks supplies
- Maintains budget
- Reviews health policies and recommends changes
- Coordinates training
- Consults with the Athletic Directors, the Directors of Special Education, and Transportation on creating accommodation plans for students with unique health needs. This work may include attending IEPs for students with extraordinary health needs.
- Facilitates management of emergent issues
- Serves as a member or facilitator of the District Wellness Committee
- Serves as a liaison with community partners
- Serves as a resource to other nurses, as needed
- Holds monthly meetings with District nurses
- Provides updates/reports to Superintendent and School Committee as needed
- Tracks the latest state and national school health guidance, and regularly consults with the district's contracted physician.
- Other duties as assigned

Work Hours: vary

Stipend Amount: \$2,450

Physical Demands: The physical demands described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

MEMO

TO: School Committee
FROM: Jeremy Ray, Superintendent of Schools
RE: Nursing Overview: COVID Stats
DATE: June 15, 2022

Below are charts with the total COVID positive cases and pooled testing results- broken down by week and school from the start of the school year.

TOTALS BY SCHOOL (9/3/21-6/10/22):

School	Number of Student Positive Cases	Number of Staff Positive Cases	Number of Positive Pools
JFK	94	36	19
BPS	121	40	22
BIS	121	32	32
BMS	189	47	29
BHS/APC/COT	289	69	34
Other Depts	0	26	0
TOTALS	814	250	136

WEEKLY TOTALS (9/3/21-6/10/22):

Dates	Positive Cases Total	Positive Pools
9/10/2021	2	0
9/17/2021	6	0
9/24/2021	5	0
10/1/2021	7	0
10/8/2021	5	1
10/15/2021	8	1
10/22/2021	9	1

Biddeford Schools

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10/29/2021	10	3
11/5/2021	6	0
11/12/2021	8	3
11/19/2021	9	0
11/26/2021	9	0
12/3/2021	17	5
12/10/2021	27	4
12/17/2021	36	10
12/24/2021	29	0
12/31/2021	32	0
1/7/2022	120	11
1/14/2022	169	26
1/21/2022	117	20
1/28/2022	43	4
2/4/2022	40	5
2/11/2022	39	8
2/18/2022	27	9
2/25/2022	13	0
3/4/2022	10	1
3/11/2022	2	1
3/18/2022	3	2
3/25/2022	6	1
4/1/2022	5	0
4/8/2022	9	2
4/15/2022	14	0
4/22/2022	6	0
4/29/2022	27	0
5/6/2022	45	10
5/13/2022	57	8
5/20/2022	52	0
5/27/2022	27	0
6/3/2022	5	0
6/10/2022	3	0
TOTALS BY WEEK	1064	136

MEMO

TO: Supt. Ray, Biddeford School Committee
FROM: Chris Indorf, Assistant Superintendent
Mandy Cyr, Director of Instruction
RE: 2021-2022 Equity Assessment
DATE: May 19, 2022

The Biddeford School Department maintains policies and governance practices that ensure that operations provide every student, no matter the learning environment or program, with the greatest opportunity to learn. District and school leaders are concerned about systemic equity and focus not only on student academic achievement but also the quality of their teachers and instructional programs. We endeavor to hire, train and develop a diverse and skilled teacher in every classroom so each student's needs are met.

While all educators want to feel pride in the places they work, and assume that their classroom/office/school/program/bus are safe and equitable, it is an abrogation of our duties to simply say "we are inclusive. We are equitable. Full stop." It is our duty to not make assumptions that equitable practices are happening in our schools.

Equity-conscious leaders collect evidence to confirm every member of the school community is willing to help all students achieve their highest potential. One useful strategy leaders can use to examine how systemic equity issues are operating in their schools is a campus-based equity audit (Brown, 2010).

Equity audits are a leadership tool used to collect the data that informs the process of removing programmatic barriers that impede full participation, access, and opportunity for all students to receive an equitable and excellent education. With this process, leaders can assess the extent to which equity is present in such areas as teacher quality, the overall instructional setting, and student achievement and attainment (Sparks, 2015).

Each year, the Biddeford School Department furnishes student data to the Office of Civil Rights of the United States Justice Department about every conceivable datapoint, ranging from student use of firearms to suspensions. More broadly, the leadership team examines professional development, hiring and recruiting practices, partner programs (e.g., Boys and Girls' Club, APEX Youth Connections, ShifaME, etc.) to assess whether we are continuing to work toward systemic equality. The School Department is pleased to share and discuss any public data that stakeholders feel is germane to this interrogation. Be clear: we don't intend to prevaricate by picking-and-choosing this data point instead of that (there are certainly areas for growth and further investigation), but on the whole, we feel like as one of two service centers in York County, we are making gains.

The Superintendent has requested that we investigate and detail student data, as well as organizational behavior that support equity. We have compiled the following for the public's examination:

- I. **Baseline Demographics:** The Biddeford School Department collects certain demographic information on students upon enrollment. Custodial adults are able to select a race. Race is an identification of a person with one or more social groups. The Biddeford School Department mirrors the identifications used by the U.S. Census Bureau in its surveys.¹

School Year	White Students	Non-white Students	% Non-white
2021-2022	1839	509	21.7%
2020-2021	1850	492	21.1%
2019-2020	1992	444	18.3%

- II. **Student Equity - Education Programming:** Students who have an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) of Section 504 ("504") plan are less likely to graduate from high school or enroll in post-secondary education. Enrollment in these programs is a common equity marker for schools.

¹ White, Black or African American, Asian, American Indian and Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander, or some other race.

Of those students who have an IEP or 504 plan:

School Year	White Students	Non-white Students	% Non-white, Total Population
2021-2022	82.51%	18.49%	21.7%
2020-2021	82.95%	17.05%	21.1%
2019-2020	83.67%	16.33%	18.3%

In Biddeford, students of color are less likely to have an IEP or a 504 plan. The literature is mixed on whether this indicates a *lack of support* or *overidentification*. In other words, some researchers conclude that higher percentages of a student population with an IEP can be attributed to many factors, ranging from water and air quality to access to early childhood education to under- or over-identification. The meaning in this data is difficult to unpack, but, there are not statistically significant differences between special services rendered to white students and students of color.

III. Student Equity - Participation in Alternative Education Programs

Of those students who are in an Alt Ed program:

School Year	White Students	Non-white Students	% Non-white, Total Population
2021-2022	79.0%	21%	21.7%
2020-2021	78.23%	21.87%	21.1%
2019-2020	82.06%	17.94%	18.3%

- IV. **Student Equity - Discipline (In-school suspensions, all grades):** Nationally, students of color are roughly 3x more likely to receive an in- or out-of-school suspension than their white peers.² In Biddeford, suspensions are issued equitably, with a .01% deviation in the school year 2020-2021.

School Year	White Students	Non-white Students	% Non-white, Total Population
2021-2022	80.74%	19.26%	21.7%
2020-2021	88.89%	21.11%	21.1%
2019-2020	82.4%	17.6%	18.3%

² <https://www.pnas.org/doi/10.1073/pnas.1808307116>

V. Student Equity - Discipline (out-of-school suspensions, all grades)

School Year	White Students	Non-white Students	% Non-white, Total Population
2021-2022	84.19%	15.81%	21.7%
2020-2021	87.88	12.12%	21.1%
2019-2020	81.82%	18.18%	18.3%

- VI. Student Equity - Graduation Rates (4-year cohort method):** According to *America's Promise*³, high school graduation rates for students of color continue to lag their peers—the gap between students of color and white student graduation rates in 2019 was 9.8 percentage points. In 2019, Black students accounted for 15.4 percent of the graduating cohort, but 22.1 percent of the nation's on-time non-graduates. The graduation gap between students of color and white students nationally ranged from a high of 22.4 percentage points in Wisconsin to just 1.0 percentage point in Hawaii. At Biddeford High School, students of color are more likely to graduate than their white peers, by a statistically significant margin.

School Year	White Students	Non-white Students
2021-2022	76%	83%
2020-2021	78%	81%
2019-2020	80%	81%

VII. Professional Development, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Efforts since 2019:

The District's PD efforts have been somewhat curtailed by the strains of the pandemic, and the operational and instructional implications thereof. Nevertheless, below is a brief overview of some of the

1. Retained Steve Wessler (1/9/20), Former Assistant Attorney General, to audit the district's culture and climate around acceptance.
2. Support 3 policies advanced by BERAC (8/11/2020), and put them on the books.
3. All administration joined with municipal employees (mostly department heads) to engage with NH Listens for a monthslong PD series
4. Supported 10 BERAC members' participation in the Columbia Teachers College *Teaching, Learning and Leading for a Racially Just Society*

³ <https://gradnation.americaspromise.org/report/2021-building-grad-nation-report>

5. Revised Social Science curriculum to ensure that enduring themes that consider issues of DEI are woven as intricate parts of the curricular fabric.
6. Engaged with *Inclusion Maine* with deliverables to recruit, hire, and retain no fewer than 10 diverse candidates for each of the next three years in an effort to have our faculty and staff look more like the students we serve.
7. Appointment of Martha Jacques (Principal, LCSW) to serve on City of Biddeford's Race and Equity Advisory committee.
8. Expanded catchment area for hiring and recruiting with advertising and participation in job recruitment efforts in more diverse, urban communities.
9. Partnered with the Heart of Biddeford and their DEI work where administration to participate in a webinar series from the Luna Jiménez Institute for Social Transformation.

VIII. Recruiting, Hiring and Retention: The district does not--and by law can not--ask candidates to declare a race during the application process, or after being hired. Nevertheless, we can say declaratively that we have enjoyed success hiring and promoting the most diverse class of candidates in this Administration's memory. We are slated to meet again with our partners at Inclusion Maine to assess deliverables and check-and-adjust our strategies for diversifying the workforce.

MEMO

TO: Supt. Jeremy Ray, Biddeford School Committee
FROM: Mandy Cyr, Director of Instruction
CC: Chris Indorf, Asst. Superintendent
RE: Grade Level Configuration Committee Findings
DATE: June 10, 2022

Overview

The Biddeford School Committee has examined stakeholder feedback over the past several months regarding the configuration of the BHS and the broader Maplewood campus specifically, and the downstream effects on other buildings and programs generally. In February, the Biddeford School Committee voted to continue grade 8 programming at the Maplewood Campus for the 2022 - 2023 school year. Additional exploration was required as having grade 8 STEM students across town at the middle school needs to be addressed. A parallel conversation took place in regards to the future of the JFK school followed with recommendations for the board to consider.

Grade Level Committee Summary of Meetings and Findings

The committee is composed of twenty-five individuals who represent the school community including parents, teachers, administrators, city and school committee members. The committee initially met on April 22, 2022¹ where the discussion focused on ensuring all members had a foundational understanding of the schools and student needs in Biddeford. Information shared included the district projected enrollment² and overall building history including the 2020 JFK Building Evaluation Report³. The committee was presented with three options where building additional classroom space could occur

¹ [4/22/2022 Meeting Minutes](#)

² [District Projected Enrollment](#)

³ [2020 JFK Building Evaluation Report](#) - Prepared by Oak Point Associates

including adding onto BPS⁴, BMS⁵ and BHS⁶. It was determined the next meeting would allow stakeholder groups to delve further into the options presented and any explore new discoveries.

The committee reconvened on May 5th. Each stakeholder group had the opportunity to review the building schematics and record thoughts specific to challenges, benefits and questions regarding the proposed options⁷. In addition, the groups were asked to capture their thoughts on educational programming (STEM, grade 8 course opportunities, looping, etc.). All options had benefits and challenges that required additional consideration and further discussion.

The administrative team took the feedback from the committee discussion and prepared for the next meeting on May 19, 2022. It was important for members of the group to see how the addition might expand the possibilities for our students and staff.⁸ In addition, the group worked extensively on discussing the location of grade 8 students. Possible benefits included additional opportunities for students to access high school level courses. Also discussed as a benefit was the opportunity for creative academic programming inclusive of looping, and the availability of additional or unique unified art courses. The committee was passionate about the programming possibilities that could take place. The committee also discussed the challenges of building onto the high school. Would the additional classrooms be enough to accommodate grade 8 students? What about athletics? How does this impact the STEM program?

Ultimately, the committee felt that the decision to build onto the high school should not be based on academic programming or athletics. If the space is built, the teams of people who are interested in this work will continue to provide the best education possible for the students they serve. After this round table discussion, the committee left with additional things to consider.

Finally, the last meeting of the committee took place on June 2, 2022. Committee members had the opportunity to participate in a survey to declare their interest in the next steps of programming. After the

⁴ [BPS Map](#) (6 classrooms - could be 8)

⁵ [BMS Map](#)

⁶ [BHS Map](#)

⁷ [Group Notes](#)

⁸ [BPS Proposed Map](#)

discussion, the committee developed and voted on the following recommendation for the School Board's consideration.

Recommendation

The committee recommends the following:

1. Grade 8, in its entirety, attend school on the Maplewood Campus requiring an addition built onto Biddeford High School.
2. The JFK School will close, requiring an addition onto Biddeford Primary School. This will afford appropriate space to bring JFK students and staff to the primary school campus.

STUDENT WELLNESS

~~The Biddeford School Committee recognizes that student wellness and good nutrition are related to students' physical and psychological well-being and their readiness to learn. The Biddeford School Committee is committed to providing a school environment that supports student and staff wellness, healthy food choices, nutrition education, physical education, and regular physical activity.~~

~~The Biddeford School Committee believes that students who learn and practice healthy lifestyles in their formative years may be more likely to be conscious of the importance of good nutrition and exercise as adults, practice healthy habits, and reduce their risk of obesity, diabetes, and other chronic disease. While Biddeford School Committee has a strong commitment to the health and wellness of our children, this policy is not meant to dictate food served by parents outside of the school or those provided for snack or lunch.~~

Nutrition Education

~~Our goal is to provide students with nutrition education that teaches the knowledge and skills needed to adopt healthy eating behaviors. The education criteria are aligned with federal statutes and the Maine Learning Results.~~

~~Nutrition information shall be integrated into the curriculum, be developmentally appropriate, and taught following Maine Standards as outlined in the Maine Learning Results. (See our 5-2-10 Let's Go! Curriculum sequence, Topic F, in the Biddeford School Department Wellness Council Handbook.)~~

NUTRITION PROGRAM GUIDELINES

At each Biddeford School, food and beverage offerings will meet the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and National School Breakfast Program (NSBP) guidelines, as well as the following local guidelines:

Guidelines:

Food items containing whole grains will be offered daily whenever possible.

A fresh fruit and/or a raw vegetable will be offered daily. Fruits canned in heavy syrup will not be offered.

Low fat/fat-free milk and dairy products will be offered daily in at least three varieties. Middle School students will be offered milk in 10 oz. plastic resealable bottles.

A la carte entrée portion sizes will not exceed National School Lunch Program portion sizes.

A la carte snack items and beverages will be trans fat-free.

A la carte snacks, beverages, and ice cream products provide 250 calories or less per serving as packaged.

All pre-packaged cereals will contain 35% or less of weight from total sugar (or less than 9g/100 calories).

Food items will contain no more than 360 mg of sodium per serving for chips, cereals, crackers, baked goods, and other snack items.

Adopted: _____

BIDDEFORD SCHOOL DEPARTMENT WELLNESS POLICY

The Biddeford School Committee is committed to creating a healthful school environment that enhances the development of lifelong wellness practices to include healthy eating and physical activity. Health and success in schools are interrelated and can achieve their primary mission of education when students and staff are fit physically, mentally, and socially. The Biddeford School Committee believes, and research shows, that students who learn and practice healthy lifestyles in their formative years, may be more likely to be aware of the importance of healthy eating and exercise as adults, to practice healthy habits, and to reduce their risk of obesity, diabetes and other chronic diseases. To this end, the district will be transparent in the implementation and adherence to this policy and will welcome public input.

NUTRITION EDUCATION

All students shall receive nutrition education that is integrated into the curriculum, provides the knowledge and skills needed to adopt healthy eating behaviors, and is aligned with the Federal statutes and the Maine Learning Results. Nutrition education shall be provided as part of the health education program and, as appropriate, shall be integrated into classroom subjects such as math, science, language arts, physical education, and social studies.

Nutrition Promotion

Students shall receive consistent nutrition messages throughout the school community, including classrooms, cafeteria, and school-home communications.

Advertising of non-nutritious foods and beverages through signage, vending machine fronts, logos, score school boards, school supplies, advertisements in school publications, coupon, or incentive programs, is prohibited. Administrators and staff will be encouraged to model nutritious food choices and eating habits. Parents will be encouraged to provide nutritionally sound snacks from home.

NUTRITION STANDARDS

Section 1: Standards for USDA Child Nutrition Programs and School Meals

The district will ensure that meals provided by the School Nutrition Program meet the nutrition standards established by National School Lunch Program (NSLP) guidelines and regulations, and will work toward meeting the recommendations of the Institute of Medicine (CDC). Healthy food choices shall be available to all students and will be served in a clean, safe, and pleasant environment.

This policy serves as an assurance that school unit guidelines for reimbursable meals are not less restrictive than regulations and guidelines issued by the Secretary of Agriculture pursuant to the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010.

The district participates in and provides meals through the National School Lunch Program and the National School Breakfast Program; thus, the Biddeford School Department Nutrition Program shall be the sole provider of food served to students during meal times to maximize participation in these programs. District

staff will encourage maximum participation in school meals programs, in order to help the program remain financially self-sufficient and self-sustaining, and to help the program exceed the national standard of ADP (Average Daily Participation) to meet USDA's Healthier US School Challenge. The School Nutrition Program shall be the sole provider of food served to students during such events as classroom celebrations, field trips, curriculum-based events, etc., rather than food being provided by outside sources. At no time will district staff on school grounds make available soda nor other sweetened beverages not in compliance with USDA guidelines.

Other foods and beverages sold or available for sale to students during the school day ("competitive foods") will meet the federal Smart Snacks guidelines.

To the extent possible, school meals shall include adequate time for eating (after sitting down, at least 10 minutes for breakfast, and at least 20 minutes for lunch) and should be scheduled at appropriate times (i.e. lunch between 11:00 AM and 1:00 PM). The Biddeford School Department will explore alternative schedules to allow for recess activity before the lunch period. Revisions to snack time scheduling will also be explored so as not to negatively impact the school lunch program participation. Appropriate professional development will be provided for school nutrition staff and other staff involved in the delivery of healthy eating programs.

Breakfast

To ensure that all children have breakfast, either at home or at school, in order to meet their nutritional needs and to enhance their ability to learn, Biddeford School Department will operate the School Breakfast Program. Schools will, to the extent possible, utilize methods of serving school breakfasts that encourage participation, including serving breakfast in the classroom, "grab-and-go" breakfast, or breakfast during homeroom or morning break.

Section 2: Nutrition Standards for Food and Beverages available outside the School Meals Program

Prohibition of Food as a Reward

Biddeford School Department employees shall not use food or beverages as a reward or incentive for student behavior or performance. Schools are encouraged to use physical activity as rewards or incentives for student behavior or performance and as alternatives to food celebrations (exception for IEPs - please reference Let's Go! Toolkit for Children with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities, developed 2016).

Fundraisers

Fundraisers on school property during school hours shall not be in conflict with the school nutrition program. Fundraisers should consist of primarily non-food items. However, if food items are sold during the school day, it is suggested that the food items follow recommendations provided in the Biddeford School Department Wellness Policy Supporting Documents - Topic B. Smart Fundraisers for Healthy Schools.

Celebrations/Events

The district will ensure that celebrations and classroom events are supportive of healthy eating and physical activity.

All foods offered on the school campus will meet or exceed the USDA Smart Snacks in School nutrition standards.

At all school events held both inside and outside of the school day, it is suggested that any foods offered follow recommendations provided in the Biddeford School Department Wellness Policy Supporting Documents - Topic C. Recommended Nutritious Foods List for Parties and Celebrations; and Topic D. Healthy School Concessions, Banquets, and Other Functions. Administration at each school will establish appropriate celebration protocols, keeping healthful choices in mind, and will communicate those protocols to staff and to parents. Administration at each school shall be responsible for sending information to parents/guardians and staff, either separately or as part of a school newsletter, reminding everyone of the importance of providing healthy treats for students including encouraging the use of non-food treats for classroom events.

Other School-Based Wellness Activities

The schools, with prior approval of the Superintendent/designee, may implement other appropriate programs that support consistent wellness messages as outlined in this policy. The school unit may develop programs that encourage staff to learn and engage in healthy lifestyle practices.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

Physical education opportunities will include the components of a quality physical education program aligned with Federal statutes and the Maine Learning Results. Students will receive physical education at every grade K-8 and one year at high school. Physical education shall equip students with the knowledge, skills, and values necessary for lifelong physical activity. The schools will provide a physical and social environment that encourages safe and enjoyable physical activity and fosters the development of a positive attitude toward health and fitness. The physical education program will provide students with the knowledge and skills needed to be physically fit and to take part in healthful physical activity on a regular basis, and to understand the short-term and long-term benefits of a physically active and healthy lifestyle.

All students shall have a minimum of 30 minutes of developmentally appropriate physical activity opportunities during each school day via structured recess, active classroom lessons, in-class physical activity breaks, and physical education. When possible, students will be offered opportunities for physical activity before, during, or after school. District staff should make every effort possible to limit students' recreational screen time.

School staff will not use physical activity (e.g. running laps, pushups) as punishment. Staff will not withhold opportunities for physical activity during the day (e.g. recess, physical education) as punishment unless participation would cause a student to be a danger to himself/herself or to others or is allowed by a student's Individualized Education Plan (IEP). Staff are encouraged to provide alternative physical activities for students behaving inappropriately during physical activities, such as physical education and recess.

Physical education staff will annually review this policy and make needed recommendations to the administration.

Food & Beverage Marketing

Any foods and beverages marketed or promoted to students on the school campus during the school day will meet or exceed the USDA Smart Snacks in School nutrition standards. Brand-specific advertising of food or beverages is prohibited in school buildings or on school grounds except for food and beverages meeting standards for sale or distribution on school grounds in accordance with rules adopted under subsection 2. For the purpose of this subsection, “advertising” does not include advertising on broadcast media or in print media such as newspapers and magazines, clothing with brand images worn on school grounds, or advertising on product packaging.

IMPLEMENTATION, MONITORING, AND ASSESSMENT

The Superintendent shall designate one or more district employees, as appropriate, to ensure that each school site complies with this policy. The Superintendent shall develop and implement administrative guidelines consistent with this policy. Input from the School Health Advisory Committee shall be considered before implementing such guidelines.

Monitoring may include surveys or solicitation of input from students, parents, staff, and school administrators.

Reports may include, but are not limited to:

- The status of the school environment in regard to student wellness issues
- Evaluation of the school food services program and compliance with nutrition guidelines
- List of wellness programs and activities in the schools
- Feedback from students, parents, staff, school administrators, and wellness committee
- Recommendations for policy, program, or curriculum revisions

The School Health Advisory Committee shall serve as the district’s representative advisory committee for student wellness issues and will be responsible for making recommendations related to the Wellness Policy, wellness goals, administrative or school regulations and practices, and raising awareness of student health and wellness issues. The Committee should meet a minimum of four times per school year.

The Committee will be chaired by the Superintendent’s designee and should be comprised of the following representatives:

- School School Committee member
- School Administrator(s)
- Food Service Director (or designee)
- Student Representative(s)
- Parent Representative(s)
- Community Representative(s)

Additionally, the Committee must permit and should encourage the participation of the following representatives:

- PK-5 Teacher(s)
- School Health Professional(s)
- Physical Education Teacher(s)

- School Counselor(s)
- Other school staff

Triennial Assessment

District to conduct an assessment of the wellness policy every three years, at a minimum, to determine:

- Compliance with the wellness policy;
- How the wellness policy compares to model wellness policies;
- Progress made in attaining the goals of the wellness policy.

Public Involvement and Notification

The district informs and updates the public on the content and implementation of the wellness policy including progress made in attaining the goals of the policy.

The Superintendent or designee shall report to the School School Committee, as requested, on the school district's programs and efforts to meet the purpose and intent of this policy. The Superintendent or designee shall annually inform and update the public, including parents/guardians, students, and others in the community, about the contents of and any updates to this policy.

Adopted: _____