

**Richmond Consolidated School
School Committee**

**Executive Session Meeting Minutes
Wednesday August 26, 2020 at 6:00PM**

Meeting to be held by conference call due to the COVID-19 restrictions.

An Executive Order from the Governor of Massachusetts relieves public bodies from the requirement in the Open Meeting Law that meetings be conducted in a public place that is open and physically accessible to the public, provided that the public body makes provision to ensure public access to the deliberations through telephone, internet, or satellite enabled audio or video conferencing or any other technology that enables the public to clearly follow the proceedings of the public body in real time.

In addition, all members of a public body may participate in a meeting remotely; the Open Meeting Law's requirement that a quorum of the body and the chair be physically present at the meeting location is suspended.

All other provisions of the Open Meeting Law, such as the requirements regarding posting notice of meetings and creating and maintaining accurate meeting minutes, as well as the limited, enumerated purposes for holding an executive session, remain in effect.

Approved

Present: Adeline Ellis, Ina Wilhelm, Dewey Wyatt, Dr Peter Dillon, Neal Pilson, Jill Pompei

1. Executive session. Roll call to move to Executive Session: 6:03pm Motion AE, IW 2nd, all in favor

Purpose: to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining for teacher contracts (because an open meeting may have a detrimental effect of the bargaining position of the School Committee, and to conduct a strategy session in preparation for negotiations with non-bargaining unit personnel, both pursuant to MGL c.39 § 23B A

Peter updated the School Committee on status of negotiations on the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) for school opening.

There has been some very good progress made. The discussions have been collaborative and constructive. Dewey said he is pleased with the discussions especially after being concerned with how the process started off.

We are working on metrics from Richmond and Berkshire County to drive objective decision making. Draft is being review by Dupere Law Offices, expect response tomorrow. There are some complex human resource factors related to new federal law that need legal review. Ina noted she is glad teachers will be coming to the school building, feeling relatively safe, to conduct on-line teaching. Peter said progress has been made due to very collaborative discussions and preparations within the school. Medical professional have participated preparations. Some will work remotely for medical reasons.

Vote on MOA expected next week after some more work.

Return to open session 6:22pm.

Submitted by DW