

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE MALDEN SCHOOL COMMITTEE
PUBLIC INTERVIEWS FOR SUPERINTENDENT
Monday, March 27, 2017
Senior Center**

Chairperson Christenson called the meeting to order at 6:11 pm.

Chairperson Christenson (Chair) reviewed the agenda for the evening and stated that there were two candidates to be interviewed. He explained that the process would start with each School Committee member asking one question and then would be given the opportunity to ask follow-up questions. It was also stated that member Tara Beardsley was not present due to a family matter, but that she had provided questions and would view the interviews on tape.

The Chair led the Committee in the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silence for those who have served our country and for those who continue to do so today.

1. Roll Call

The following attendance was taken:

Mike Drummey	Present
Emmanuel Marsh	Present
Larry Silverman	Present
Leonard Iovino	Present
Tara Beardsley	Absent
Jerry Leone	Present
Cathy Bordonaro	Present
John Froio	Present
Gary Christenson	Present

The Chair determined that a sufficient quorum was present to conduct business and also introduced James Hardy from Mass Association of School Committees who was present in the event of procedural questions.

2. Interview of Dr. Portia Bonner

The Chair asked Dr. Bonner to introduce herself and then asked the first question. Each School Committee member asked the candidate questions regarding the topics set forth in Attachment 1 to which Dr. Bonner responded. The Chair asked Question #6 on behalf of Ms. Beardsley.

The additional questions asked were as follows:

The Chair asked specific questions regarding Dr. Bonner's resume, her work in a previous district and background in science. He later asked about experience with collective bargaining.

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Mr. Iovino inquired about special education, core values as an educator and addressing learners with limited English proficiency.

Mr. Silverman asked about programs and grants.

Ms. Bordonaro asked about a decision made that may have been the wrong one and the steps taken to remedy the situation and whether it was well-received.

Mr. March asked about addressing achievement gaps.

Mr. Froio inquired about vocational education.

After the Chair asked about what would be done on the first day, Dr. Bonner gave a closing statement.

This concluded the interview and there was a brief recess.

3. Interview of Mr. Dana Brown

The Chair asked Mr. Brown to introduce himself and then asked the first question. Again, each School Committee member asked the candidate questions regarding the topics set forth in Attachment 1 to which Mr. Brown responded after making a statement.

The additional questions asked were as follows:

The Chair asked specific questions regarding Mr. Brown's resume and background.

Mr. Iovino inquired about leadership philosophy and special education.

Mr. Silverman asked about transitioning from the role of principal to superintendent.

Mr. March asked about how to address achievement gaps and stability.

Mr. Froio inquired about the expansion of vocational education.

Ms. Bordonaro asked about the culture of support in the community created at the high school and how he would expand and build upon that culture to all of our other public schools.

After the Chair asked about raising the level 3 standing and the Five District Partnership, Mr. Brown gave a closing statement.

4. Adjournment

With no other business before the Committee, a motion was made by Mr. Marsh to adjourn. Ms. Bordonaro seconded the motion which was voted on in the affirmative unanimously.



Gary Christenson, Clerk