

**Medway School Committee
Minutes
June 21, 2007**

The Medway School Committee held a meeting on Thursday, June 21, 2007, at 7:00 p.m., in the School Committee Room, Medway Middle School, 45 Holliston Street, Medway. School committee members in attendance were Chairperson Susan Connolly, Vice Chairperson Diane Borgatti, Steven Dahl, Charles Myers, Dawn Rice-Norton and Debora Trindade. Also in attendance were Superintendent Richard Grandmont, Director of Operations and Finance David Verdolino and Medway Federation of Teachers Representatives Megan Boland and Michael Regan. The meeting was not carried live on cable television due to technical difficulties.

A. CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Connolly called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m., noting that all members were present.

B. APPROVAL OF WARRANTS

The warrants were reviewed and signed.

C. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by Mr. Myers, seconded by Mr. Dahl, to approve the minutes of March 22, 2007, as amended. Voting in favor: Ms. Connolly, Mr. Dahl, Mr. Myers and Ms. Rice-Norton. Voting opposed: none. Abstaining: Ms. Borgatti and Ms. Trindade as they were not members of the school committee on that date.

Moved by Mr. Myers, seconded by Mr. Dahl, to approve the minutes of March 29, 2007, as amended. Voting in favor: Ms. Connolly, Mr. Dahl and Ms. Rice-Norton. Voting opposed: none. Abstaining: Ms. Borgatti and Ms. Trindade as they were not members of the school committee on that date; and Mr. Myers as he was not present at the March 29th meeting.

Moved by Mr. Myers, seconded by Mr. Dahl, to approve the minutes of April 5, 2007, as amended. Voting in favor: Ms. Connolly, Mr. Dahl, Mr. Myers and Ms. Rice-Norton. Voting opposed: none. Abstaining: Ms. Borgatti and Ms. Trindade as they were not members of the school committee on that date.

Moved by Mr. Dahl, seconded by Mr. Myers, to approve the minutes of April 26, 2007, as amended. Voting in favor: Ms. Connolly, Mr. Dahl, Mr. Myers and Ms. Rice-Norton. Voting opposed: none. Abstaining: Ms. Borgatti and Ms. Trindade as they were not members of the school committee on that date.

Moved by Ms. Trindade, seconded by Ms. Borgatti, to approve the minutes of May 14, 2007. Voting in favor: Ms. Connolly, Ms. Borgatti, Mr. Dahl, Mr. Myers, Ms. Rice-Norton and Ms. Trindade. Voting opposed: none.

Moved by Ms. Borgatti, seconded by Ms. Trindade, to approve the minutes of May 17, 2007, as amended. Voting in favor: Ms. Connolly, Ms. Borgatti, Mr. Dahl, Mr. Myers, Ms. Rice-Norton and Ms. Trindade. Voting opposed: none.

Moved by Mr. Myers, seconded by Ms. Borgatti, to approve the minutes of June 7, 2007, as amended. Voting in favor: Ms. Connolly, Ms. Borgatti, Mr. Dahl, Mr. Myers, Ms. Rice-Norton and Ms. Trindade. Voting opposed: none.

E. REPORT OF STUDENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

None.

F. REPORTS OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Ms. Borgatti commended Dr. Grandmont for his handling of the water crisis at the high school during the last week of school and for getting the students out safely and working with Mr. Pearson on the student finals schedule.

G. ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE

1. Report of the Chairman

Ms. Connolly reviewed some of the school committee roles and responsibilities and highlighted school committee policy #62.

Ms. Connolly reported that she attended a recent Finance Committee meeting where it approved the transfer of \$39,000 for equipment and supplies to be furnished to the completion of the Coakley building.

2. Report of the Superintendent

None.

H. DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Budget Update – None.

2. Technology Replacement Plan – Ms. Connolly noted the information that was provided for committee members showing a comparison of cost and benefits of buying vs. leasing of computers.

Mr. Amrock reviewed the information provided to the committee and some options for replacing technology in the district over the next several years.

Dr. Grandmont stated he was looking for direction from the school committee on how to proceed in regard to buying new off-lease purchasing, and leasing of computers.

Mr. Myers asked if the administration had a recommendation or vision.

Dr. Grandmont responded that his vision was to provide an upgrade with as many computers as the district could afford. He noted that issue between leasing or buying is basically a trade off. The superintendent stated he would prepare a proposal for the next school committee meeting.

3. Capital Projects Update

- **McGovern School Parking Lot Project** – Dr. Grandmont noted that the wetland flagging had been done and the preliminary survey was being completed. A meeting of the conservation commission was also scheduled.

- **High School Handicapped Ramp** – Dr. Grandmont noted that the “Invitation to Bid” was out.

- **Fire Alarm and P.A. Systems** – Dr. Grandmont noted that a meeting was scheduled with the town administrator to determine when the funding would be available.

4. Other – None.

I. ACTION ITEMS

1. For Consideration: Ice Hockey Proposal – Ms. Connolly stated that the Medway High School Ice Hockey Program is self-funded and has been operating under the control of the Medway Amateur Hockey Association (MAHA). Under this proposal, MAHA will continue to fund the hockey program at no additional cost to the district but is requesting that control of the operation be placed under the athletic director in the same way that Lacrosse operates. The superintendent supports this recommendation.

Athletic Director Robert Pearl and MAHA representative Sean Murphy gave a brief review/report of the proposal.

Moved by Mr. Dahl, seconded by Ms. Trindade, that the school committee place the control of the operation of the Medway High School Ice Hockey Program under the athletic director, at no additional cost to the school district, as recommended by the superintendent. Voting in favor: Ms. Connolly, Mr. Dahl, Mr. Myers, Ms. Rice-Norton and Ms. Trindade. Voting opposed: none. Ms. Borgatti abstained.

2. For Consideration: Approval of High School 2007-2008 Student Handbook – Ms. Connolly noted that changes/corrections to the high school handbook were distributed at the June 7th school committee meeting. Mr. Pearson was present to answer committee members’ questions.

Dr. Grandmont noted the additional correction to the handbook resulting from a MIAA ruling on June 13th. The superintendent stated that the Athletic Director and all coaches would announce this new MIAA ruling to all student athletes. It was also suggested that this information go out via the Listserve and up on the high school website.

Reference was made to the use of cell phones, beepers and pagers being placed in lockers or a book bag and not is use during the school day.

Mr. Myers noted that the website information should also be placed in the handbook.

Moved by Mr. Myers, seconded by Ms. Borgatti, that the school committee approve the High School 2007-2008 Student Handbook, as amended, and as recommended by the superintendent. All in favor.

3. For Consideration: Approval of Middle School 2007-2008 Student Handbook – Ms. Connolly noted that changes/corrections to the middle school handbook were distributed at the June 7th school committee meeting. Ms. Senier-LaBarre was present to answer committee members' questions.

Mr. Myers suggested that a reference or statement should be placed in the handbook regarding the availability of after-school activities via the community education department.

Moved by Mr. Myers, seconded by Mr. Dahl, that the school committee approve the Middle School 2007-2008 Student Handbook, as amended, and as recommended by the superintendent. All in favor.

4. For Consideration: Approval of Elementary Schools 2007-2008 Student Handbook – Ms. Connolly noted that changes/corrections to the elementary schools handbook were distributed at the June 7th school committee meeting. Ms. Becker and Ms. Rocha were present to answer committee members' questions.

Ms. Borgatti suggested that flip-flops should be added as inappropriate to wear to school.

It was also suggested that the use of cell phones, Ipods, walkman, and other electronic devises be discouraged from use.

Moved by Mr. Myers, seconded by Ms. Borgatti, that the school committee approve the Elementary Schools 2007-2008 Student Handbook, as amended, and as recommended by the superintendent. All in favor.

5. For Consideration: Applied Behavior Analysis Specialist Job Description – Ms. Connolly noted that there are students in Medway who have been diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder and require the services of an applied behavior analysis specialist.

The superintendent noted that this position was contracted out in the past so the district was already paying for the services. He also noted that there was the need for two full-time people, the same number that had been contracted during the 2006-2007 school year.

Moved by Mr. Dahl, seconded by Ms. Borgatti, that the school committee approve the Applied Behavior Analysis Job Description, as recommended by the superintendent. All in favor.

6. First Reading: 2007-2008 Fee Structure for After School Activities at Medway High School – Ms. Connolly noted that, in accordance with school committee policy #71, fees for after school activities must be established for the 2007-2008 school year. The superintendent provided an Excel spreadsheet with information relative to the fees that would be required to fund and manage the 17 activities that were included in last year’s proposal. He noted the information provided was based upon actual fees collected from FY07.

Discussion followed regarding possible scenarios, such as a fee per student/per activity, a fee per student/per year, or a graduating fee. No votes were taken.

7. For Consideration: Approval of Cleaning and Custodial Services Contract – Ms. Connolly noted that Mr. Verdolino was recommending a cleaning and custodial services contract for the period July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2010.

Mr. Verdolino gave a brief summary of the process he used in determining the needs of the district and which service would best meet those needs.

Moved by Mr. Myers, seconded by Ms. Trindade, that the school committee approve the Cleaning and Custodial Services Contract, for the period July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2010, with Sanitors; and authorize the director of operations and finance to negotiate and execute the contract on behalf of the district, as recommended by the director of operations and finance, and the superintendent. All in favor.

8. Staffing – Ms. Connolly noted the staffing sheet in committee members’ packets.

9. Other - None.

J. INFORMATION ITEMS

Ms. Connolly noted the various information items in committee members’ packets.

K. COMMUNICATIONS

Ms. Connolly noted the various communication items in committee members’ packets including a letter from teacher Terri Los; and a thank you from the co-chairs of the After-Prom Party.

L. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- **Activity Fees**
- **Review of 2006-2007 Goals**
- **Scope of Community Education Program**

M. NEXT MEETING – All meetings are scheduled to begin at 7:00 p.m., in the School Committee Room (across the corridor from the Superintendent’s Office, Medway Middle School, 45 Holliston St., Medway, unless otherwise noted. The next school committee meeting will be held on **Thursday, July 12, 2007, at 6:00 p.m.**

Ms. Connolly noted that the time was 6:00 p.m., and not the usual 7:00 p.m., and it would be held in the Superintendent's Conference Room.

N. ADJOURNMENT TO EXECUTIVE SESSION – There was a need to adjourn to executive session to discuss contract negotiations as they relate to union and/or non-union personnel.

Moved by Mr. Dahl, seconded by Ms. Borgatti, that the school committee adjourn to executive session for the purpose of discussing contract negotiations as they relate to union personnel, with the understanding that the committee will not be returning to public session. A roll call vote was taken. Voting in favor: Ms. Connolly, Ms. Borgatti, Mr. Dahl, Mr. Myers, Ms. Rice-Norton and Ms. Trindade. Voting opposed: None.

O. ADJOURNMENT

At 9:30 p.m., upon approval of the motion, the school committee adjourned to executive session in the Superintendent's Conference Room, Medway Middle School, 45 Holliston St., Medway.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol A. Villa
Secretary

Approved: _____