

**Medway School Committee
Minutes
September 6, 2007**

The Medway School Committee held a meeting on Thursday, September 6, 2007, at 7:00 p.m., in the School Committee Room, Medway Middle School, 45 Holliston Street, Medway. School committee members in attendance were Susan Connolly, Diane Borgatti, Charles Myers, Dawn Rice-Norton and Debora Trindade. Also in attendance were Superintendent Richard Grandmont, Director of Operations and Finance David Verdolino, Medway Federation of Teachers Representative Megan Boland. No Student Advisory Council Representative was present. The meeting was carried live on cable television.

A. CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Connolly called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m., noting that all members were present, except for Steven Dahl.

B. APPROVAL OF WARRANTS

The warrants were reviewed and signed.

C. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by Mr. Myers, seconded by Ms. Trindade, to approve the school committee minutes of August 23, 2007. All in favor.

E. REPORT OF STUDENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

None.

F. REPORTS OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Mr. Myers reported that he attended a recent Government Study Committee meeting where the topic included language associated with the MIS Director as it appears in the Charter. He noted that an agreement was reached on how the town and school department will interact and collaborate.

G. ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE

1. Report of the Chairman - None.

2. Report of the Superintendent

- **Report on the Opening of Schools** – The superintendent reported on his visits to all five schools on opening day. He noted that the operations of the first day went smoothly and each building had everything organized quite well for the first day of school. He noted that he had an opportunity to see students as they arrived and speak with administrators and teachers. The superintendent congratulated

faculty, staff, administrators and bus drivers. He noted that the Medway Police Department had provided extra details at various sites and thanked Chief Saleski for his support. The superintendent also thanked Sergeant Jeff Watson, Officer Mitchell and School Resource Officer Grimes.

Mr. Myers noted that he and Ms. Rice-Norton attended the Welcome Back Breakfast for faculty and staff on September 4th. He noted that the superintendent did an excellent job, the guest speakers were great, and thought it was an excellent start to the opening of the new school year.

- **2007-2008 Goals and Objectives** – The superintendent reviewed an updated draft of the Superintendent’s Goals and Objectives. Mr. Myers made some minor suggestions. The superintendent asked school committee members to bring any further suggestions or revisions to his attention either before or at the September 20th meeting so that a vote for approval could be placed on the October 4th agenda.

- **MFE Phone-a-thon** – The superintendent reported that the Medway Foundation for Education will be holding its Annual Drive Phone-a-thon from the middle school and high school on September 17, 18 and 20 to help support the school district. The superintendent noted that members of Medway High School Student Council and National Honor Society will also participate in the phone-a-thon. He noted that the money raised helps support various programs in the school district.

H. DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. **Budget Update** – None.

2. **Capital Projects Update** – Dr. Grandmont noted that this was an ongoing item to provide an opportunity to discuss the three school department capital projects approved at Annual Town Meeting. The superintendent asked Mr. Verdolino to give a brief review of his status report, dated September 6, 2007.

Ms. Connolly suggested that, since there was an action item scheduled for a vote on the roofs and boiler, the committee discuss and take action at this point in the meeting.

Mr. Verdolino stated that, in order to be in compliance with Massachusetts School Building Authority audit requirements, the school committee must accept the projects listed above for “school purposes.” He referred to his memorandum on the subject.

Moved by Mr. Myers, seconded by Ms. Rice-Norton, that the school committee accept the Burke, McGovern, Middle School (former HS) roofs and Burke School boiler for “school purposes,” effective immediately, as recommended by the superintendent. All in favor.

3. **Other** – Dr. Grandmont noted a letter from the National Interscholastic Athletic Association congratulating Robert Pearl for completing a voluntary certification program which resulted in Mr. Pearl becoming a certified athletic administrator.

I. ACTION ITEMS

1. **Staffing** – Ms. Connolly noted the staffing sheet in committee members' packets.

1. **For Consideration: Authorization for Director of Operations and Finance to Execute Copier Maintenance Contract** – Ms. Connolly referred to a memorandum submitted from Mr. Verdolino requesting that the school committee award the contract for copier maintenance to Northern Business Machines and authorize him to execute the contract on behalf of the district.

Moved by Ms. Rice-Norton, seconded by Ms. Trindade, that the school committee award the copier maintenance contract to Northern Business Machines for the period August 1, 2007 through July 31, 2010, and authorize the director of operations and finance to execute the contract on behalf of the district, as recommended by the superintendent. All in favor.

3. **For Consideration: Curriculum Development Policy (Policy #02)** – Ms. Connolly noted that the first reading of this policy was held on August 2, 2007. The policy is being brought forward for adoption.

Moved by Ms. Trindade, seconded by Ms. Borgatti, that the school committee adopt the revised Curriculum Development Policy (Policy #02), as recommended by the superintendent. Voting in favor: Ms. Connolly, Ms. Borgatti, Ms. Rice-Norton and Ms. Trindade. Voting opposed: none. Abstaining: Mr. Myers.

4. **For Consideration: Fund Raising Policy (Policy #41)** – Ms. Connolly noted that the first reading of this policy was held on August 2, 2007. This policy is being brought forward for adoption.

Moved by Mr. Myers, seconded by Ms. Rice-Norton, that the school committee adopt the revised Fund Raising Policy (Policy #41), as recommended by the superintendent. All in favor.

Ms. Trindade noted that, in order to discuss student athletic fees, it would be necessary to invoke the Rule of Necessity. Moved by Ms. Trindade, seconded by Ms. Rice-Norton, to invoke the Rule of Necessity. All in favor.

Ms. Trindade stated that she had a child that participates in athletics. Ms. Borgatti stated that she had children who participated in ice hockey and lacrosse. Ms. Rice Norton stated that her child also participated in athletics.

5. **For Consideration: Student Athletic Fees, Policy #15** – Ms. Connolly noted that the student athletic fees are reviewed and voted on by the school committee on an annual basis. There is no change to interscholastic athletic fees being recommended for the 2007-2008 school year.

Dr. Grandmont noted that the student fee for ice hockey and lacrosse is set by each of those organizations and the money goes into the school department's athletic fees accounts. The ice time and payment of officials will now be controlled by our

athletic director. The payment of busses and coaches has been, and will continue to be, under the control of our athletic director. If the money collected from student fees for ice hockey is not enough to cover the cost of ice time and officials, the athletic director submits a bill to each organization. The superintendent reiterated that the family cap does not apply to ice hockey and lacrosse.

Moved by Mr. Myers, seconded by Ms. Rice-Norton, that the school committee adopt the Student Athletic Fees, Policy #15, and set the fees at \$200.00 per student per sport with a family cap of \$800.00, excluding ice hockey and lacrosse, as recommended by the superintendent. All in favor.

6. First Reading: Naming of Buildings and Facilities, Policy #45 – Ms. Connolly noted that a new policy has been developed based upon the suggestions that school committee members made at the August 2nd meeting. This policy was being brought forward for review and recommended revisions with a possible final draft for consideration at the September 20th meeting. No votes were taken.

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.

Dr. Grandmont noted the copies of two House Bills: House Bill No. 487, An Act Creating a Commission to Regulate Commercialism in the Public Schools; and House Bill No. 489, An Act Relative to the Public Health Impact of Commercialism in Schools.

L. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- **2007-2008 Goals and Objectives**
- **Approval of Graduation Date for Medway High School**
- **Community Education Update**

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, September 20, 2007, at 7:00 p.m.**

N. ADJOURNMENT

As there was no need for an executive session, moved by Ms. Rice-Norton, seconded by Ms. Borgatti, to adjourn. All in favor.

O. ADJOURNMENT

At 7:40 p.m., upon approval of the motion, the school committee adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol A. Villa
Secretary

Approved: **September 20, 2007**