

**Medway School Committee
Minutes
September 20, 2007**

The Medway School Committee held a meeting on Thursday, September 20, 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, 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 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 7:05 p.m., noting that all members were present, except for Diane Borgatti.

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. Rice-Norton, to approve the school committee minutes of August 2, 2007, as amended. All in favor.

Moved by Mr. Myers, seconded by Ms. Rice-Norton, to approve the school committee minutes of September 6, 2007. All in favor, except for Mr. Dahl who abstained as he was not present for the September 6th meeting.

E. REPORT OF STUDENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

None.

F. REPORTS OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Ms. Trindade reported that she attended a recent SPED PAC meeting at the high school where parents had an opportunity to meet and speak with Dr. Rochlin and the SPED coordinators. She noted that the next SPED PAC meeting will be held on October 17th, at 7:00 p.m., at the high school.

G. ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE

1. Report of the Chairman

Ms. Connolly reported that a new town subcommittee will be formed and its members will include the chairpersons of the school committee, the board of selectmen, the finance committee, the superintendent of schools, and the town

administrator. This subcommittee will be meeting once a month and its purpose is to promote communication between the departments relative to the FY09 budget process. Ms. Connolly stated she would keep the school committee apprised of the topics discussed at these meetings.

2. Report of the Superintendent

- **Community Education Update** – Dr. Grandmont introduced Margery Monahan who gave a brief report on the Community Education Program, including the summer courses, the new fall program, after school programs and services provided to the homeless shelter. She noted that no town tax dollars are used for the community education program because it is completely fee-based. Ms. Monahan also stated that the program gives back to the school district by way of donations, such as photocopier machines and other supplies and equipment

- **Review of Proposed 2007-2008 Goals and Objectives** – Dr. Grandmont noted the revised iteration of the proposed 2007-2008 Goals and Objectives. The superintendent noted that he would like the school committee to entertain a vote to approve the goals and objectives on October 4, 2007.

- **Computer Replacement Plan** – Dr. Grandmont noted the status report on the district's computer replacement plan in committee members' packets.

- **Donation of Medway Middle School Curtains** – The superintendent announced that The Medway Secondary Home and School Association offered to donate new stage curtains for the Medway Middle School. Dr. Grandmont noted that the curtains are inherently flame retardant and flame retardancy certificates will be supplied to the district.. He further noted that, in accordance with School Committee Policy #41, he has accepted the donation. Dr. Grandmont also noted that the maintenance staff has painted the middle school stage so when the curtains are installed the stage area will be much improved.

- Dr. Grandmont stated that he was contacted by the town administrator who wished to plan some workshop sessions between the board of selectmen and the school committee. Committee members agreed that it would be a good idea to hold the workshop meetings since the new budget cycle was approaching. It was noted that these workshops would have no scheduled specific topics and no deliberations leading to any votes. The superintendent stated he would follow up with the scheduling of these workshops and inform the committee.

H. DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Budget Update – None.

2. Capital Projects Update – Ms. Connolly referred to the Capital Projects Status Report , dated September 20, 2007 and asked Mr. Verdolino to give a brief review of the report.

3. Other – None.

I. ACTION ITEMS

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

2. **For Consideration: Approval of Graduation Date for Medway High School** – Ms. Connolly noted that, according to Massachusetts Department of Education regulations, school districts can release and graduate seniors on the 168th day of school. Seniors may be provided with less than the full 990 hours if a district elects to schedule early release and/or graduation. Additionally, school districts are not required to delay the date of graduation once it has been set or to keep seniors past the date of graduation.

Ms. Connolly stated that, since May 30, 2008, is the 168th day of school for the 2007-2008 academic year, it is being recommended that the school committee vote to set Sunday, June 1, 2008, as the graduation date for Medway High School seniors.

Moved by Ms. Rice-Norton, seconded by Mr. Dahl, that the school committee set the graduation date for Medway High School seniors as Sunday, June 1, 2008, as recommended by the superintendent. All in favor.

3. **For Consideration: Naming of Buildings and Facilities, Policy #45** – Ms. Connolly noted that the first reading of this policy was held on September 6, 2007. This policy is being brought forward for adoption.

Ms. Rice-Norton made some suggestions to include additional language in item #2 of the policy. No motions were made. Ms. Connolly asked for a show of hands to see if there was support for the suggested changes proposed by Ms. Rice-Norton. Since no other committee members supported the changes, Ms. Connolly asked for a motion to adopt Policy #45 as presented.

Moved by Mr. Dahl, seconded by Ms. Trindade, that the school committee adopt the Naming of Buildings and Facilities, Policy #45, as recommended by the superintendent. All in favor.

4. **For Consideration: Acceptance of Memorial Elementary School Playground** – Ms. Connolly referred to a letter from M.E. O'Brien & Sons, Inc. and a memorandum from Mr. Verdolino indicating satisfaction with the installation of the Memorial School playground. She noted that the installed playground equipment needs to be accepted by the school committee.

After discussion, moved by Mr. Myers, seconded by Mr. Dahl, that the school committee accept the donation of installed playground equipment located at the Memorial Elementary School, in accordance with School Committee Policy #41, as recommended by the director of operations and finance and the superintendent, effective immediately, with the understanding that the Medway Disabilities Commission has reviewed and approved this project, as recommended by the superintendent. All in favor.

5. Other – For Consideration: Approval of the Demolition of the Bleachers and Removal of the Press Box at Charland Field by Tri-County Regional Vocational Technical High School Students – Dr. Grandmont referred committee members to a proposal from the Superintendent/Director of Tri-County Regional Vocational Technical High School to have facilities management students demolish the bleachers and remove the press box at Charland Field.

After discussion, moved by Mr. Myers, seconded by Ms. Rice-Norton, that the school committee approve the proposal from Tri-County Regional Vocational Technical High School to demolish the bleachers and remove the press box at Charland Field, under the management of the Medway Public Schools. Any group, board or department in Medway seeking to replace these bleachers is subject to review and approval by the school committee, in accordance with M.G.L., prior to the purchase and installation, as recommended by the superintendent.

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.

L. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- **2007-2008 Goals and Objectives Adoption**
- **Budget Priorities**

Mr. Myers stated that he hoped the student advisory council will pick its school committee representative soon as he looked forward to hearing from the students.

Mr. Myers also noted that principals should have scheduled their first school council meeting by now and the committee should be receiving copies of the minutes of all meetings.

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, October 4, 2007, at 7:00 p.m.**

N. ADJOURNMENT

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

O. ADJOURNMENT

At 8:00 p.m., upon approval of the motion, the school committee adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol A. Villa
Secretary

Approved: **October 4, 2007**