

**Medway School Committee  
Minutes  
October 4, 2007**

The Medway School Committee held a meeting on Thursday, October 4, 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, 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 Michael Regan. Student Advisory Council Representative Jillian Mershon was present. The meeting was carried live on cable television.

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

Ms. Connolly called the meeting to order at 7:00 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 Ms. Rice-Norton, to approve the school committee minutes of September 20, 2007, as amended. All in favor, except for Ms. Borgatti who abstained as she was not present for the September 20<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**E. REPORT OF STUDENT ADVISORY COUNCIL**

Jillian reported that the sophomore class was holding a fundraiser which was a walk-a-thon scheduled for October 20<sup>th</sup>.

**F. REPORTS OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Ms. Rice-Norton reported that she attended a recent board of selectmen meeting at which topics discussed that might affect the school department included: town-wide water emergency; funding for the removal of the old bleachers at the middle school; and a change in signage by-laws on municipal buildings.

Ms. Borgatti reported that she attended a recent finance committee meeting and noted that the school committee was looking into getting grant money to offset the McGovern School parking lot project. She also noted that the planning board was planning to reactivate the Master Plan Committee.

## **G. ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE**

### **1. Report of the Chairman**

Ms. Connolly read the letter of retirement from Dr. Grandmont. She noted she was sad to see him leave but was happy for his retirement. Ms. Connolly acknowledged the superintendent's many accomplishments over the past four years. She stated that the school committee would discuss how it will approach the search for the new superintendent later in the meeting.

Ms. Connolly reminded committee members of the MASC/MASS joint conference in November and asked members to consider being the voting delegate for the committee.

### **2. Report of the Superintendent**

- **New Staff Reception** – Dr. Grandmont noted that over the past several years, the Medway School Committee has scheduled a reception for new staff for the first meeting in November. The new staff reception takes place from 6:30-7:00 p.m., prior to the school committee meeting. After a brief discussion, it was the sense of the committee to continue hosting this reception and schedule it for November 1, 2007.

- **Old Textbook Donation** – The superintendent stated that the high school math department has a number of textbooks that are 20-35 years old that Shanley Heller would like to donate to the Choate Park and Senior Center book drive. After a brief discussion, it was the sense of the committee to donate these textbooks.

- **Other – National Merit Scholarship Program** – Dr. Grandmont stated that Medway has six students who received the recognition of Commended Students in the 2008 National Merit Scholarship Program. He noted that this meant that these six students were in the top 5% of the 1.4 million students nation-wide who took the 2006 SAT test. He congratulated these students and read their names.

## **H. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**1. Budget Update** – Ms. Connolly asked Mr. Verdolino to give a brief overview of the monthly budget update.

Dr. Grandmont reviewed with committee members a draft of the FY09 Budget Development Process. Mr. Myers suggested some revisions in the timeline.

**2. Capital Projects Update** – Ms. Connolly referred to the Capital Projects Status Report, dated October 4, 2007 and asked Mr. Verdolino to give a brief review of the report.

**3. MSBA Site Visit** – The superintendent gave a brief report on the Massachusetts School Building Authority's visit to Medway Middle School on October 1, 2 and 3.

**4. Other** – The school committee discussed the process by which a new superintendent would be selected. Mr. Myers noted he had supplied committee members with a copy of the process used for the last search. He reviewed the role of a consultant and how it would guide the committee through the process. After discussion, it was the sense of the committee to move forward with the selection of a consulting firm.

I. ACTION ITEMS

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

**2. For Consideration: 2007-2008 Goals and Objectives** – Ms. Connolly noted that the final version of the superintendent's 2007-2008 goals and objectives have been reviewed and revised over the past several meetings and it was being brought forward for school committee adoption.

After discussion, moved by Ms. Rice-Norton, seconded by Ms. Trindade, that the school committee adopt the superintendent's 2007-2008 Goals and Objectives, dated October 4, 2007, as recommended by the superintendent. All in favor.

**3. For Consideration: Approval of FY2009 Capital Improvement Plan** – Ms. Connolly noted the Town Administrator had outlined her request for Capital Improvement Plans. The superintendent prepared the district's Capital Improvement Plan for consideration which is consistent with the Three-Year Maintenance Plan. The superintendent is looking for authorization to submit the FY2009 District Capital Improvement Plan to the town administrator.

Mr. Myers suggested that a copy of the district's Three-Year Maintenance Plan be attached to the Capital Improvement Plan so that projects outlined in the Three-Year Maintenance Plan could be given consideration to move forward should the need arise.

After discussion, moved by Ms. Trindade, seconded by Ms. Rice-Norton, that the school committee authorize the superintendent to submit the District's FY2009 Capital Improvement Plan to the town administrator, with a copy of the district's Three-Year Maintenance Plan attached, as recommended by the superintendent. All in favor.

**3. First Reading: Revised School Committee Policy #56** – Ms. Connolly stated that the Medway Public Schools will be undergoing a Coordinated Program review during the 2008-2009 school year. It was noted that school committee Policy #56 should be revised to align with Title IX of the Education Amendments. No votes were taken.

**5. First Reading: Revised School Committee Policy #50** – Ms. Connolly noted that school committee Policy #50 also requires a minor addition in order to prepare for next year's Coordinated Program Review. No votes were taken.

**6. Other** – Dr. Grandmont referred committee members to the Summary of Smart Growth School Cost Reimbursement Program in their packets.

J. INFORMATION ITEMS

Ms. Connolly noted the various information items in committee members' packets, including the October 1 Enrollment.

K. COMMUNICATIONS

Ms. Connolly noted the various communication items in committee members' packets.

L. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- **Set School Choice Enrollment Capacity for Second Round Selection**
- **Budget Priorities**
- **MCAS Results and AYP Data Presentation: October**
- **SPED PAC Presentation**

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 18, 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. Trindade, to adjourn. All in favor.

O. ADJOURNMENT

At 8:12 p.m., upon approval of the motion, the school committee adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol A. Villa  
Secretary

Approved: **October 18, 2007**