

**Medway School Committee
Minutes
October 18, 2007**

The Medway School Committee held a meeting on Thursday, October 18, 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. The meeting was carried live on cable television.

A. CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Connolly called the meeting to order at 7:03 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 October 4, 2007, as amended. All in favor.

E. REPORT OF STUDENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

None.

F. REPORTS OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Mr. Myers stated that he would like to see the corrected minutes of the last meeting that dealt with the vote on the bleachers.

Ms. Trindade reported that she attended a recent SPED PAC meeting where two psychologists were presenters. She noted the next SPED PAC meeting was scheduled for November 16th.

G. ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE

1. Report of the Chairman – Ms. Connolly noted that prior to the next school committee meeting there would be a reception for new teachers at 6:30 in the superintendent's conference room.

Ms. Connolly stated that the superintendent sent out to each school committee member an email regarding the November 19th Special Town Meeting and noted that there may be another Special Town Meeting in December.

Ms. Connolly thanked the students from Tri-County who worked on the demolition of the bleachers.

2. Report of the Superintendent

Dr. Grandmont reported that the Medway Public Schools website will have a link added for an art gallery to celebrate student art work from all grade levels. He explained the process by which artwork will appear on the website and thanked Carol Vogel and Sue Rourke for their efforts to get the link to the website set up.

Dr. Grandmont reported that students will now be able to order bag lunches for field trips. He stated that this convenience was set up through Chartwells and students can sign up a few days in advance in the school cafeteria and receive a bag lunch at the regular school lunch price.

- **Advanced Placement (AP) Scholar Awards** – Dr. Grandmont noted that twenty-nine students at Medway High School have earned the designation of AP Scholar by the College Board in recognition of their exceptional achievement on the May 2007 AP Exams. The superintendent read the names of the students who earned this award and congratulated them.

- **MCAS Results and AYP Presentation** – Dr. Grandmont presented the Spring 2007 MCAS results and AYP data. Overhead transparencies were used in his presentation, which outlined, in detail, the results.

H. DISCUSSION ITEMS

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

Dr. Grandmont reviewed with committee members the revised FY09 Budget Development Process and Budget Priorities.

- 2. Capital Projects Update** – Ms. Connolly referred to the Capital Projects Status Report, dated October 18, 2007. Dr. Grandmont noted the memorandum which gave a give a brief review of the status of the McGovern School parking lot.

- 2. Superintendent Search** – Ms. Connolly stated that she had passed along to school committee members information regarding the process of a superintendent search.

- 4. Town Charter** – Ms. Connolly stated that school committee members had a copy of the proposed Town Charter in their packets.

- 5. Other** – None.

I. ACTION ITEMS

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

2. For Consideration: Revised School Committee Policy #56 – Ms. Connolly noted that the revised policy was presented at the October 4th school committee meeting.

Moved by Ms. Rice-Norton, seconded by Ms. Borgatti, that the school committee adopt the revised school committee policy on Pregnant Students, Policy #56, as recommended by the superintendent. All in favor.

3. For Consideration: Revised School Committee Policy #50 – Ms. Connolly noted that the revised policy was presented at the October 4th school committee meeting.

Moved by Ms. Trindade, seconded by Ms. Borgatti, that the school committee adopt the revised school committee policy on Civil Rights, Policy #50, as recommended by the superintendent. All in favor.

4. For Consideration: Employment of a Part-time Assistant Bookkeeper – Ms. Connolly noted that Mr. Verdolino's memorandum and request outlining the need for the district to hire a part-time assistant bookkeeper would be addressed at a later meeting.

5. For Consideration: School Choice Enrollment Capacity for Second Round Selection – Ms. Connolly noted that Chapter 76, Section 12 B (j), mandates a random selection process for school choice selection: "...one time prior to July first and one time prior to November first..." A suggested motion was provided for committee members with wording that was designed to keep the district in compliance with this statute. She noted that a School Choice Analysis was in committee members' packets for review.

After discussion, moved by Ms. Rice-Norton, seconded by Ms. Borgatti, that the school committee establish the school choice capacity for the remainder of the 2007-2008 school year, as recommended by the superintendent, except in cases where a family living in town relocates and requests that their child remains in Medway Public Schools; provided, that the superintendent determines there is adequate space in the classroom, and as long as there is no other child on the waiting list for the grade in question. All in favor.

6. Other – For Consideration: Article for November 19, 2007 Special Town Meeting – Ms. Connolly noted that Mr. Verdolino had prepared a memorandum describing the need for consideration of a warrant article on the November 19th Special Town Meeting Warrant to address the rooftop HVAC unit at the Medway Middle School.

After discussion, moved by Mr. Dahl, seconded by Ms. Trindade, that the school committee authorize the superintendent to submit an article to the town administrator for consideration at the November 19, 2007 Special Town Meeting with the following language: "To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds a sum of money to replace the Medway Middle School library rooftop HVAC unit and associated costs, or to act in any other manner relating thereto." Voting in favor: Ms. Connolly, Mr. Dahl, Mr. Myers, and Ms. Trindade. Voting opposed: Ms. Borgatti and Ms. Rice-Norton.

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

- **New Teacher Reception**
- **Superintendent's Award of Academic Excellence**
- **Budget Priorities**
- **SPED PAC Presentation – November 15th meeting**
- **Budget Alignment for FY2008**

Ms. Rice-Norton asked if Service Learning would be on a future agenda. Dr. Grandmont thought it might be part of the goals and objectives and would report back to Ms. Rice-Norton.

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, November 1, 2007, at 7:00 p.m.**

N. ADJOURNMENT

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

O. ADJOURNMENT

At 8:52 p.m., upon approval of the motion, the school committee adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard P. Grandmont
Secretary pro tem

Approved: **January 3, 2008**