

**Medway School Committee
Minutes
January 3, 2008**

The Medway School Committee held a meeting on Thursday, January 3, 2008, at 7:00 p.m., in the School Committee Room, Medway Middle School, 45 Holliston Street, Medway. School Committee members in attendance included 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 Megan Boland and Michael Regan. 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 Mr. Myers who was expected to arrive shortly.

B. APPROVAL OF WARRANTS

The warrants were reviewed and signed.

C. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by Mr. Dahl, seconded by Ms. Borgatti, to approve the minutes of October 18, 2007. All in favor.

Moved by Ms. Borgatti, seconded by Ms. Rice-Norton, to approve the minutes of December 6, 2007, as amended. All in favor.

Ms. Connolly noted that the minutes of the December 18, 2007 workshop meeting were in committee members' packets for consideration at the next meeting.

At approximately 7:08, Mr. Myers arrived.

E. REPORT OF STUDENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

None.

F. REPORTS OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Ms. Rice-Norton reported that she attended a recent Board of Selectmen's meeting at which the Planning Board reported on new housing which could translate into approximately 100 new students to the district.

G. ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE

1. Report of the Chairman

Ms. Connolly reminded committee members of the All Boards Meeting scheduled for January 7, 2008, at 7:00 p.m., in the high school library.

Ms. Connolly reported that the town's sidewalk plow was broken and it would cost approximately \$9,000-\$13,000 to maintain. The town DPW was deciding whether to repair or replace the plow; Medfield's plow was recently borrowed. Ms. Connolly voiced concern that if there was another big snow storm that children could be walking on the street if the sidewalk plow situation was not resolved. She noted that the Transportation Committee would research emergency and/short term bussing solutions.

2. Report of the Superintendent

The superintendent announced that the district received a substantial donation of computers from New Balance through the efforts of Fernando and Martha Matsuda of Medway. This donation consisted of approximately 90 computers that met the specifications as set forth by Mr. Amrock.

The superintendent referred committee members to the American School & University magazine article that cited Medway High School as one of the outstanding school designs in the country.

• FY09 School Department Budget Working Draft

Presentation – Dr. Grandmont presented the FY2009 School Department Budget Working Draft to the school committee. The superintendent noted that the committee will be asked to officially authorize the superintendent to submit the FY2009 Budget Working Draft to the town administrator at the January 17, 2008 school committee meeting. He stated that the current Town of Medway by-law requires all town departments to submit their annual budgets to the town administrator no later than the fourth Monday in January.

The superintendent also noted that after the school committee authorizes the superintendent to submit the budget document to the board of selectmen and finance committee that it is still a preliminary budget and numbers will and already have changed.

The superintendent's presentation was a power point presentation and a paper copy of that presentation was made available to committee members and the audience. The topics of that presentation included: FY09 Budget Development Process; Our Challenge; NCLB Performance Targets; School District Accomplishments; Additional Accomplishments; Qualities of Strong, Stable School Districts; FY09 Budget Priorities; Project Grade Sizes: FY2009; FY09 Status Quo Operating Budget; FY09 Service Budget Increase Costs by Category – Percentage to Total; FY09 Level Service Operating Budget; FY09 Level Service Operating Budget Special Education & Regular Education; FY09 Level Services Budget Breakdown of All Costs Personnel and Non-Personnel; FY09 Level Services Budget Breakdown of Personnel Costs; FY09 Level Services Budget Breakdown of Non-Personnel Costs; FY09 Budget Requests Beyond Status Quo; Summary of Request Beyond Status Quo; FY09 Budget Additional Required Funding; Sources of Funding for School Department Budget; Funding from Property Taxes Over the Past Three Years; Comparison of Chapter 70 Aide Increase to

Operating Budget Increase “Plus” Health Insurance Increase (Active School Employees) for the Past Three Years; and Conclusion.

H. DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Budget Update – Ms. Connolly noted the Budget Status Report, dated January 3, 2008, prepared by Mr. Verdolino.

2. Superintendent Search Update – Ms. Connolly reviewed the superintendent of schools job description and noted that this was a first reading and it would be up for a vote at the January 17th meeting. She suggested that committee members submit any revisions to her prior to the next meeting.

Ms. Connolly noted that the tentative dates for focus groups had been set with NESDEC. She noted that the school committee’s focus group meeting was scheduled for January 29, 2008, at 7:00 p.m.

Ms. Connolly also noted that the brochure was in draft format and the superintendent’s contract would be reviewed.

3. Other – Capital Projects Update – Ms. Connolly referred to the Capital Projects Status Report, dated January 3, 2008, prepared by Mr. Verdolino.

I. ACTION ITEMS

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

2. First Reading: 2008-2009 School Year Calendar – Ms. Connolly noted the proposed 2008-2009 school year calendar in committee members’ packets and stated that it had been reviewed by the Management Team and Medway Federation of Teachers. In accordance with school committee policy #42, the school year calendar is scheduled for adoption at the January 17, 2008 meeting.

3. 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.

L. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- **Interim Review of 2007-2008 Goals**
- **Adoption of 2008-2009 School Year Calendar**
- **Set Kindergarten Full-Day Tuition Rate**
- **Set Early Childhood Tuition Rate**
- **Set Kindergarten Tuition and Athletic Fee Reduced Rate**
- **Approval of FY09 School Department Working Draft Budget**
- **Medway High School Program of Studies**

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, January 17, 2008, 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 9:30 p.m., upon approval of the motion, the school committee adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol A. Villa
Secretary

Approved: **February 7, 2008**