

**Medway School Committee  
Minutes  
March 5, 2009**

The Medway School Committee held a meeting on Thursday, March 5, 2009, at 7:00 p.m., in the School Committee Room, Medway Middle School, 45 Holliston Street, Medway. School Committee members in attendance included Chairperson Diane Borgatti, Vice Chairperson Debora Trindade, Carole Bernstein, Steven Dahl, Dawn Rice-Norton and Shelley Wieler. Also in attendance were Superintendent Judith Evans, Director of Operations and Finance David Verdolino and Medway Federation of Teachers Representative Megan Boland. The meeting was carried live on cable television.

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

Ms. Borgatti called the meeting to order at 7:45 p.m., noting that all members were present.

**B. APPROVAL OF WARRANTS**

The warrants were reviewed and signed.

**C. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

None.

**D. REPORT OF STUDENTS**

**1. McGovern School Students: Smart Board** - McGovern School Computer teacher Terri Los introduced first and second grade students who gave a presentation on Smart Board.

**E. ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE**

**1. Report of the Superintendent**

▪ **Update on School Improvement Plans** - Ms. Rocha, Ms. Becker, Ms. Senier-LaBarre, and Mr. Pearson gave brief reviews of the mid-year update on their school improvement plans.

**F. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Moved by Ms. Bernstein, seconded by Mr. Dahl, to approve the minutes of January 8, 2009, as amended. All voted in favor.

Moved by Ms. Trindade, seconded by Ms. Bernstein, to approve the minutes of February 5, 2009, as amended. Voting in favor: Ms. Borgatti, Ms. Trindade, Ms. Bernstein, Ms. Rice-Norton and Ms. Wieler. Voting opposed: none. Mr. Dahl abstained as he was not present for the February 5<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**G. REPORT OF STUDENTS**

None.

**H. ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE - continued**

**1. Report of the Chair** - Ms. Borgatti asked for a school committee representative to be on the Massachusetts School Building Authority Building Committee. Ms. Trindade volunteered and Ms. Wieler stated that she would be the back up.

As an aside, Ms. Borgatti asked members to complete the questionnaire in preparation for the March 12 workshop meeting.

**I. REPORTS OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Ms. Bernstein reported that the high school musical, Guys and Dolls, is scheduled for March 19-21, with a dress rehearsal for senior citizens, at no charge on March 18; tickets on are sale beginning on May 7 in the high school lobby.

Ms. Rice-Norton reported that she and some committee members participated in the MFE Trivia Bee, which was a fun night and successful for the MFE which donates money to the school department. Ms. Rice-Norton reported that she participated in a seventh grade field trip to the Museum of Science and it was a worthwhile and entertaining trip. She also noted that the Home and School Association is organizing the After Prom Party scheduled for the night of May 15. Anyone wishing to volunteer in any capacity should contact June Miller and Judy Yasi of the association.

**J. ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE - continued**

**1. Report of the Chairman**

Ms. Borgatti announced that the school department was now accepting nominations for Memorial School Plaque (in accordance with school committee policy #75). She noted that nominations should be sent to the superintendent's office.

**TRANE Review Committee: Update** - Ms. Borgatti reported that, at the recent Special Town Meeting, the school committee did not go forward with the request for the bonding on the TRANE project as it decided to have another "set of eyes" look at the project first.

Ms. Wieler stated that a seven-member panel, whose members were nominated by the school committee, board of selectmen and finance committee is in place and information on meeting dates and times can be found on the school committee website and the town's website.

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

The superintendent reported that several Medway students have their artwork displayed at the Worcester Art Museum and on the district website.

### **K. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**1. FY10 Budget** - Ms. Borgatti noted that the board of selectmen would be submitting a level-funded budget to the finance committee.

Dr. Evans stated that she contacted the Governor's Office and his office is confident that Medway's Chapter 70 aide will be fully funded but it was waiting to hear from the federal government.

During discussion, committee members thought it was important that the budget subcommittee take the first look at where budget cuts could be made if needed; the district should ensure the core academic subject areas are at least maintained as they are now; electives at the high school should be looked at; areas to review would include new curriculum and materials, bus contract and busing fees; facilities use fees, and office related expenses.

Dr. Evans noted that when one reviews the Per Pupil Expenditures document, which was downloaded from the DESE website, it shows where Medway stands per category in comparison to other towns and the state average.

### **2. Other - None.**

### **L. ACTION ITEMS**

**1. For Consideration: Changes to Elementary Schools Start/End Time for the 2009-2010 School Year** - Ms. Borgatti noted that the proposed start/end time change for the 2009-2010 was discussed at the previous meeting.

After a brief discussion, it was moved by Ms. Rice-Norton, seconded by Mr. Dahl, that the school committee approve the changes to the elementary schools start/end times for the 2009-2010 school year, as recommended by the superintendent. All voted in favor.

**2. Restoration of Coakley Building Expenditures** - Ms. Borgatti noted the memorandum, dated January 30, 2009, from Mr. Verdolino and that this item was never voted on.

After a brief discussion, it was moved by Ms. Trindade, seconded by Ms. Wieler, that the school committee authorize the director of operations and finance to seek

reimbursement of \$22,276 to the Hanlon Field revolving fund from the High School Project, as recommended by the superintendent. All voted in favor.

**3. First Reading: Addition of Two Sports Teams to the High School Athletic Department** - Ms. Borgatti noted that Mr. Pearson and Mr. Pearl have recommended the permanent addition of two self-supporting sports teams to the high school athletic program: cross country for the fall and indoor track for the winter.

Mr. Pearson and Mr. Pearl answered questions. No votes were taken.

**4. For Consideration: Final Approval for Student Trip to Italy: April 16-25, 2009** - Preliminary approval for this student trip was granted on March 7, 2008 and the logistical information is complete.

After a brief discussion, it was moved by Ms. Rice-Norton, seconded by Ms. Wieler, that the school committee grant final approval for the student overnight trip to Italy, scheduled for April 16-25, 2009, as recommended by the superintendent. All were in favor.

**5. Other - July 10, 2008 Minutes** - Ms. Borgatti stated there was a request to reconsider the July 10, 2008 minutes.

After a brief discussion, it was moved by Mr. Dahl, seconded by Ms. Rice-Norton, to amend the July 10, 2008 minutes as discussed. Voting in favor: Ms. Borgatti, Ms. Trindade, Mr. Dahl, Ms. Rice-Norton and Ms. Wieler. Voting opposed: none. Ms. Bernstein abstained as she was not present for the July 10<sup>th</sup> meeting.

It was moved by Ms. Bernstein, seconded by Ms. Trindade to waive the ten o'clock rule. All voted in favor.

#### **M. INFORMATION ITEMS**

Ms. Borgatti noted the various information items in committee members' packets, including the staffing update, March enrollment figures and March calendar.

#### **N. COMMUNICATIONS**

Ms. Borgatti noted the various information items in committee members' packets, including the NEASC report and school council meeting minutes.

#### **O. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- 1) Draft of School Committee Activity Schedule
- 2) Set School Choice Enrollment Capacity
- 3) Coakley Building Discussion

**P. 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 meetings are as follows:

- **Negotiations Subcommittee Meeting: March 9, 2009, at 5:00 p.m.**
- **Budget Subcommittee Meeting: March 9, 2009, at 6:30 p.m.**
- **Joint Meeting with Finance Committee: March 11, 2009, at 7:00 p.m., Sanford Hall**
- **Workshop Meeting: March 12, 2009, at 6:00 p.m. Superintendent's Conference Room**
- **Regular Meeting: March 19, 2009**
- **Joint Meeting with Finance Committee: March 25, 2009, at Sanford Hall**

**Q. ADJOURNMENT**

At 10:10 p.m., it was moved by Ms. Bernstein, seconded by Ms. Wieler, to adjourn. All voted in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol A. Villa  
Secretary

Approved: **March 19, 2009**