

**Medway School Committee
Minutes
April 16, 2009**

The Medway School Committee held a meeting on Thursday, April 16, 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, Debora Trindade, Carole Bernstein, Steven Dahl, and Dawn Rice-Norton. Also in attendance were Superintendent Judith Evans and Medway Federation of Teachers Representative Megan Boland.

A. CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Borgatti called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m., noting that all members were present, except for Ms. Wieler who was attending a subcommittee meeting and would join the committee as soon as she could.

B. APPROVAL OF WARRANTS

The warrants were reviewed and signed.

C. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Mr. Dahl, seconded by Ms. Bernstein, to approve the minutes of **November 13, 2008**, as amended. All voted in favor.

It was moved by Mr. Dahl, seconded by Ms. Bernstein, to approve the minutes of **December 4, 2008**, as amended. Voting in favor: Ms. Trindade, Ms. Bernstein, Mr. Dahl, and Ms. Rice-Norton. Voting opposed: none. Ms. Borgatti abstained as she was not present for the meeting.

It was moved by Mr. Dahl, seconded by Ms. Rice-Norton, to approve the minutes of **February 12, 2009**. All voted in favor.

It was moved by Ms. Bernstein, seconded by Ms. Rice-Norton, to approve the minutes of **April 2, 2009**, as amended. Voting in favor: Ms. Borgatti, Ms. Trindade, Ms. Bernstein, Mr. Dahl, and Ms. Rice-Norton.

E. REPORT OF STUDENTS

None.

F. REPORTS OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Ms. Rice-Norton reported she attended a recent board of selectmen meeting at which the 2010 budget and ARRA funds was discussed. She noted that the selectmen

held discussion on what the school department budget should be, and she noted that the school committee had not yet voted the final school department budget number. It was suggested that a joint school committee meeting and board of selectmen meeting be held to discuss the school department budget.

Ms. Rice-Norton also reported that she attended a recent Wellness Committee meeting and a rough draft of a district wellness policy would soon come to the school committee. She noted the wellness policy was to ensure that students are healthy, well-fed and nurtured in order to be educated.

Ms. Trindade reported she attended a recent SPED PAC meeting at which school committee candidates were present.

G. ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE

1. Report of the Chairman

Ms. Borgatti noted that all committee members received a communication from Representative Dykema. She also noted that the After Prom Party Committee was still looking for volunteers.

2. Report of the Superintendent

Dr. Evans reported that two high school students received the honor of having their work presented at the Art All-State program.

Dr. Evans reported that the mathematics curriculum review process was almost concluded; the outside review panel committee was scheduled for April 29-30; the superintendent thanked everyone involved in this project.

Dr. Evans reported the sudden death of a high school student; she extended her sympathies to the family. The superintendent reported that counselors will be on duty at the high school this week and next week to help students and staff.

H. DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Elementary Schools Start/End Times Change

Dr. Evans reported she received approximately 200 surveys from parents regarding the change in the elementary schools start and end times. She noted that some parents are still uncertain and confused as to the reasons for the change. The superintendent suggested that the time change be deferred until the 2010-2011 school year so that a study committee could be formed and investigate other possible solutions, including a grade reconfiguration among the elementary schools.

After discussion, it was moved by Ms. Trindade, seconded by Ms. Bernstein, to defer the change in the elementary schools start and end times until at least the 2010-2011 school year. All voted in favor.

2. FY10 Budget: ARRA Revisions

Dr. Evans noted that committee members had new budget pages for their budget books which reflected FY10 adjustments due the expected ARRA grant funding, which is the federal stimulus money. The superintendent noted that a copy of these new budget pages was also given to the town administrator.

At 7:53 p.m., Ms. Wieler arrived.

At 8:00 p.m., Mr. Verdolino arrived.

Mr. Verdolino gave a brief summary of the proposed adjustments to the FY2010 operating budget due to the expected funding by the ARRA grant.

3. Other

Ms. Wieler gave an update on the Energy Services Contract Review Panel discussion on the Trane project. She noted that the consultant presented an initial report. Ms. Wieler noted a joint meeting of the school committee and the Energy Services Contract Review Panel on April 23rd. Ms. Wieler suggested that a school committee future agenda item might be the discussion to hire a grant writer to improve green capabilities for the district.

I. ACTION ITEMS

1. For Consideration: Transportation Services Contract for 2009-2012 – Ms. Borgatti noted the memorandum from David Verdolino with his recommendation to award a transportation services contract to Holmes Transportation of Norfolk and further noted the superintendent supports this recommendation. Mr. Verdolino gave a brief summary of his memorandum.

After discussion, it was moved by Mr. Dahl, that the school committee award a contract for transportation services for 2009-2012, as recommended by the superintendent. Mr. Dahl then amended his motion to award a contract for transportation services for 2009-2012 to Holmes Transportation of Norfolk, MA, as recommended by the superintendent. The motion was seconded by Ms. Bernstein. All voted in favor.

2. First Reading: School-Community-Home Relations/General Policy (Policy #76) - Ms. Borgatti noted that this policy was generated after discussions at the committee's workshop meeting. Committee members made comments and recommended revisions. No vote was taken.

3. First Reading: Duties of the Chair Policy (Policy #77) - Ms. Borgatti noted that this policy was generated after discussions at the committee's workshop meeting. Committee members made comments and recommended revisions. No votes were taken.

4. Code of Ethics: Medway School Committee Member Policy (Policy #78) - Ms. Borgatti noted that this policy was generated after discussions at the committee's workshop meeting. Committee members made comments and recommended revisions. No votes were taken.

5. First Reading: Representation on External Committees Policy (Policy #79) - Ms. Borgatti noted that this policy was generated after discussions at the committee's workshop meeting. Committee members made comments and recommended revisions. No votes were taken.

6. First Reading: Relations with Local Government Authorities Policy (Policy #80) - Ms. Borgatti noted that this policy was generated after discussions at the committee's workshop meeting. Committee members made comments and recommended revisions. No votes were taken.

7. First Reading: Medway School Committee Self-Evaluation Policy (Policy #81) - Ms. Borgatti noted that this policy was generated after discussions at the committee's workshop meeting. Committee members made comments and recommended revisions. No votes were taken.

8. First Reading: School Committee-Superintendent Relationship Policy (Policy #82) - Ms. Borgatti noted that this policy was generated after discussions at the committee's workshop meeting. Committee members made comments and recommended revisions. No votes were taken.

9. For Consideration: Middle School Time and Learning Designation for FY2010 - Ms. Borgatti noted Ms. Senier-LaBarre's recommendation to designate the Medway Middle School as an elementary facility for the 2009-2010 school year when reporting compliance with Time and Learning regulations. She also noted the superintendent's support for this designation.

After discussion, it was moved by Ms. Trindade, seconded by Ms. Rice-Norton, that the school committee designate the Medway Middle School as an elementary facility for the 2009-2010 school year when reporting compliance with Time and Learning regulations, as recommended by the superintendent. All voted in favor.

10. Set School Choice Enrollment Capacity for the 2009-2010 School Year - Ms. Borgatti noted that Chapter 76, Section 12 B (j), mandates a random selection process for school choice selection, "...one time prior to July first..." The statute (12Bc) also mandates, "...not later than May first of every year, the school committee of each city, town or regional school district shall submit a report to the Department of Education stating (1) the capacity of each school in said city, town, or regional school district for the following academic year." The motion below is designed to keep the district in compliance with this statute.

After discussion, it was moved by Ms. Rice-Norton, seconded by Ms. Wieler, that the school committee establish its school choice capacity for the 2009-2010 school year, as recommended by the superintendent in the School Choice Analysis, dated April 2008; with the understanding that an exception may be made in a case where a family living in town relocates and requests that their child remain in Medway Public Schools; provided 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, as recommended by the superintendent. All voted in favor.

11. Other -None.

J. INFORMATION ITEMS and COMMUNICATIONS

Ms. Borgatti noted the various information items and communications in committee members' packets.

K. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- **Evaluation of Superintendent**
- **Preparation for Special Town Meeting**
- **Preparation for Annual Town Meeting**
- **Memorial School Plaque Nominations**

L. 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 is **Thursday, May 7, 2009.**

- **Joint Meeting with Energy Services Contract Review Panel: April 23, 2009, at 7:00 p.m., School Committee Room**
- **Joint Meeting with Finance Committee: April 27, 2009, at 7:00 p.m., at Town Hall**
- **Joint Meeting with Board of Selectmen, April 28, 2009, School Committee Room**
- **Regular Meeting: May 21, 2009, at 7:00 p.m.**

M. ADJOURNMENT

At 9:45 p.m., it was moved by Mr. Dahl, seconded by Ms. Bernstein, to adjourn. All voted in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol A. Villa
Secretary

Approved: **May 7, 2009**