

**Medway School Committee  
Minutes  
September 17, 2009**

The Medway School Committee held a meeting on Thursday, September 17, 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, Jeffrey DeVolder 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. Student Advisory Council Representative Amanda Presswood was also present.

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

Ms. Borgatti called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., noting that all members were present.

**B. APPROVAL OF WARRANTS**

The warrants were being delivered for committee signature.

**C. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - None.**

**D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - None.**

**E. REPORT OF STUDENTS - None.**

**F. REPORTS OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Mr. DeVolder reported he attended a recent Board of Selectmen meeting at which items of discussion included: preparation for H1N1 for the community; implementation of Munis; funding for the new server at the middle school; the Kelley Street parking lot; and the Middle School MSBA project.

Ms. Wieler noted she attended a recent Friends of Medway Athletics meeting at which discussion included the hope to create a single boosters organization for all athletic groups.

Ms. Trindade reported she attended a recent Board of Selectmen meeting at which bond notes for capital improvements were approved.

Ms. Wieler noted that the Town has money available to hire a grant writer and the school department might want to explore the possibility of sharing the grant writer.

Dr. Evans noted that sharing a grant writer to draw on the private sector might be helpful but grants written for the school department are educational specific and require someone with educational experience.

## **G. ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE**

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

Ms. Borgatti reminded committee members of the upcoming open house nights. Ms. Borgatti reminded parents to sign up for ListServ. The chair noted the article in Sunday's Boston Globe that reported on SAT scores, noting that Medway was ranked as 37<sup>th</sup> out of 327 in the state.

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

The superintendent reported that she and Mr. Verdolino will be meeting with members of the CIPC to discuss timelines. The superintendent reported that the MCAS results are out and Medway High School ranked 15<sup>th</sup> out of 327 schools on ELA MCAS and a full report on MCAS results would be presented at a future meeting. The superintendent also reported that the school department has been working with the board of health, the police chief, the fire chief, the school resource officer and the school nurse coordinator on a action plan for H1N1.

The superintendent also noted the following:

- 48 high school students were honored as AP scholars;
  - the middle school has held anti-bullying programs
  - the high school has presented the Rachel's Challenge program, sponsored by the MFE and the Education Fund Committee;
  - November 5 Chartwells will hold a dinner, Fiesta Evening, in the high school cafeteria.
- **Report on SAT/AP Results** – Mr. Pearson gave a presentation on the 2009 SAT/AP results.

## **H. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**1. Fee Structure for After School Activities** – Mr. Verdolino reviewed the data presented in his memorandum recommending that no change be made in the current fee structure. After discussion, it was the sense of the committee not to change the fee structure for after school activities.

**2. Kelley Street Parking Lot** – Mr. Verdolino reported that he and Mr. MacLean met with members of the highway department to assess what steps could be taken to address the immediate needs of the parking lot while expending as little money as possible on a short-term fix to address the immediate safety concerns. The parking lot will be patched on the next day school is not in session and the town will pay for the repair. The complete repair of the Kelley Street parking lot will be one facet of a long-term future project.

**2. School Needs Feasibility Study** - Dr. Evans gave a brief update on the status of the middle school MSBA repair project. The superintendent stated the need

for a master plan facilities committee/study and suggested that a joint study include town-wide facilities and spaces. After discussion, it was the sense of the committee to hold a joint meeting with the board of selectmen to consider what direction a master plan facilities study should take.

**4. Solar Panel Project** – Mr. Verdolino reported on the status of the solar panel project proposals for the high school and middle school roofs.

**5. Other** – Mr. DeVolder noted that at the recent board of selectmen's meeting it was reported that the town's bond rating had greatly improved.

## **I. ACTION ITEMS**

**1. For Consideration: Approval of High School Graduation Date** – Ms. Borgatti noted that according to Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education regulations, school districts can release and graduate seniors on the 168<sup>th</sup> day of school. Seniors may be provided with less than the full 990 hours if a district elects to schedule early release and/or graduation. Additionally, school districts are not required to delay the date of graduation once it has been set or to keep seniors past the date of graduation. Since May 28, 2010, is the 168<sup>th</sup> day of school for the 2009-2010 school year, the superintendent is recommending that the school committee vote to set **Sunday, June 6, 2010**, as the graduation date for Medway High School seniors.

After a brief discussion, it was moved by Ms. Wieler, seconded by Mr. DeVolder, that the school committee set the graduation date for Medway High School seniors as Sunday, June 6, 2010, as recommended by the superintendent. All voted in favor.

**2. For Consideration: Approval of Business Office Reorganization** – Ms. Borgatti stated that the superintendent was recommending Mr. Verdolino's proposal, which was brought forward at the August 6<sup>th</sup> meeting.

After a brief discussion, it was moved by Ms. Trindade, seconded by Ms. Wieler, that the school committee approve the business office reorganization as outlined in Mr. Verdolino's memorandum, dated August 6, 2009, as submitted by the superintendent. All voted in favor.

**3. For Consideration: Approval of the Job Description for Assistant Superintendent of Finance, Administration, and Personnel** – Ms. Borgatti noted that this job description was presented at the August 6<sup>th</sup> meeting as part of the business office reorganization.

After a brief discussion, it was moved by Ms. Bernstein, seconded by Ms. Trindade, that the school committee approve the job description for Assistant Superintendent of Finance, Administration, and Personnel, as recommended by the superintendent. Voting in favor: Ms. Borgatti, Ms. Trindade, Ms. Bernstein and Mr. DeVolder. Opposed: Ms. Wieler.

**4. Other – None.**

**J. INFORMATION ITEMS and COMMUNICATIONS**

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

**K. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- **Special Education Report**
- **Report on the Solar Project**

**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 meetings are as follows:

- **Regular Meeting: October 1, 2009, at 7:00 p.m.**
- **Joint Meeting with the Board of Selectmen**

**M. ADJOURNMENT TO EXECUTIVE SESSION** – Ms. Borgatti stated there was a need to adjourn to executive session for the purpose of union negotiations.

It was moved by Ms. Bernstein, seconded by Ms. Trindade, that the school committee adjourn to executive session for the purpose of discussing contract negotiations as they relate to both union and non-union personnel, with the understanding that the committee will not be returning to public session. A roll call vote was taken. Voting in favor: Ms. Borgatti, Ms. Trindade, Ms. Bernstein, Mr. DeVolder, and Ms. Wieler. Voting opposed: none.

**N. ADJOURNMENT**

At 9:15 p.m., the meeting was adjourned to executive session.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol A. Villa  
Secretary

Approved: **October 1, 2009**