

**Medway School Committee
Minutes
December 3, 2009**

The Medway School Committee held a meeting on Thursday, December 3, 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, Assistant Superintendent David Verdolino and Medway Federation of Teachers Representative Megan Boland. Student Advisory Council Representative Amanda Presswood and James Davock were also present.

A. CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Borgatti called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m., noting that all members were present.

B. APPROVAL OF WARRANTS

The warrants were being delivered for committee signature.

C. REPORT OF STUDENTS

- **McGovern School Student Presentation** – Elementary Teacher Elayne Casey and some of her grade two students gave a presentation and demonstrated a game on the new Everyday Math program.

D. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - None.

E. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – None.

F. ACTION ITEMS

- 1. First Reading: Naming of High School Library** – Ms. Borgatti noted that Monique Doyle has submitted a request to name the Medway High School Library after former principal David I. Driscoll. Ms. Doyle gave a brief summary of her request. No votes were taken.

G. REPORTS OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Mr. DeVolder reported he attended a recent Parks and Recreation Department meeting at which discussion was held on the middle school field configuration and usage at no cost to the district. He noted that the lightening strike on the irrigation system would be paid in half by insurance. He also noted that the Parks and Recreation Department would be making a recommendation to the school committee on the policy of booking fields at the district.

Ms. Trindade reported she attended the recent MASC/MASS Joint Conference in Hyannis and highlighted some of the workshops she attended. She also reported on a recent Board of Selectmen meeting she attended at which a budget policy was

discussed and voted upon. She noted that the Town was going to establish a town-wide Energy Committee. Ms. Trindade also noted that the Middle School Building Committee the OPM selection was made and it was getting ready to make its recommendation to the MSBA. She also thanked Dr. Evans for putting out on the ListServ the information on the recent SPED PAC meeting.

Ms. Wieler noted that she also attended the recent MASC/MASS Joint Conference and highlighted some of the workshops she attended.

H. REPORT OF STUDENTS - continued

Amanda Presswood and James Davock gave a recap of the Homecoming and Spirit Week at the high school.

J. ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE

1. Report of the Chairman – Ms. Borgatti reported:

- The district held a “Race to the Top” forum on December 8th at the high school.
- The MFE is sponsoring a fundraiser for shopping on line with certain vendors and these vendors will make a donation to the MFE. She noted further information could be found on the website.

2. Report of the Superintendent – Dr. Evans reported:

- The district has partnered with ACCEPT Collaborative and the partnership has received a \$250,000 technology grant to be split by eight districts.
- Rob Pearl has been named Athletic Director of the Year by the Nobscot Valley Football Officials Association.
- Middle School Curriculum Coach Mette Schwartz had an article published in national magazine *Science Scope* entitled, “ Using Powers of 10 to Help Students Develop Temporal Benchmarks,” a copy of which was provided to the school committee.
- School committee members had a copy of the recent *M.A.S.S. Newsletter* in which there was an article by Dave Tobin regarding budget predictions for FY2011.

K. DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Revisions to Burke/Memorial School Student Drop Off and Pick Up – Medway Police Safety Officers Jeffrey Watson and Steve Mitchell presented a proposal to change the configuration of the Burke/Memorial School student drop-off and pick-up.

2. Revised School Improvement Plan Goals: Academic Achievement – Ms. Rocha, Ms. Becker, Ms. Senier-LaBarre and Mr. Pearson each gave a brief summary of their proposed revisions to academic achievement goal of their respective school improvement plans based upon MCAS results.

3. Update: Grade Configuration Committee – Mr. Verdolino gave a brief review of the progress to date results of the recent grade configuration committee meetings.

4. For Discussion: Budget Priorities – Dr. Evans noted that it will be a challenge to plan for a budget when the Town does not know what the revenues will be. She noted that a budget subcommittee meeting has been scheduled for December 17th.

5. Other – None.

L. ACTION ITEMS - continued

1. For Consideration: School District Wellness Policy (Policy #69) – Ms. Borgatti noted that the school committee reviewed the revised School District Wellness Policy at its meeting on November 12th.

After a brief discussion, it was moved by Ms. Wieler, seconded by Ms. Trindade, that the school committee adopt the revised School District Wellness Policy (Policy #69), as recommended by the superintendent. Mr. DeVolder moved to amend the motion to revise the language in the “Celebrations” section to eliminate the wording: “Celebrations in the classroom that involve food during the school day should be limited to curriculum based activities. Parents are discouraged from sending to school snacks/treats to be shared by the entire classroom.” Ms. Bernstein seconded the amendment. Voting in favor: Ms. Bernstein and Mr. DeVolder. Voting opposed: Ms. Borgatti, Ms. Trindade and Ms. Wieler. The motion to amend did not carry. The vote on the original motion was as follows. Voting in favor: Ms. Borgatti, Ms. Trindade and Ms. Wieler. Voting opposed: Ms. Bernstein and Mr. DeVolder. The original motion carried.

2. Other – Mr. Pearson, Mr. Jasinski and student Jenna Espinosa gave a brief summary of the proposed Project Green student-run activity at the high school. Mr. Verdolino noted that he was pursuing two different avenues of private funding by outside groups which would pay for the advisor stipend and allow the student activity fee to be waived.

M. INFORMATION ITEMS and COMMUNICATIONS

Ms. Borgatti noted some of the information and communication items in committee members’ packets.

N. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- **Burke/Memorial School Student Presentation**
- **Draft of 2010-2011 School Year Calendar**
- **Set Kindergarten Full Day Tuition Rate**
- **Set Early Childhood Tuition Rate**
- **Set Kindergarten, Early Childhood and Athletic Fee Reduced Tuition Rate**
- **Naming of High School Library**

O. NEXT MEETING – The next regular school committee meeting will be Thursday, January 7, 2010, 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.

P. ADJOURNMENT

As there was no need for an executive session, at 9:41 p.m., it was moved by Ms. Bernstein, seconded by Mr. DeVolder, to adjourn. All voted in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol A. Villa
Secretary

Approved: **January 7, 2010**