

**Medway School Committee  
Minutes  
March 18, 2010**

The Medway School Committee held a meeting on Thursday, March 18, 2010, 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, Carole Bernstein, Jeffrey DeVolder and Shelley Wieler. Also in attendance were Superintendent Judith Evans, Assistant Superintendent David Verdolino and Medway Federation of Teachers Representatives Michael Regan. Student Advisory Council Representative Amanda Presswood was also present.

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

Ms. Borgatti called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m., noting that all members were present, except Debora Trindade.

**B. APPROVAL OF WARRANTS** - The warrants were being delivered for committee signature.

**C. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** – None.

**D. REPORT OF STUDENTS**

- **High School Student Report: Forensics Class** – Mr. Pearson introduced Ms. Pereira and high school students from the forensics class who gave a brief report and demonstration on a high school forensics course.

Amanda Presswood reported:

- Junior seminars have started at the high school.
- There is an upcoming parent information night at which two colleges will be represented and former students will speak about college life.
- High school announcements are now posted on the school's website.

**E. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

It was moved by Ms. Wieler, seconded by Ms. Bernstein, to approve the minutes of the **Public Hearing on March 4, 2010**, as amended. All voted in favor.

It was moved by Mr. DeVolder, seconded by Ms. Wieler, to approve the minutes of **March 4, 2010**, as amended. All voted in favor.

**F. ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE**

**1. Report of the Superintendent**

- **Report on Special Education** – Director of Student Services Lauren Fain gave a report on the status of special education costs which included: number of students, in-house programs, ancillary services, professional staffing levels, paraprofessional staffing levels, home-based services, consultation services, and out-of-district tuition and transportation.

## **G. REPORTS OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Ms. Bernstein reported she attended a recent Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee joint meeting which the CIPC attended and the issue of doors and computers for the schools was discussed. She noted the Board of Selectmen were waiting for recommendations of where the Town's free cash should be spent. Ms. Bernstein also reported she attended a recent Board of Selectmen meeting at which items discussed included the town-wide facilities management study and the town administrator's proposed FY2011 budget. Ms. Bernstein also noted that the Tri-County was requesting a budget increase.

Ms. Wieler noted that the Policy Subcommittee should look into a bullying policy for the district in light of the recent legislation. It was noted that a bullying policy was enhance the current harassment policy. Ms Wieler also noted she attended a recent Middle School Building Committee meeting at which items discussed included choosing a designer and facilities engineer.

## **H. ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE - continued**

### **1. Report of the Chairman – Ms. Borgatti noted the following:**

- The Community Education Department spring brochure is now available.
- The After-Prom Committee is still looking for volunteers.
- She attended a recent event at which Governor Patrick announced he wanted to fully fund Chapter 70 funds.
- She attended a recent meeting with Dr. Evans, Suzanne Kennedy and Anthony Espinosa at which school parking lot issues were discussed and a future joint meeting would be planned to discuss the division of responsibility.
- The Budget Subcommittee is working on a budget impact statement.

### **2. Report of the Superintendent - Dr. Evans reported:**

- Ms. Downing's middle school class placed a southern colony display in the school committee room for everyone to view.
- Committee members had a copy of an article by Instructional Coach Mette Schwartz published in the February issue of *Learning & Leading with Technology*.
- Committee members had a invitation from the Town of Medway's Affordable Housing Committee for a bus tour scheduled for May 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Committee members received a copy of the FY2010 Budget Status by DOE Functional Category from Mr. Verdolino.
- Committee members received two additional pages for the FY2011 budget book.

▪ **Update on Elementary School Reconfiguration – Mr. Verdolino** gave a brief review of his memorandum on the elementary grade configuration study group, noting the committee's task, why the study is being done, what the research says, what are the key questions and the next steps.

**I. DISCUSSION ITEMS** – None.

**J. ACTION ITEMS**

**1. For Consideration: Approval of Dean of Academics and Activities**

**Job Description** – Ms. Borgatti noted this job description was presented at the March 4<sup>th</sup> school committee meeting. Since this is a newly created position, the job description needed school committee approval.

After a brief discussion, it was moved by Mr. DeVolder, seconded by Ms. Bernstein, that the school committee approve the Dean of Academics and Activities job description, as recommended by the superintendent. All voted in favor.

**2. For Consideration: Approval of Student Services Job Description –**

Ms. Borgatti noted this job description was presented at the March 4<sup>th</sup> school committee meeting. Since this is a newly created position, the job description needed school committee approval.

After a brief discussion, it was moved by Ms. Bernstein, seconded by Mr. DeVolder, that the school committee approve the Dean of Student Services job description, as recommended by the superintendent. All voted in favor.

**3. Other** – None.

**J. INFORMATION and COMMUNICATIONS** - Ms. Borgatti noted various information items in committee members' packets.

Ms. Wieler noted that the McGovern School Council minutes referenced appreciation for working thermostats and heaters in every classroom.

**K. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- **April 1, at 6:30 p.m., Mr. Boucher would be giving a First Class training session for committee members**
- **Report on Community Education Department**
- **Instructional Coaches Model Report: April 15**

**M. NEXT MEETING** – The next regular school committee meeting will be Thursday, April 1, 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.

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

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

**O. ADJOURNMENT**

At 9:20 p.m., upon approval of the motion, the school committee adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol A. Villa  
Secretary

Approved: **April 1, 2010**