

**Medway School Committee
Minutes
April 15, 2010**

The Medway School Committee held a meeting on Thursday, April 15, 2010, at 6:30 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.

A. CALL TO ORDER

1. Roll Call

B. ADJOURNMENT TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

It was moved by Ms. Wieler, seconded by Mr. DeVolder, to adjourn to executive session for the purpose of discussing contract negotiations, with the understanding that the committee would be returning to public session at approximately 7:00 p.m. A roll call vote was taken. Voting in favor: Ms. Borgatti, Ms. Trindade, Ms. Bernstein, Mr. DeVolder, and Ms. Wieler. Voting opposed: none.

C. RECONVENCE IN PUBLIC SESSION

The Medway School Committee reconvened at 7:20 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.

D. APPROVAL OF WARRANTS - The warrants were reviewed and signed.

E. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – Officer Grimes summarized events and findings of a police investigation of a potentially threatening nature to the high school. Officer Grimes stated he was confident there was no danger to the school and its students.

Residents Kristin Kirby of 5 Pine Street and Gail Fedele of 14 Puddingstone Lane expressed concern regarding rumors about the Camp Sunshine program and the End of Year Special Education Services program. They were encouraged to contact the superintendent to discuss their concerns.

F. DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Report on Instructional Coaching Model – The superintendent noted that instructional coaches are teachers supporting other teachers in the delivery of curriculum instruction and assessments. She introduced instructional coaches Joseph Parkhurst, Christine Baldiga, Michele Mullen and Mette Schwartz. Mr. Parkhurst stated that the instructional coaches' primary purpose is the responsibility for supporting improved instructional practices and student achievement in core content areas by facilitating professional learning communities

G. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Ms. Bernstein, seconded by Mr. DeVolder, to approve the minutes of **April 1, 2010**, as amended. All voted in favor.

H. REPORT OF STUDENTS

James Davock reported:

- Student seminars on banking basics and college interviewing basics took place.
- A college fair was held on April 14th and 15th.
- The Trane solar project event was awesome.
- Project Green is hosting Earth Week at the high school.

I. REPORTS OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Ms. Wieler reported she attended a recent Medway Cable Access meeting at which replacement of school technology was discussed. She also reported that the 300th Anniversary Committee discussed how the schools and Medway Cable Access could get involved in producing a video history or other possible projects. She noted that the Medway Secondary Home & School Association supports grades 5-12 through the ski trips, the sixth grade environmental trip, teacher appreciation events, and After-Prom Party planning and has raised over \$275,000 the past few years, which has gone right back onto the school community. She also noted the fundraiser for the girls hockey team was a successful event.

Ms. Trindade reported she attend two recent CIPC meetings at which revisions to some recommendations on the town's available cash were made. She noted the school department has FY11 CIPC funding for inside door replacements. She noted that the Center Street parking lot is still an open issue for discussion. Ms. Trindade also reported that the Health Advisory Committee is reviewing the implementation of the new Wellness Policy by updating student handbooks and educating parents. The Health Advisory Committee is also reviewing the Life Threatening Allergies Policy and is working with the Youth Substance Abuse Committee.

Ms. Wieler also reported the Middle School Building Committee is moving forward and reviewing applicants of architects for the design project. She also noted that she and Ms. Trindade have been reviewing the district's draft Cyberbullying Policy.

Ms. Bernstein reported she attend a recent Finance Committee meeting at which the school department budget was discussed.

J. ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE

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

- The Trane solar panel ceremony attended by Governor Patrick celebrating Medway going green was an extraordinary event.
- The After Prom Committee is still looking for volunteers.
- There will be an affordable housing bus tour on May 1st sponsored by the Medway Housing Authority.

- The School Committee presented its FY11 budget to the Finance Committee on April 14th.
- She encouraged community members to attend the June 14th Annual Town Meeting.
- There are three DPS proposals for the Center Street parking lot repair. A follow-up meeting will be held on April 29th to discuss options.

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

- Mr. Verdolino did an outstanding job on the Trane solar panel ceremony.
- Candidate selections have been made for the two new high school dean positions.
- The job search for the new middle school principal is near the end of the process.
- The vacancy for the middle school assistant principal will be posted this week.

J. DISCUSSION - continued

1. Student Athletic Fees – Ms. Borgatti noted that the Student Athletic Fees Policy (Policy #15) requires the school committee to set the interscholastic fees and family cap no later than the last school committee meeting in June. This item will come before the committee at the next meeting as a second reading and possible vote.

2. Fee Structure for After School Activities – Ms. Borgatti noted that the Fee Structure for After School Activities Policy (Policy #71) requires the school committee to review the student fees on an annual basis. This item will come before the committee at the next meeting as a second reading and possible vote.

Dr. Evans stated that the FY11 budget was developed with athletic fees and student activity fees remaining the same level as FY10. The superintendent recommends keeping these fees the same for the 2010-2011 school year.

3. School Committee Goals – Ms. Borgatti noted that improved communication has been a goal of the school committee this year. It was the consensus of the school committee to set a workshop meeting to discuss the development of a survey in order to solicit feedback and ideas from school stakeholders about the district.

4. Other – Mr. Verdolino gave a brief update on the status of the middle school solar panel project.

K. ACTION ITEMS

1. For Consideration: Approval of a Third Assistant Spring Track Team and Coach for the 2009-2010 School Year – Ms. Borgatti noted that Mr. Pearl is requesting the addition of a third assistant spring track team and coach to due the a large enrollment in the program.

After discussion, it was moved by Ms. Wieler, seconded by Ms. Bernstein, that the school committee approve the addition of a third assistant spring track team and coach, at a stipend of \$1,800.00 for the 2009-2010 school year only, with the understanding that the district will *not* assume any cost for this sport. All voted in favor.

2. For Consideration: Middle School Time and Learning Designation for FY2011 – Ms. Borgatti noted that Ms. Senier-LaBarre’s is recommending that the district designate the Medway Middle School as an elementary facility for the 2010-2011 school year when reporting compliance with time and learning regulations.

After discussion, it was moved by Ms. Trindade, seconded by Mr. DeVolder, that the school committee designate the Medway Middle School as an elementary facility for the 2010-2011 school year when reporting compliance with Time and Learning regulations, as recommended by the superintendent. All voted in favor.

3. Set School Choice Enrollment Capacity for the 2010-2011 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.” A School Choice Analysis was available for committee review.

Dr. Evans noted that the number of seats available is an estimate and the suggested number is an attempt to provide enough seats to generate additional revenue while trying to be sensitive to the issue of class size.

After discussion, it was moved by Ms. Bernstein, seconded by Ms. Trindade, that the school committee establish its school choice capacity for the 2010-2010 school year, as recommended by the superintendent in the School Choice Analysis, dated April 2010; 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.

4. Other – None.

L. INFORMATION and COMMUNICATIONS - Ms. Borgatti noted various information items in committee members’ packets.

M. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Superintendent’s Evaluation
- Report on Special Education Summer Extended Year Services Program (May 6)
- Middle School Solar Panel Project Update

Finance Committee Liaison Paul Marble noted there was an upcoming Finance Committee Meeting on April 28th for the warrant and the Finance Committee would like members of the school committee to attend to answer questions.

N. NEXT MEETING – The next regular school committee meeting will be Thursday, May 6, 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.

ON. ADJOURNMENT

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

Respectfully submitted,

Carol A. Villa
Secretary

Approved: **May 6, 2010**