

**Medway School Committee
Minutes
January 19, 2012**

The Medway School Committee held a meeting on Thursday, January 19, 2012, at 7:00 p.m., in the School Committee Room, Medway Middle School, 45 Holliston Street, Medway. School Committee members in attendance included Chairperson Jeff DeVolder, Vice Chairperson Carole Bernstein, Diane Borgatti, Cynthia Sullivan and Debora Trindade. Also in attendance were Superintendent Judith Evans, Assistant Superintendent David Verdolino, and Medway Federation of Teachers Representative Megan Boland.

A. CALL TO ORDER

1. Roll Call

Mr. DeVolder called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m., noting that all members were present

B. APPROVAL OF WARRANTS

The warrants were signed by committee members.

C. PRESENTATIONS – None.

D. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

1. Public Comments – None.

2. Liaison Reports – None.

E. REPORT OF STUDENTS – None.

F. ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE

1. Chairman Update – None.

2. Superintendent Update

The superintendent reported she and Mr. Verdolino attended the recent legislative breakfast, which was well attended by area Representatives. Discussion was held on FY13 budget projections and the Governor's budget was due out at the end of January.

The superintendent reported the professional development day held on January 13 was planned and taught by the district administrators. The superintendent also reported she attended the New Teacher Support Program workshop today.

3. Assistant Superintendent Update

Mr. Verdolino reported that the financial statements in MUNIS format may be ready at the next school committee meeting. He also reported he was working on an RFP for preventative maintenance service; he was working on the FY13 proposed budget; he has been attending Middle School Building Committee meetings.

Mr. DeVolder asked about the Outside Facilities/Hanlon Field fund and the goal to save \$10,000 per year for repairs. Mr. Verdolino reported he was working to save the maximum in the fund for replacement of the turf, as needed. Mr. Verdolino requested that the Outside Facilities Account be renamed to the Hanlon Field Fund and the money in that account be used solely for field repairs unless otherwise directed by the school committee. It was the consensus of the committee to do this.

G. REPORTS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Special Education: Expenses and Personnel – Ms. Kathleen Bernklow presented a brief presentation on proposed new positions: assistant director of student services and two special education evaluation team supervisors. This is a new model for special education team leaders. Ms. Bernklow briefly reviewed the challenges of the current model, how the new model would differ from the present model, and the major responsibilities, qualifications and terms of employment for this new position.

H. ACTION ITEMS

1. Set Early Childhood Tuition Rate – Dr. Evans stated that there was a need to reconfigure the early childhood program. Ms. Luizzi gave a brief explanation of the proposed changes to the schedule.

After discussion, it was moved by Ms. Bernstein, seconded by Ms. Borgatti, that the school committee change the configuration of the early childhood program, effective for the 2012-2013 school year, to five half days only, with one morning session from 9:00 a.m. to 11:15 a.m., and one afternoon session from 12:00 p.m. to 2:15 p.m., with a tuition rate for the early childhood program of \$3,250 per year, as recommended by the superintendent. All voted in favor.

2. Set Kindergarten Full-Day Tuition Rate – Mr. DeVolder stated that the superintendent is recommending an increase in the kindergarten full-day tuition rate for the 2012-2013 school year. Ms. Luizzi briefly explained the differences between the current kindergarten model and the new proposed model.

After discussion, it was moved by Ms. Sullivan, seconded by Ms. Borgatti, that the school committee change the configuration of the kindergarten program, effective for the 2012-2013 school year, to the following: a morning session from 9:00 a.m. to 11:40 am.; an afternoon session from 12:20 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.; and a full-day tuition funded program, with a tuition rate for the full-day program of \$3,475 per year, as recommended by the superintendent. All voted in favor.

3. Set Kindergarten Tuition and Athletic Fee Reduced Rate – Mr. DeVolder stated that, as outlined in School Committee Policy #66, the school committee must each year establish reduced tuition rates for the full-day tuition-funded kindergarten program, the early childhood tuition program, and athletic fee rate for students who are eligible for free or reduced lunch. The superintendent is recommending a reduction of 80% which is consistent with free and reduced lunch guidelines and past practice.

After discussion, it was moved by Ms. Bernstein, seconded by Ms. Borgatti, that the school committee set the reduced kindergarten tuition rate, the reduced early childhood tuition rate, and the reduced athletic fee rate for students who are eligible for free or reduced lunch at an 80% reduction from the full cost of these programs, for the 2012-2013 school year, as recommended by the superintendent. All voted in favor.

I. ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE - continued

• Interim Report on District Goals

The superintendent presented a mid-year update on the 2011-2012 District Improvement Plan and Goals. Dr. Evans briefly discussed where the district is in meeting each goal, which ones are on target, and which the district may not meet on time and why.

1. Committee Members' Updates

Ms. Sullivan reported she attended a recent Middle School Building Project meeting.

Ms. Borgatti reported she attended a recent Energy Committee meeting and a SPED PAC presentation of assistive technology.

Ms. Trindade reported she attended a recent Budget Advisory Committee meeting.

J. REPORTS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS – continued

1. **FY13 Budget** – None.
2. **Other** – None.

K. ACTION ITEMS - continued

1. For Consideration: Approval of 2012-2013 School Year Calendar – Mr. DeVolder noted the calendar was reviewed as a first reading at the January 5th meeting. There was a change in the start date from August 27 to August 28, thereby making the last day June 18, not June 17.

After a brief discussion, it was moved by Ms. Borgatti, seconded by Ms. Sullivan, that the school committee adopt the 2012-2013 school year calendar, as recommended by the superintendent. All voted in favor.

2. For Consideration: Approval of Athletic Concussion Policy – Mr. DeVolder stated that this policy comes before the committee as a first reading and for approval as the district is under time constraints.

After a brief discussion, it was moved by Ms. Sullivan, seconded by Ms. Borgatti, that the school committee approve the Athletic Concussion Policy, as recommended by the superintendent. All voted in favor.

3. **Other** – None.

L. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Ms. Bernstein, seconded by Ms. Borgatti, to approve the minutes of **January 5, 2012**, as amended. All voted in favor.

M. INFORMATION ITEMS and COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. DeVolder noted there were various information items in committee members' packets.

N. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- **Student Presentation: Middle School Science Fair Winners**
- **High School Program of Studies**
- **Vote on Proposed Budget Submission to Town Administrator**

- **MAPS Assessment**

O. NEXT MEETING – The next regular meeting will be in the School Committee Room (across the corridor from the Superintendent’s Office), Medway Middle School, 45 Holliston Street, Medway on **Thursday, February 2, 2012, at 7:00 p.m.**

There will also be a School Committee Forum on “What It Takes to Become a School Committee Member” on Thursday, February 2, 2012, from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., prior to the scheduled regular meeting, in the Superintendent’s Conference Room, Medway Middle School, 45 Holliston Street, Medway.

P. ADJOURNMENT

At approximately 8:30 p.m., it was moved by Ms. Bernstein, seconded by Ms. Borgatti, to adjourn. All voted in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol A. Villa
Secretary

Approved: _____