

The regular meeting of the School Board was held on Tuesday, April 14, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

School Board members present were:

Patricia Brigham, Chair  
Linda Winker, Vice-Chair  
Karen Burke  
Peter Cotter  
Rebecca Millett  
Kathy Ray  
Mary Townsend

Alan H. Hawkins, Superintendent of Schools

Unable to attend: Student Representatives, Sara Friedman and Andrew Pezzullo

Chairperson Patricia Brigham called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**1. Adjustments to Agenda – ADD: 7g and 7h, Board letters to Commissioner Gendron**

**2. Approval of School Board Minutes-**

- a) **Regular meeting, Tuesday, March 10, 2009** - Ms. Winker made a motion that the minutes for the meeting be approved. Mr. Cotter seconded. (Approved 7-0)
- b) **Special meeting, Tuesday, March 24, 2009** - Ms. Burke made a motion that the minutes for the meeting be approved. Mr. Cotter seconded. (Approved 7-0)
- c) **Special meeting, Monday, April 6, 2009** - Ms. Ray made a motion that the minutes for the meeting be approved. Ms. Winker seconded. (Approved 7-0)

**3. Comments from Student Representatives –** Middle School representative, Lee Foden spoke briefly on items of interest.

**4. Comments from Public On Non-Agenda Items –**

*Dwight Ely* requested to speak at the end of the meeting.

*David Hillman* spoke briefly regarding his willingness to support a 0.6% school budget.

**5. RECOGNITION**

- a. **Middle School Drama Club performance –** Steve Price thanked the Board for the recognition and spoke briefly about what a positive experience this was for all involved.
- b. **AP Government Trip –** Principal Shedd spoke briefly about this trip involving approximately 30 students.
- c. **State Jazz Festival –** Principal Shedd congratulated all for excellent performances.

**6. COMMUNICATIONS**

- a. **Retirement –** Superintendent Hawkins reported that Ellen Brady, district English Language Learners teacher, plans to retire at the end of the 2008-09 school year.
- b. **Budget Update –** Superintendent Hawkins reported briefly on the Town Council public budget hearing held on April 13.
- c. **Insurance Committee –** Ms. Brigham reported on the pending formation of a town-wide committee to look at health care coverage and benefits offered to municipal and school employees. Once approved by the Town Council, the make-up of this committee will include one School Board member. Mary Townsend volunteered to be the Board's representative.

- d. **Community Services' presentation to Finance Committees** – Ms. Ray reported that she and the Town Council Finance Chair recently met with Janet Hoskins to review Town and School Community Services related items.
- e. **Laptop/computer/Stimulus Update**– Superintendent Hawkins summarized that day's conference call between Superintendents and Commissioner Gendron. Call topics included updates on the stimulus package, MLTI for High Schools, revenue forecast, and Taiwan opportunities. State economic forecasting figures are due in the coming weeks and could further impact school year funding.

## 7. **NEW BUSINESS**

- a. **Consideration and action to approve High School athletic fee position** – Superintendent Hawkins recommended approval of the following High School athletic fee position.
 

Billy Brown –Assistant Tennis

Ms. Millett made a motion for approval. Ms. Winker seconded. (Approved 7-0)
- b. **Consideration to approve proposed school calendar for 2009-10 as presented** – Principal Casey provided a brief overview of the calendar development and review process by the DLT and staff. First student day proposed to be on September 1. Teachers will begin August 25. Ms. Burke expressed that it would be nice to have teacher days grouped at the end of the year, in addition to those set aside at the beginning of the year. *Board tabled approval until May 2009 meeting.*
- c. **Consideration of proposal from CEHS teacher Lisa Melanson to lead an EF Educational Tour to Europe during April vacation 2010** – Lisa Melanson briefly described trip proposal and educational benefits. Trip will be offered to all students in grades 9-12. Ms. Millett made a motion for approval. Ms. Townsend seconded. (Approved 7-0)
- d. **Consideration of the following policies for second reading** –
  - KI: Visitors to School
  - KLD: Public Complaints about School Personnel

*- Board tabled approval until May 2009 meeting*
- e. **Consideration of the proposed Superintendent's Evaluation document** - Ms. Winker briefly reviewed the document's development through the Human Resources Committee. Ms. Millett and Ms. Burke expressed concerns over the proposed evaluation timeline. Mr. Cotter made a motion for approval of Superintendent's evaluation document as presented. Ms. Ray seconded. (Approved 5-2; Millett, Burke)
- f. **Consideration to approve the Science Curriculum learning goals as presented to the School Board at the March 24, 2009 workshop** - Ms. Millett made a motion for approval. Ms. Ray seconded. (Approved 7-0)
- g. **Consideration to approve School Board letter to Commissioner Gendron regarding the ED279/GPA funding** – Ms. Ray made a motion for approval. Ms. Townsend seconded. (Approved 7-0)
- h. **Consideration to submit the School Board letter on the laptop program to Commissioner Gendron, at the discretion of the Superintendent**– Ms. Millett made a motion for approval. Ms. Burke seconded. (Approved 7-0)

**8. Committee Reports** – Ms. Brigham announced the committee meeting agendas and dates are posted on the web site.

**CEEF** – Ms. Burke reported that more than 18 grant proposals were submitted and results will be posted on the CEEF web site. Targeted giving is now a donation option. There will be a CEEF ‘Pasta with a Purpose’ dinner and grant celebration on Saturday, May 30 in the MS Cafetorium from 5:30 to 7:30 pm.

**Teaching and Learning** - Ms. Burke reported that the committee held its first meeting on April 9 to discuss objectives and goals. Minutes would be available on the school web site.

**Sports Done Right** – Ms. Burke reported that an Accreditation visit would take place on Tuesday, May 5 from 9am-12pm. She thanked former and current committee representatives for their time and effort.

**Human Resources** – Ms. Winker reported that there would be a committee meeting on May 14. Board self-evaluation will be on the agenda.

**Alternative Energy** – Ms. Ray reported on the March 25<sup>th</sup> meeting. Comprehensive energy audit information was distributed.

**Communications** - Ms. Townsend reported that a meeting was scheduled for April 28 at 2 pm. Web site design would be one of the agenda items.

**9. Public Comment on Agenda Items** – Dwight Ely, CEHS teacher and CEEA president, read from a prepared statement he titled, *‘the train wreck has already left the station’*. *Staff cannot be expected to subsidize schools while the community debate continues on how best to sustain expectations for schools.*

**10. School Board Agenda Requests** – None

**11. Announcements of Upcoming Meetings** – Ms. Brigham announced the committee meeting dates are posted on the web site.

- **Communications - April 28 at 2 p.m. in Technology Conf Room (Town Hall)**
- **Teaching and Learning - May 7 at 11:30 a.m. in Superintendent’s Office**
- **Human Resources Committee** –Tuesday, May 14 at 8 am in the Jordan Conf Room.
- **Policy Committee** –Wednesday, April 15 at 12:15 pm in the Jordan Conf Room.
- **Finance Committee** – Tuesday, April 28 at 7:00 p.m. in the High School Library.
- **School Board Meetings** –Workshop: Tuesday, April 28, 2009 at 7:30 p.m. in the HS Library; next Regular Meeting: Tuesday, May 12 at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers.

**12. Adjournment** – Mr. Winker made a motion for approval. Ms. Ray seconded. (Approved 7-0) The meeting was adjourned at 9:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Alan H. Hawkins  
Superintendent of Schools