

**MAYNARD PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
MINUTES OF SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING  
FOWLER SCHOOL LIBRARY  
MAY 1, 2014**

Present: Amy Rebecca Gay, William Kohlman, Justin Hemm, Ken Estabrook, Ed Mullin  
Administrators: Robert J. Gerardi, Jr., Superintendent, Peter DiCicco, Business Advisor

Meeting called to order at 6:45 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned to executive session by roll call vote at 6:47 p.m. with the intent to return to open session.

Executive Session Meeting adjourned at 7: 05 p.m. to open session.

Present: Amy Rebecca Gay, William Kohlman, Justin Hemm (left 7:25 pm), Ken Estabrook, Ed Mullin  
Administrators: Robert J. Gerardi, Jr., Superintendent, Peter DiCicco, Business Advisor

Regular Session Meeting called to order at 7:10 p.m.

Minutes

A motion was made by Mr. Kohlman to accept the minutes of April 10, 2014 with amendments. Second by Mr. Estabrook. Motion passed.

Chairman's Report

Dr. Gay mentioned that some items on this agenda might be taken out of order.

Maynard Cultural Council Invitation

None

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Gerardi visited five cities and three schools in China over April vacation. This trip was at no cost to the Maynard Public Schools. Dr. Gerardi will share his presentation on China later.

Dr. Gerardi congratulated Bob Kinch, the Food Service Director, on being a part of a special round table discussion hosted by the US Department of Agriculture's Food and Nutrition Service and the Mass Department of Elementary and Secondary Education on May 12. The Food Services Department in Maynard is one of five districts in Massachusetts to start a Boat to School initiative.

Bus Fees

The Committee discussed whether to raise the fees on busing. The District increased the fees in both the 2011/12 and 2013/14 school years. We could also increase the fee minimally each year, in alignment with the increase in the cost in the bus contract, or by the percent of the CPI for inflation each year, which would keep the fees in pace with inflationary costs for the service and be a minimal but annual increase.

A motion was made by Mr. Estabrook to increase the bus fees from \$250 to \$260 for the first child and from \$310 to \$315 for the second and beyond. Second by Mr. Kohlman.  
Motion passed. Registration will start on May 19.

### School Choice Participation 2013/2014

Annually, the School Committee must approve school choice participation to allow students from other communities to tuition into the district on a space available basis.

A motion was made by Mr. Estabrook to approve the school choice program on a space available basis up to the principal's decision on class size. Second by Mr. Hemm. Motion passed 5-0.

### Citizen's Comments

- The Fowler Band Concert is May 22. The Committee is invited to attend at 7:00 p.m.
- What are the patterns on school choice? Have we made progression over the years?
- There was a question on class size; some of the honors programs were over 25 students.

### Override Discussion

Dr. Gay requested that the override discussion be put on every agenda. Even though we will not have an override this year, the Committee is uncomfortable with the items put on the tally sheet. She would like further community discussions

1. Should a trigger (i.e., specific ratio of request to actual or projected revenue) start the override discussion?
2. Should a long-range plan be developed where an override discussion would take place every 3 to 5 years?

### FY15 Budget

These were talking points around the FY15 budget:

- The most recent tally sheet reflected changes because of the last meeting and added all of the potential vertical sports reductions to the chart.
- The Committee was given information from the Music Department.
- Dr. Gerardi discussed some of the highlights from the Music Departments reports.
- Ms. Lilley discussed the middle school choral program and has 60 students after school through FASC one day per week to give them chorus.
- Dr. Gay stated we are currently in negotiations with all four unions.

### Citizens Comments

Can there be consideration for a late bus?

Students can get academic extra help after school with a late bus.

### Members Comments/Questions

Mr. Mullin attended the track meet this afternoon.

Mr. Estabrook would like consideration on two-runs; an afternoon High School bus and a later one in the afternoon after sports.

Mr. Estabrook would like a discussion with DPW about keeping open walking paths for children in the winter. Please invite them to the next meeting?

A motion was made by Mr. Kohlman to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 p.m. without the intent to enter into Executive Session. Second by Mr. Estabrook.

Respectfully submitted,

Colleen Moore

Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent