

**MAYNARD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
COOLIDGE SCHOOL CONFERENCE ROOM
JANUARY 5, 2012**

Present: Amy Rebecca Gay, William Kohlman, Phil Berry, Ken Estabrook, Ed Mullin
Administrators: Dr. Robert Gerardi

Meeting called to order at 7:02 p.m.

Minutes

Motion was made by Mr. Kohlman to accept the minutes of December 15, 2011. 2nd by Mr. Estabrook. Motion passed unanimously. Mrs. Gay abstained.
Amy abstained.

Chairperson Report

Mrs. Gay reported on the upcoming visit on January 11 to Holliston Public Schools for a tour of their Immersion Montessori and French and Spanish Program. Mr. Estabrook and Mrs. Gay are unable to attend. If another member can attend, please let Dr. Gerardi know.

The School Committee will review the presentation they will give to the Board of Selectmen tonight hoping to increase communication and transparency to the Board.

Visitors to this evening meeting are: Marc DeCastro; resident and parent. Rob Horn, Chairman of the Capital Planning Committee to give a brief update of last night's budget meeting. Chris Fleming 6th grade Math Teacher and Katie Krasinski 3rd grade teacher; both are taking a course on administration.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Gerardi mentioned the up-coming Holliston visit and noted that he would like School Committee members to attend because an immersion program could be an initiative that could help us with the Challenge of Choice that we face in Maynard.

Dr. Gerardi commented that in his weekly Superintendent's Note, he was contacted by a parent who works for the FAA Aviation & Space Education (AVSED) program and is committed to STEM. They partner with the Real World Design Challenge program where students compete on a national level to solve a real world issue for leading industries.

Dr. Gerardi also attended the January 4, 2012 Board of Selectmen Budget Sub-Committee meeting where there was a presentation by the Capital Planning Committee. Dr. Gerardi asked Rob Horn to attend the School Committee meeting tonight.

Rob Horn of the Capital Needs Planning Committee came to inform the School Committee of the process that the committee goes through. He presented a list of capital items from all Town Departments and their ranking and current status.

He also reviewed the form that departments may put in their requests with definitions of categories. Things are getting fixed and in advance versus five years ago. I.e., our Water Tanks are going to be fixed before they leak and crack at a cost of close to One Million Dollars. Capital request are due January 20, 2012. After the departments submit, they are ranked and then are looked at for available resources to see what can be done.

Citizens Comments

Mark DeCastro, a parent has some concern about the number of early release days and had a concern about the January Professional Dev Days falling after a holiday. This is a concern for working parents. The Committee thanked Mr. DeCastro will look into it.

FY13 Budget

The Board of Selectmen agreed to the School Committee making 2 presentations at future BOS meetings. Those meetings will be January 17 and February 7, 2012. A Power Point presentation has been worked on to get the School Committee approval so the budget subcommittee can present to the BOS. After much discussion, the "Challenge of Choice" Presentation was decided on to present Mr. Estabrook and Mrs. Gay will look further at the presentation slides.

Policy 645 2nd Reading

Motion by Mr. Kohlman to approve Policy #645; Pregnant Students. 2nd by Mr. Estabrook. Motion passed unanimously.

Members Questions

Mr. Kohlman presented some enrollment numbers and projections that included 22 years of enrollment – citing different trends

Mr. Berry stated that Chinese Exchange students will be coming in late January and the District has host families, so the program can go forward.

A motion was made by Mr. Kohlman to adjourn the meeting at 8:50. p.m. by roll call vote to enter into Executive Session for the purposes of Negotiations. 2nd by Mr. Estabrook.

Respectfully submitted,

Colleen Moore
Administrative Assistant
to the Superintendent of Schools