

**Minutes of School Committee Meeting 01/29/09**

A regular meeting of the Barrington School Committee was held on Thursday, January 29, 2009 at the Administration Office. Mr. Hasenfus called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m. Present were Mr. Hasenfus, Dr. Shea, Mrs. Oberg, Dr. Flanagan, Dr. McIntyre, Dr. Calise and Mr. Tarro. Mr. Guida was absent.

Dr. Flanagan led the Committee in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**Achievement Recognition**

Dr. McIntyre extended congratulations to the staff, administrators, parents and students for the outstanding scores on the NECAP tests.

Dr. McIntyre reported that some of our Hampden Meadows students competed in the National online Current Events competition (two 5<sup>th</sup> grades and one 4<sup>th</sup> grade) and one of the 5<sup>th</sup> grade teams finished 3<sup>rd</sup> nationally for their grade level. The students were: Kevin Coogan, Ethan Wold and Caroline Louttit. He also expressed his appreciation to the Hampden Meadows PTO parents for their support in this effort.

Mr. Hasenfus noted that he spoke at the recent Professional Development Day and sent an email to the entire staff commending them for their outstanding efforts in helping to achieve the excellent NECAP tests scores.

**Approval of Minutes**

**Mrs. Oberg moved and Dr. Shea seconded to approve the minutes of the regular School Committee meeting of 01/08/09 as written. The motion passed 4-0.**

**Mrs. Oberg moved and Dr. Shea seconded to approve the minutes of the regular School Committee meeting of 01/15/09 as written. The motion passed 4-0.**

**Approval of Financials**

No financials were available for approval this evening.

**Information and Proposals**

Mr. Hasenfus read the following statement:

“It is our unhappy task to act tonight on the recommendation of the Superintendent regarding the non-renewal of the contracts of a substantial number of non-tenured teachers. A few words are in order prior to undertaking this matter.

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Under Rhode Island law, non-tenured teachers whose services will not be required for the following school year must be notified of that fact on or before March 1. In the absence of notice before March 1, a teacher's contract is automatically renewed. Obviously, as a Committee, we do not know with any certainty in January the extent to which lack of funding will necessitate curtailment of programs and staff during the next fiscal year. This is a problem in the best of times. In these times of extreme financial uncertainty, the problem is correspondingly more difficult.

Certainly, we owe a duty to the taxpayers to act in such a manner as will insure maximum flexibility to respond to cuts in state and local funding, should they occur. For this reason, we will have to give notice to all teachers whose services may conceivably not be required next year. We are hopeful, as we have advised the teachers involved, that a substantial number of them will end up teaching for us, but we must err on the side of caution.

Under the "Teachers' Tenure" statute, a teacher who is notified that his or her contract will not be renewed may request a statement of cause for non-renewal. This Committee will respond to such requests, of course, at the appropriate time. Thereafter, the teacher may, if he or she desires, request a hearing before the full Committee in accordance with Section 16-13-4 of the statute.

We will now proceed. The Superintendent has recommended that the contracts of forty-five (45) teachers (list attached and made a part of the minutes of the meeting) not be renewed for the 2009-2010 school year and that they be so notified.”

Following Dr. McIntyre’s explanation regarding the process used in notifying teachers in response to a question from Dr. Flanagan:

**Mrs. Oberg moved and Dr. Shea seconded that we adopt the recommendation of the Superintendent and that the Superintendent be directed to notify the 45 (forty –five) teachers named that their contracts will not be renewed for the 2009 – 2010 school year. The motion passed 4-0.**

Mr. Hasenfus briefly summarized the budget process for the benefit of the audience. Dr. McIntyre noted that all Committee members were provided with a draft budget which represents the maximum cap increase of 4.75% and does not include any additional positions. Dr. McIntyre indicated that administration feels that the district can maintain all current positions presently in the district and still deliver the same services with this budget. The meeting was then turned over to Mr. Tarro who guided the Committee through the budget and explained the new format. Much discussion took place as Committee members and the audience asked questions to verify aspects of the draft budget document. Dr. McIntyre commended Mr. Tarro for the outstanding job he did in preparing the draft budget. The Committee will review the draft budget and will discuss it at the Budget Workshop on February 5<sup>th</sup>.

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General Public Discussion and Information**

No issues were raised at this time.

**Old Business from Superintendent and Staff**

Dr. McIntyre confirmed the upcoming meeting with Mr. Gary Sasse on Saturday, February 7<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m. in the Barrington Middle School presentation room.

**Old Business from School Committee**

No School Committee policies were discussed this evening.

**New Business from Superintendent and Staff**

**Mrs. Oberg moved and Dr. Shea seconded to approve the recommendation of the Superintendent with respect to the appointment of Bryan Caswell, Assistant Coach Girls Basketball. The motion passed 4-0.**

**Dr. Shea moved and Dr. Flanagan seconded to approve the recommendation of the Superintendent with respect to the appointment of Caitlin Corlett, Cheerleading Advisor. The motion passed 3-0. Mrs. Oberg recused herself due to her affiliation with the YMCA where Ms. Corlett also works.**

**Mrs. Oberg moved and Dr. Shea seconded to approve the recommendation of the Superintendent with respect to the appointment of Emmett Donegan, Assistant Coach Boys Lacrosse. The motion passed 4-0.**

**Mrs. Oberg moved and Dr. Shea seconded to approve the recommendation of the Superintendent with respect to the resignation of Lee Ann Markowski, Junior Varsity Lacrosse Coach. The motion passed 4-0.**

**Mrs. Oberg moved and Dr. Shea seconded to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent with respect to the request for a leave of absence for Lisa Mendo, HS, Math. The motion passed 4-0.**

Following Mr. Tarro's explanation regarding his request for the Committee to reject all School Bus Bids:

**Mrs. Oberg moved and Dr. Shea seconded to accept the recommendation of Mr. Tarro to reject all School Bus Bids. The motion passed 4-0.**

**Mrs. Oberg moved and Dr. Shea seconded to approve the recommendation of the**

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**Superintendent with respect to the Request for Use of School Facilities by the US Census Bureau. The motion passed 4-0.**

**New Business from School Committee**

Dr. McIntyre and members of the Committee expressed their best wishes to John Lazzaro, a member of the Town Council, who recently had surgery.

Members of the Committee expressed their condolences to June Speakman, President of the Town Council, in the recent loss of her mother and requested that a plant be sent to her.

Mr. Hasenfus noted that he received two articles from Mr. James Tumber regarding underage drinking which he will forward to the central office to be copied and distributed to all School Committee members.

**Discussion of Future Agenda Topics**

Mrs. Oberg suggested that we include “Public Comment Regarding Breathalyzer Testing at the High School” which might aid the Committee in a broader based decision regarding this issue.

Dr. Flanagan requested the Committee be provided with information regarding the strategies used to incorporate technology into the curriculum and classrooms.

Mr. Hasenfus suggested topics be included that mesh with our strategic plan and the direction the district is taking to incorporate it into our strategic plan.

Dr. McIntyre briefly summarized steps taken with regard to a recent incident in which a child was approached as he was walking home from school.

**General Discussion to Guide Future Recommendations**

February 5<sup>th</sup>                      7:30 p.m.                      Budget Workshop

**General Public Discussion and Information**

No issues were raised at this time.

No Executive Session was necessary.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

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**RIF LIST 09 - 10**

1. Diane Aguiar-Boleates
2. Elizabeth Alexander
3. Daniel Amaral
4. Peter Ansel
5. Jason Appel
6. Maggy Bell
7. Anita Bench
8. Melissa Bento
9. Sasha Blake
10. Peter Blasi
11. Heidi Brousseau
12. Bryan Caswell
13. Carrie Clegg
14. Caroline Conaty
15. Andrea Correia
16. Joseph DaCosta
17. Anna DaSilva
18. Eliza Davis
19. Brian Dedentro
20. Karen DeSpirito
21. Elaine Dickervitz
22. Lisa DiPaola
23. Amanda Fonseca
24. Lynn Galvin
25. Kara Gelke
26. Allynn Grantham
27. Nicholasw Guadagno
28. Danamarie Ingram
29. Kendra Lenzire
30. Jeffrey Levesque
31. Helen Li
32. Catherine Liska-McBride
33. Amanda McCann
34. Jessica McDonnell
35. Megan Medeiros
36. Amy Nicodemus
37. Diana Ouellette
38. Samantha Palombo

**SCHOOL COMMITTEE  
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39. Erin Parker
40. Aubrie Pascale
41. Joseph Pirraglia
42. Teresa Smith
43. Stephanie Spaziano
44. Emily Vincent
45. Kristen White