

Minutes of School Committee Meeting 11/19/09

A regular meeting of the Barrington School Committee was held on Thursday, November 19, 2009 at the Administration Office. Mr. Hasenfus called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m. Present were Mr. Hasenfus, Dr. Shea, Mr. Guida, Mrs. Oberg, Dr. Flanagan, Mr. Tarro, Dr. Calise and Dr. McIntyre.

Mrs. Carroll Garland led the Committee in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Achievement Recognition

Dr. McIntyre expressed his appreciation to the Hampden Meadows staff and parents for the wonderful H1N1 vaccine clinic held last week. He also expressed his gratitude to Chief LaCross and the Barrington Police Department for all their help.

Dr. McIntyre was proud to announce that Cheryl Palombo, Special Education Teacher Assistant at Sowams School, was chosen NEARI's Educational Support Person of the Year for Rhode Island. He noted she will participate in the national competition in the spring and wished her well.

Dr. McIntyre noted that the boys football team made the playoffs in Division I State Football Championship and stated their first game is scheduled for the Tuesday after Thanksgiving at the High School.

Approval of Minutes

Mrs. Oberg moved and Mr. Guida seconded to approve the minutes of the regular School Committee meeting of 11/05/09 as written. Following the minutes being amended by Dr. Flanagan to include the words on the bottom of page 4 "the General Assembly" has made no decision regarding any and all binding arbitration legislation. The motion passed 5-0.

Approval of Financials

Upon review and discussion of the adjusted expenditures for July – September 2009 and the October 2009 financial reports:

Mrs. Oberg moved and Mr. Guida seconded to accept the recommendation of Mr. Tarro with respect to approval of the adjusted expenditures for July – September 2009 in the amount of \$29,414.84. The motion passed 5-0.

Mrs. Oberg moved and Mr. Guida seconded to accept the recommendation of Mr. Tarro with respect to approval of the expenditures for October in the amount of \$4,232,443.87. The motion passed 5-0.

Minutes of School Committee Meeting 11/19/09

Information and Proposals

Mrs. Carroll Garland, Mrs. Georganne Rodehorst and Mrs. Cristen Coppolino, enrichment specialists at the three K-3 elementary schools presented an overview of the University of Connecticut's Math Project our schools are participating in entitled "What Works in Gifted Education: Excellence and Equity in Educating Gifted Students". They focused on the purpose of the study, the time frame, and the benefits of participation. A power point presentation was used as the basis of their presentation. Questions were asked by the School Committee and members of the audience regarding various aspects of this initiative.

Next, Ms. Judith Hamilton (former Hampden Meadows teacher and presently a math consultant) and Ms. Judith Droitcour from East Bay Collaborative presented an overview of the Elementary Math Workshop Model initiative. They explained that they will be providing job embedded math support for all 2nd and 3rd grade teachers this year through in class modeling, co-teaching and planning. A power point presentation was used for the basis of their presentation. Questions were asked by the School Committee and members of the audience regarding various aspects of this initiative.

General Public Discussion and Information

A member of the audience inquired about the status of state aid funding. Administration indicated they have received no information regarding state aid.

Old Business from Superintendent and Staff

Mr. Tarro presented an update on the most recent Facilities Committee meeting which was held on November 17, 2009 at Hampden Meadows School. He noted security upgrades was part of the discussion for all the schools. The Facilities Committee used Hampden Meadows as an example noting that presently there was limited visibility from the office to the front entrance. Mr. Tarro noted that the Middle School is the district's biggest challenge and that the estimated cost of \$9.6 million doesn't address programmatic issues at the present time. He noted we will not be expending any funds at this building, but will only address items dealing with the health, welfare and safety of those occupying the building. The Facilities Committee agreed to treat those items as a high priority. Mrs. Oberg requested us to obtain some additional information on the Middle School and its useful life. Mr. Tarro will contact Strategic Building Solutions to do an additional assessment under its existing contract.

Mr. Tarro provided the Committee with a financial report updating the fire safety code expenditures.

Minutes of School Committee Meeting 11/19/09

Old Business from School Committee

No policies were presented for review. It was suggested that the School Committee Policy Manual be uploaded on the School Committee website. Additionally it was suggested that a folder be uploaded to the website on all policies under review.

New Business from Superintendent and Staff

There was no personnel action.

Dr. McIntyre stated that the 2011 budget process began this week. He noted it would be challenging and that the administration will develop a budget they feel is best for the students in the district.

Mr. Tarro noted that the Committee will be provided with a preliminary cost comparison of the cost of pre-school programs in other districts and private schools as our district considers our fee structure for next year. He noted that a report on this issue will be submitted to the Committee at a later date.

Mrs. Oberg moved and Mr. Guida seconded to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent with regard to the requests for home schooling for:

**Sylvia Crawford, Gr. 1
Noah Lindsay, Kindergarten
Augustus Pudifin, Kindergarten**

The motion passed 5-0.

Following Mr. Tarro's brief overview of the Assets Disposal Listing distributed to the School Committee for approval:

Mrs. Oberg moved and Mr. Guida seconded to adopt the recommendation of Mr. Tarro with respect to the approval of the Asset Disposals List provided to them. Following some questions for clarification, the motion passed 5-0.

New Business School Committee

Mr. Guida shared a project Mr. Seymour Glantz is preparing for the Committee to present to Mr. John Gray. It was the consensus of the Committee to proceed with the finishing of this project.

Minutes of School Committee Meeting 11/19/09

Discussion Future Agenda Items

Mr. Tarro noted that the Committee would be provided with the procedure used to deal with bus related bullying incidents in response to a concern raised by Dr. Flanagan.

General Discussion to Guide Future Recommendations

December 3rd^d 7:30 p.m. Annual Organizational Meeting
Performance Based Graduation Requirements
Individual Learning Plans

General Public Discussion and Information

A member of the audience inquired about what efforts would be made to increase community engagement with regard to educating the community about the budget process. Dr. McIntyre expressed his willingness to attend any meetings to discuss the upcoming budget process and summarized his efforts to engage the community in the budget process. A member of the audience also suggested a way to further engage the community in the budget process.

Mr. Guida noted that there is little progress in developing a state funding formula. He stated that the Board of Regents is in the process of drafting a bill regarding a state funding formula.

No Executive Session was necessary.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:27 p.m.