

STONEHAM PUBLIC SCHOOLS
STONEHAM, MASSACHUSETTS
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY
JANUARY 22, 2009

The regular meeting of the School Committee was held at 7:00 P.M. on Thursday, January 22, 2009 in the High School library with the following members present: M. Christie, Chairman; J. Viselli, Vice-Chairman; S. MacNeill, and D. Maurer. Also present was L. Olson, Superintendent of Schools; A. Patriquin, Assistant Superintendent; and A. DiCologero, Administrator of School Finance.

Chairman Christie called the open session of the School Committee to order at 7:05 P.M.

I. Consent Agenda

A. Action to Approve the Agenda

ACTION: A motion was made by J. Viselli and seconded by S. MacNeill to approve the agenda. The motion carried 4-0.

B. Action to Approve the Minutes of:

January 8, 2009 Regular Meeting

ACTION: A motion was made by J. Viselli and seconded by S. MacNeill to approve the minutes of January 8, 2009. The motion was approved 4-0.

January 8, 2009 Executive Session

ACTION: A motion was made by D. Maurer and seconded by S. MacNeill to approve the minutes of January 8, 2009 to remain confidential. The motion was approved 4-0.

C. Bill Schedule #10

ACTION: A motion was made by S. MacNeill and seconded by J. Viselli to approve Bill Schedule #10 in the amount of \$457,324.59. The motion was approved 4-0.

D. Student Representatives to the School Committee

Present at the meeting was Nicole Willard who reported that National History Day took place last week and displays are set up throughout the library; midyear exams began today and will continue through next Tuesday.

M. Grimaldi joined the meeting at 7:09 P.M.

II. New Business

A. 2009-2010 School Calendar - Approval

Dr. Olson reviewed the school calendar for 2009-2010 that showed a before Labor Day start date of September 2, 2009.

ACTION: A motion was made by D. Maurer and seconded by S. MacNeill to approve the school calendar for 2009-2010, as presented. The motion was approved 5-0.

B. Annual Report 2008 – Approval

The School Committee did not recommend any changes to the draft annual report that was distributed at the January 8, 2009 meeting.

ACTION: A motion was made by S. MacNeill and seconded by J. Viselli to approve the school department's portion of the Town Annual Report 2008. The motion was approved 5-0.

C. Report on 2008-2009 Goals

Dr. Olson presented the School Committee with a mid-year status report on 2008-2009 Program Goals. Progress has been made this year on curriculum goals and curriculum guides are being published. Most other goals are in progress or completed, with two technology goals on hold due to the need for additional software.

Dr. Olson also reported that the Middle School Statement of Interest that was filed last December may be eligible for federal money through a variation of the Title I formula.

D. FY09 Budget Status

Mr. DiCologero presented a report on the 2008-2009 year-to-date expenditures which projected a \$4,422 year end balance due to a salary line item savings of \$85,000 which is offset by \$80,578 of increased expenses in sped transportation, utilities and health insurance premiums.

E. FY10 Budget/Priorities Review

Dr. Olson reviewed financial components of the FY2010 Budget which is an increase of \$846,711 or 3.4%. Key components include:

\$222,000	Salaries for five new teachers
\$58,000	Curriculum Initiatives
\$118,000	Instructional Technology
\$103,000	Tuitions of offset loss of Circuit Breaker
-\$142,000	Savings from FY09 hiring
-\$132,000	Savings from GIC Health Insurance
-\$191,000	Utility Savings

Programmatic components of the FY2010 budget include:

- New staff for the restoration of Middle School Programs and the preservation of elementary class size and programs.
- Funding of new elementary math curriculum and the maintaining of technology infrastructure and increase availability of software.

Dr. Olson stated that the School Committee and administration need to review and confirm primary budgetary goals but should wait until there is a clearer sense of state reductions. It is expected that the Governor will announce these reductions within the next few days.

A discussion ensued regarding Middle School staff and program priorities.

III. Old Business

A. Sub-Committee Reports

J. Viselli and D. Maurer reported on the Building Study Committee. The second meeting was held last week and no decisions have been made and no property has been declared as surplus property. Discussions are in infancy stages. A goal is for the School Committee to come up with a policy on how to declare property as surplus. The subcommittee cannot make any decisions, only report findings and make recommendations. The School Committee would have to agree that property is no longer needed for educational purposes and the property is turned back to the Town.

R. Gregorio, Board of Selectmen member of the Building Study Committee, further explained the process of declaring property as surplus.

A statement was made by J. Craigie regarding the forming of the Building Surplus Committee, and her understanding of the role of the committee. Ms. Craigie urged the School Committee to deliberate slowly and honestly.

Ray Mooney, president of Stoneham Little League, also urged the School Committee to include the Little League in any decisions being discussed and to consider the children in town who participate in the Little League program.

Several East School property abutters also spoke on the impact the sale of this property would have for the neighbors.

Chairman Christie thanked the Beacon Street residents and Little League representatives for attending the meeting and stated that before any decisions were made the School Committee would hold a public hearing.

Dr. Olson asked the Committee if they were interested in pursuing a policy for declaring surplus property and the Committee unanimously agreed and requested Dr. Olson begin drafting said policy.

IV. Discussion

J. Viselli reported that he attended the Middle School PTO meeting and announced that the third annual Community Comedy Classic, sponsored by the Stoneham Public Schools Foundation, will take place on Friday, February 27, 2009 at the Montvale Plaza.

V. Superintendent's Report/Announcements & Correspondence

None

VI. Executive Session

ACTION: A motion was made by S. MacNeill, seconded by J. Viselli, and voted unanimously by roll call at 8:49 to enter Executive Session under MGL Ch. 39, § 23B.

VII. Adjourn

ACTION: A motion was made by S. MacNeill and seconded by D. Maurer to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved 5-0.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 P.M.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED
LES E. OLSON, SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS