

STONEHAM PUBLIC SCHOOLS
STONEHAM, MASSACHUSETTS

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY
JULY 23, 2009

The regular meeting of the School Committee was held at 7:00 P.M. on Thursday, July 23, 2009 in the High School library with the following members present: J. Viselli, Chairman; S. MacNeill, Vice Chairman; M. Christie, D. Maurer and Shawn McCarthy. Also present was L. Olson, Superintendent of Schools.

Chairman J. Viselli called the open session of the School Committee to order at 7:00 P.M.

Action to Approve the Agenda

ACTION: A motion was made by S. MacNeill and seconded by D. Maurer to approve the agenda. The motion carried 5-0.

I. Executive Session

ACTION: A motion was made by S. MacNeill, seconded by D. Maurer, and voted unanimously by roll call at 7:00 PM to enter Executive Session under MGL Ch. 30A, § 11A ½ and to return to open session.

The School Committee returned to open session at 8:00 P.M.

II. Agenda

A. Action to Approve the Minutes of:

June 25, 2009 Regular Meeting

ACTION: A motion was made by S. MacNeill and seconded by M. Christie to approve the minutes of June 25, 2009. The motion was approved 5-0.

June 25, 2009 Executive Session

ACTION: A motion was made by S. MacNeill and seconded by M. Christie to approve the minutes of June 25, 2009 to remain confidential. The motion was approved 5-0.

July 2, 2009 Special Meeting

ACTION: A motion was made by S. MacNeill and seconded by D. Maurer to approve the minutes of July 2, 2009. The motion was approved 4-0-1 with M. Christie abstaining.

June 11, 2009 Executive Session

ACTION: A motion was made by D. Maurer and seconded by S. MacNeill to approve the minutes of July 2, 2009 to remain confidential. The motion was approved 4-0-1 with M. Christie abstaining.

B. Bill Schedule #19 and #1

ACTION: A motion was made by M. Christie and seconded by D. Maurer to approve FY09 Bill Schedule #19 in the amount of \$266,392.48; and FY10 Bill Schedule #1 in the amount of \$329,073.46. The motion was approved 5-0.

C. FY09 Goal Report

Dr. Olson reported on the end of the year status of the 2008-2009 Program Goals that included Curriculum and Instruction, Budget and Planning, and School Facilities and Safety.

D. FY09 Financial Report

Dr. Olson presented a final report on the 2008-2009 Budget which showed a balanced budget for the year.

E. FY10 Budget Status

Dr. Olson reviewed the status of the FY10 Budget and recommended the following budget actions:

Because the Title I Grant has been decreased by approximately \$40,000, Dr. Olson recommended hiring three paraprofessionals instead of one literacy coach.

ACTION: A motion was made by M. Christie and seconded by D. Maurer to approve an amendment to the Title I ARRA Grant to replace the literacy coach position with three paraprofessionals. The motion was approved 5-0.

Dr. Olson recommended approving the hiring of one kindergarten paraprofessional for Central School, to be paid from tuition funds.

ACTION: A motion was made by M. Christie and seconded by D. Maurer to approve the hiring of a kindergarten paraprofessional for the Central School full day kindergarten program. The motion was approved 5-0.

Dr. Olson recommended the following budget transfers:

- Leave vacant one Central Office secretary -\$25,000
- Reduce elementary level teacher salaries -\$53,000
- Transfer one teacher to preschool revolving account -\$50,000
- Transfer elementary utility expenses to ASP rev. account -\$50,000
- Increase Special Education Tuition Budget +\$178,000

ACTION: A motion was made by D. Maurer and seconded by S. MacNeill to approve the above budget transfers. The motion was approved 5-0.

Dr. Olson reported that the following vacancies still exist for the 2009-2010 school year.

Middle School Social Studies
Middle School English
Middle School Nurse
Middle School Art .5
Middle School Media Technology Aide
Middle School Librarian
High School Art .3
High School Social Studies .2
Elementary ELL Tutor
Colonial Park Grade 3
Robin Hood Grade 2

The Committee discussed the Middle School technology aide and librarian positions and their job descriptions.

Several Colonial Park parents spoke in favor of the need for an additional third grade teacher to bring the class size down to 16 students in each class, citing low MCAS scores and the lack of Title I services.

By consensus, the School Committee approved the following positions: Middle School Social Studies, Middle School English, Middle School Nurse, Middle School .5 Art, Middle School Librarian (J. Viselli, no) High School .3 Art, High School .2 Social Studies, Elementary ELL Tutor, and Robin Hood Grade 2 Teacher.

By consensus, the School Committee froze the Middle School Media Technology Aide position.

By consensus (D. Maurer abstained), the School Committee agreed to freeze the Colonial Park Grade 3 Teacher position and hire a half time reading specialist to work with Grades K-5.

F. FY10 Goal Discussion

The Committee discussed the need for a revised strategic plan and the development of operational goals for FY10, which would include Middle School renovations, and budget goals for FY11.

G. FY10 School Committee Agenda

The Committee reviewed the preliminary 2009-2010 School Committee agenda calendar and approved it subject to revisions.

H. Overnight Field Trip Approval

Dr. Olson presented a request from Principal Ed Russo to approve an overnight field trip to Costa Rica from April 17 to April 24, 2009. A complete itinerary was submitted for review.

ACTION: A motion was made by M. Christie and seconded by S. MacNeill to approve the Foreign Language Department's field trip to Costa Rica. The motion was approved 5-0.

I. Policy on Food in School Buildings – First Reading

The Committee conducted a first reading of the new policy "Food in School Buildings" that would limit food in the classrooms during the school day. Some revisions were suggested. The policy will be revised and brought back for a second reading at the August meeting.

J. Middle School Beautification Project - Update

J. Viselli reported on the progress of the Middle School Beautification Project. Fifteen gallons of paint was recently contributed as well as many cash contributions. *Boston Cares* is looking for a sponsor to tackle the larger projects. Immediate tasks include the outside entrance way, metal rails, cafeteria paneling, window frames, and ASP room. CORI forms will be completed for all volunteers.

II. Discussion/Correspondence/New Items

None

III. Superintendent's Report

None

IV. Executive Session

ACTION: A motion was made by S. MacNeill, seconded by D. Maurer and voted unanimously by roll call at 9:50 to enter Executive Session under MGL Ch. 39, § 23B.

V. Adjourn

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

The meeting adjourned at 10:30 P.M.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED
LES E. OLSON, SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS