

STONEHAM PUBLIC SCHOOLS
STONEHAM, MASSACHUSETTS

**SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY
JUNE 25, 2009**

The regular meeting of the School Committee was held at 7:00 P.M. on Thursday, June 25, 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, and Anthony DiCologero, Administrator of School Finance.

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

I. Agenda

A. Action to Approve the Agenda

Dr. Olson requested revising the agenda to include acceptance of a donation to the mathematics department.

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

B. Action to Approve the Minutes of:

June 11, 2009 Regular Meeting

ACTION: A motion was made by S. MacNeill and seconded by D. Maurer to approve the minutes of June 11, 2009. The motion was approved 4-0-1, with S. McCarthy abstaining.

June 11, 2009 Executive Session

ACTION: A motion was made by D. Maurer and seconded by S. MacNeill to approve the minutes of June 11, 2009 to remain confidential. The motion was approved 4-0-1 with S. McCarthy abstaining.

C. Bill Schedule #18

ACTION: A motion was made by S. MacNeill and seconded by D. Maurer to approve Bill Schedule #18 in the amount of \$99,199.13. The motion was approved 5-0.

Dr. Olson introduced two guests at tonight's meeting: Sharon Bird, the new Principal of the Central School and Patty Messina, the new Director of Elementary Education.

D. Crystal Apple Awards

Chairman Viselli summarized the criteria for the awarding of the 2008/2009 Crystal Apple Awards and announced this year's recipients.

Awards were presented to:

Christopher Banos, Principal of the Middle School
Jane DiGangi, Parent Volunteer
Randy Perillo, Community Member
Mary Marchant, Parent Volunteer
Katherine Burnham, High School Teacher

Chairman Viselli announced a ten minute recess.

E. School Improvement Plans - Elementary

Dr. Olson invited elementary principals to present their School Improvement Plans for 2009/2010.

Larry MacElhiney, Principal of the Central School, presented his School Improvement Plan for 2009/2010.

Ms. Burke, Principal of Colonial Park School, presented her School Improvement Plan for 2009/2010.

Alice Reilly, Principal of the Robin Hood School, presented her School Improvement Plan for 2009/2010.

A brief discussion ensued regarding traffic flow issues at each of the schools. It was suggested to remind parents of the traffic flow pattern when schools reopen each year.

ACTION: A motion was made by D. Maurer and seconded by S. MacNeill to accept the Colonial Park, Central School and Robin Hood School Improvement Plans, as approved by the Superintendent, for 2009/2010. The motion was approved 5-0.

F. Middle School Health Curriculum

Sharon Chapman, Program Supervisor of Health and Science, and Chris Banos, Principal of the Middle School, presented an outline of the restoration of the Comprehensive Health Education course for the sixth and eighth students. The goal of the program is to teach every student to develop sensible lifelong health habits and to take responsibility for his/her own health. The Comprehensive Health Education Curriculum will be age appropriate and adhere to the Massachusetts State Frameworks. The sixth grade topics will include decision-making, nutrition, conflict resolution, social health, healthy relationships, substance abuse/prevention, fitness, gender roles/issues, emotional wellness and human sexuality. The eighth grade topics will include substance abuse/prevention, nutrition/fitness, interpersonal relationships, violence prevention, media influence/awareness, emotional wellness, peer influence, lifetime wellness and human sexuality. A complete curriculum will be presented to the School Committee in the fall.

A letter will be sent to all parents informing them that they may view the materials and curriculum and of their rights under Massachusetts law to exempt their child from any portion of the curriculum that primarily involves human sexuality issues.

G. Middle School Facilities

Chairman Viselli gave an update on the Middle School renovations. He and Principal Banos recently toured the school with Boston Cares, an organization that coordinates volunteers for non-profit projects. The following areas were identified as most do-able:

- Cafeteria – paint
- After School Program room – clean and paint
- Grates on outside of building – clean and paint

Classroom painting was put off due to the many items hanging on the walls that need to be removed – the long term goal would be to remove all of the old casings, televisions and old wiring and begin painting during school vacations. Principal Banos is working on a priority list and will send it to Boston Cares – it is hoped that the projects will begin in July.

H. Acceptance of Donation

High School mathematics teacher Julie Engel has secured a donation for \$17,500 from the Virginia A. McGuire Foundation (\$10,000) and the Morris S. and Florence H. Bender Foundation (\$7,500). The donation will support the mathematics department and the mathematics team. Dr. Olson recommended acceptance of this donation.

ACTION: A motion was made by S. MacNeill and seconded by D. Maurer to accept the donation of over \$17,000 from the Virginia A. McGuire Foundation and the Morris s. and Florence H. Bender Foundation to the High School mathematics department. The motion was approved 5-0.

II. Discussion/Correspondence/New Items

M. Christie thanked Cassidy Landscaping for their donation in maintaining the grounds in the in the front of the High School.

III. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Olson reported on recent discussions with the Town Administrator and Chairman Viselli regarding the impact of the state budget that would reduce the town revenue by \$700,000 and Circuit Breaker shortfall of over \$200,000. Dr. Olson suggested scheduling a School Committee meeting within the next few weeks to address this \$900,000 budget gap.

IV. Executive Session

ACTION: A motion was made by S. MacNeill, seconded by M. Christie, and voted unanimously by roll call at 8:30 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 9:45 P.M.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED
LES E. OLSON, SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS