

STONEHAM PUBLIC SCHOOLS
STONEHAM, MASSACHUSETTS

**SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY
MAY 1, 2008**

The regular meeting of the School Committee was held at 7:00 P.M. on Thursday, May 1, 2008 in the High School library with the following members present: M. Christie, S. MacNeill, J. Viselli, and D. Maurer. Also present was L. Olson, Superintendent of Schools; A. Patriquin, Assistant Superintendent and Anthony 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:

April 8, 2008 Joint Meeting

ACTION: A motion was made by J. Viselli and seconded by S. MacNeill to approve the minutes of April 8, 2008. The motion was approved 4-0.

April 8, 2008 Joint Meeting - Executive Session

ACTION: A motion was made by S. MacNeill and seconded by J. Viselli to approve the minutes of April 8, 2008 to remain confidential. The motion was approved 4-0.

April 10, 2008 Regular Meeting

ACTION: A motion was made by J. Viselli and seconded by S. MacNeill to approve the minutes of April 8, 2008. The motion was approved 4-0.

April 10, 2008 Executive Session

ACTION: A motion was made by S. MacNeill and seconded by J. Viselli to approve the minutes of April 8, 2008 to remain confidential. The motion was approved 4-0.

C. Bill Schedule #20

ACTION: A motion was made by S. MacNeill and seconded by J. Viselli to approve Bill Schedule #20 in the amount of \$236,996.36. The motion was approved 4-0.

D. Student Representatives to the School Committee

Nicole Willard, Brandon Epstein and Daniela Colucci were present at the May 1, 2008 and reported on the recycling program, inductions into Tri-M Music Honor Society, and the production of the spring musical *How to Succeed in Business Without Even Trying*.

Student Representatives thanked the School Committee for inviting them to attend Day on the Hill on Tuesday, April 29, 2008.

J. Viselli challenged student representatives to a fundraising tug of war. Details will follow.

II. New Business

A. Action to Approve Last Day of School 2008

During the past year, school was cancelled once on January 14, 2007 due to inclement weather. The High School was closed for three days March 11-13, 2008 due to a fire; the D.O.E. approved a waiver for one of these days. Dr. Olson recommended the School Committee officially approve June 18, 2008 as the last day for Grades PreK-8 and June 20, 2008 as the last day for Grades 9-12; with High School graduation remaining at June 6, 2008.

ACTION: A motion was made by S. MacNeill and seconded by J. Viselli to approve June 18, 2008 as the last day of school for Grades PreK-8 and June 20, 2008 as the last day of school for Grades 9-12. The motion was approved 4-0.

B. High School Graduation 2008 – Final Plans

The committee reviewed a list of activities and events planned for the Class of 2008. Graduation will take place on June 6, 2008 at 6:30 P.M.

C. Special Education Update

Dr. Frank Scott, Administrator of Pupil Personnel, reported that there are 560 students on Individual Educational Plans (IEP's), which is 19% of the student population, and gave an overview of program models in the Special Education office. Topics included:

- placement consent forms
- least restrictive environment, maximizing instruction in regular instruction
- full and partial inclusion programs, substantially separate programs, collaboratives, and residential placements
- Special Education Parent Advisory Council (PAC)
- disability student profiles and skill level grouping
- staff meetings
- summer school planning

D. Acceptance of Donations

Chris Willard requested approval of a fundraiser STARS Program. For a \$10 donation, a certificate will be sent to someone who has made a difference in their lives. It is hoped that this fundraiser will be school wide and include not only teachers, but perhaps custodians, parents, students, etc.

ACTION: A motion was made by D. Maurer and seconded by S. MacNeill to approve the STARS Program fundraiser. The motion was approved 4-0.

ACTION: A motion was made by S. MacNeill and seconded by J. Viselli to accept the donation of \$3600 from the Stoneham Public Schools Foundation for spring intramurals. The motion was approved 4-0.

Chris Gardner gave details of his AED Eagle Scout project and thanked Stoneham Booster Club, Stoneham Building Committee, Stoneham Public Schools foundation, Patricia Kilty, Thomas Barry, Stoneham Rotary Club and Stoneham Little League for their monetary donations, as well as many others who donated hours of time.

ACTION: A motion was made by S. MacNeill and seconded by J. Viselli to accept the donation of six Automatic External Defibrillators (AED), valued at \$12,700, as a result of donations from Stoneham Booster Club, Stoneham Building Committee, Stoneham Public Schools Foundation, Patricia Kilty, Thomas Barry, Stoneham Rotary Club and Stoneham Little League to the Eagle Scout project by Chris Gardner. The motion was approved 4-0.

Chairman Christie announced a five minute recess.

E. School Committee Policies – Second Reading

The following changes were recommended to Policy 5-9 *Distribution of Communications*:

Item C, line 3, change to read: “significant educational value, widespread community importance, or widespread interest to Stoneham students may be distributed at the discretion of the Superintendent.”

Item D, line 3, change to read: “parent-teacher organizations, school-related organizations, or appropriate non-profit organizations. The use of e-mail . . . “

ACTION: A motion was made by D. Maurer and seconded by S. MacNeill to approve Policy #5-9 *Distribution of Communications* as revised. The motion was approved 4-0.

ACTION: A motion was made by D. Maurer and seconded by S. MacNeill to approve Policy 8-9 *Non Discrimination and Sexual Harassment* as revised. The motion was approved 4-0.

F. School Committee Member Assignments

The School Committee reviewed member assignments for the 2008/2009 school year and several revisions were made.

G. Crystal Apple Awards - Criteria

Chairman Christie reviewed the criteria and guidelines for the Crystal Apple Awards and requested members submit nominations to her by June 1, 2008. These awards will be presented at the June 15th School Committee meeting.

H. NCLB Report Card – 2007/2008

Assistant Superintendent Anne Patriquin reported on the annual *No Child Left Behind* mandated federal testing program. The purpose of the report card is to give parents information about their child's school in terms of academic achievement and the professional qualification of its teachers.

I. School Committee Preliminary Agenda Calendar 08/09

The School Committee received, for review, the preliminary agenda calendar for FY09.

J. FY2009 Budget

A. DiCologero presented an update on the School Lunch Program and reported a balance of \$9,299 for March, which totals an overall deficit of \$2,348. Student Representatives met with Chartwell's lunch manager to review changes and additional menu options.

Dr. Olson reported that several grant confirmations have been received for the FY09 Budget. The Title I Grant has been confirmed for \$265,000, which is an increase of \$2,000; Circuit Breaker funds have increased \$35,000, but the Title V Grant has been eliminated. Special Education Supplies line items have been added to the elementary budgets at \$2,500 and the Special Education budget has been decreased by \$10,000 with no change to the bottom line. Dr. Olson also reported that the Town is requesting the school take back responsibility of field maintenance, with a small adjustment to our budget. Discussions are on-going.

III. Old Business

None

IV. Discussion

S. MacNeill reported on the Governor's state wide youth council. The goal is to encourage young people to become involved in their communities.

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 8:50 PM to enter Executive Session under MGL Ch. 39, § 23B.

VII. Adjourn

ACTION: A motion was made by D. Maurer and seconded by S. MacNeill to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved 4-0.

The meeting adjourned at 10:20 P.M.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED
LES E. OLSON, SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS