

S T O N E H A M P U B L I C S C H O O L S
S T O N E H A M , M A S S A C H U S E T T S

**SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY
OCTOBER 23, 2008**

The regular meeting of the School Committee was held at 7:00 P.M. on Thursday, October 23, 2008 in the High School library with the following members present: M. Christie, Chairman; J. Viselli, Vice-Chairman; S. MacNeill, M. Grimaldi 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 7:00 P.M.

I. Consent Agenda

A. Action to Approve the Agenda

Dr. Olson requested revising the agenda to add item F: Approval of Overnight Field Trip.

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

B. Action to Approve the Minutes of:

October 9, 2008 Regular Meeting

ACTION: A motion was made by J. Viselli and seconded by S. MacNeill to approve the minutes of October 9, 2008. The motion was approved 5-0.

October 14, 2008 Special Meeting

ACTION: A motion was made by S. MacNeill and seconded by J. Viselli to approve the minutes of October 14, 2008. The motion was approved 4-0-1 with M. Grimaldi abstaining.

C. Bill Schedule #6

ACTION: A motion was made by S. MacNeill and seconded by J. Viselli to approve Bill Schedule #6 in the amount of \$368,065.79. The motion was approved 5-0.

D. Student Representatives to the School Committee

The Junior Class will sponsor a Halloween dance tomorrow night; a student United Nations meeting was held last night.

II. New Business

A. Presentation of Donation

The STA presented a donation of books, from the staff, in memory of Karen Berg.

ACTION: A motion was made by M. Grimaldi and seconded by J. Viselli to approve a donation of books from the Stoneham Teachers Association to all six school libraries in memory of Karen Berg. The motion was approved 5-0.

B. Report of Director of Athletics/Physical Education

David Pignone, Director of Athletics and Physical Education, began with a review of the health program that will now be under the direction of Sharon Chapman, Program Supervisor of Science.

Physical Education will record testing results for students from elementary through High School. A website is being developed outlining the specifics of each test.

Athletic spirit is running high in town – the dugouts have been painted blue and a Spartan stencil has been purchased. Efforts are being made to involve and encourage the youth programs to support the varsity programs and vice versa. The following new coaches and assistants have been appointed this year:

Varsity Football, Head Coach:	Dave Wilcox
Field Hockey, Assistant:	Jill Spellman
Boys Soccer, Assistants:	John Tamborini and Brad Butterworth
Girls Soccer	Sara Swett
Cheering Coach:	Stephanie Frangules
Boys Basketball, Head Coach	Scott Marino
Girls Basketball, Head Coach	Angela Billings
Girls Hocket, Head Coach	Sara Swett
Indoor Track, Head Coach	Kaitlin Carter

D. Pignone requested an 8th Grade waiver for Girls Ice Hockey. This would be a one year waiver and would help the program considerably due to low participation and exhaustion of the players. This has been approved by the Middlesex League AD and would need School Committee approval before applying to the MIAA for approval. It was stressed that if enough girls from the High School signed up, there would be no need to accept 8th graders into the program. Dr. Olson and Mr. Russo supported the waiver as a safety issue.

ACTION: A motion was made by S. MacNeill and seconded by J. Viselli to approve an 8th Grade waiver for Girls Ice Hockey. The motion was approved 5-0.

C. Report of Director of Pupil Personnel

Frank Scott, Director of Pupil Personnel, presented a Special Education report for 2008-2009 that included:

- PAC (Parent Advisory Committee). The first meeting will take place in the High School library on November 5th.
- Summer School program
- Department of Elementary and Secondary Education regulations for data collection to assess and report age appropriate programs in the preschool.
- Out of district placements: the trend has been slightly lower for the last couple of years.

Dr. Scott reported that regulations are constantly evolving and require ongoing staff training and communication of expectations to staff. Staff meetings take place in each building every other week. One new mandate this year, *IDEA 2004*, includes a form that needs to be completed for determining options and eligibility criteria for an IEP under specific learning disabilities.

D. New Scholarship - Acceptance

Dr. Olson presented a request from the Margarita family for approval to establish a Stoneham High School scholarship in memory of their parents. The scholarship would be awarded to one boy and one girl student athlete who possesses good character and gives 100%, both athletically and academically.

ACTION: A motion was made by S. MacNeill and seconded by J. Viselli to approve a scholarship in memory of Bob and Miriam (McGillicuddy) Margarita. The motion was approved 5-0.

E. Appointment of Facilities Committee

Chairman Christie appointed David Maurer and Joe Viselli to serve as School Committee representatives to the Facilities Committee. This Committee will study the East School, North School and Central School facilities and be comprised of two School Committee members, two Board of Selectmen, and one Finance and Advisory Board member.

D. Overnight Field Trip Approval

Dr. Olson presented a request from the Social Studies department to approve an overnight field trip to Washington DC and Gettysburg. The trip will take place during April vacation. The group of approximately 40 students will charter a bus for the duration of the trip and lodge three nights in Alexandria, VA and one night in Lancaster, PA.

ACTION: A motion was made by D. Maurer and seconded by S. MacNeill to approve an overnight field trip to Washington, DC/Gettysburg during April vacation. The motion was approved 5-0.

III. Old Business

A. Town Meeting – October 20, 2008

Dr. Olson thanked the voters for supporting the School Committee articles and allowing the High School roof repair to go forward.

IV. Discussion

Reminder: The Pumpkin Festival, sponsored by the SBCEF, will take place this Saturday on the Town Common.

V. Superintendent's Report/Announcements & Correspondence

Dr. Olson made the following announcements:

The school department received \$35,000 less in circuit breaker funds than was initially approved by the state. Because this amount was only budgeted at 72%, it will not have an impact on the budget.

A purchasing hold back has been initiated. Only essential purchases will be approved at this time.

A public forum debate on Question #1, sponsored by the Board of Selectmen and Finance and Advisory Board, will be held on Monday, October 27th in the High School auditorium. Dr. Olson said if Question #1 passes, it will not be good news for the school department.

VI. Executive Session

ACTION: A motion was made by D. Maurer, seconded by J. Viselli, and voted unanimously by roll call at 8:31 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 5-0.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 P.M.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED
LES E. OLSON, SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS