

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 9, 2008**

The regular meeting of the School Committee was held at 7:00 P.M. on Thursday, October 9, 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 7:03 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 5-0.

**B. Action to Approve the Minutes of:**

September 25, 2008 Regular Meeting

**ACTION:** A motion was made by J. Viselli and seconded by S. MacNeill to approve the minutes of September 25, 2008. The motion was approved 5-0.

September 25, 2008 Executive Session

**ACTION:** A motion was made by S. MacNeill and seconded by J. Viselli to approve the minutes of September 25, 2008 to remain confidential. The motion was approved 5-0.

**C. Bill Schedule #5**

**ACTION:** A motion was made by M. Grimaldi and seconded by J. Viselli to approve Bill Schedule #5 in the amount of \$520,180.41. The motion was approved 5-0.

**D. Student Representatives to the School Committee**

Students reported that the first semester is half way over; complimented the stir fry lunch that was served in the cafeteria today.

**II. New Business**

**A. English Department – Program Review**

R. Vecchio, Program Supervisor of English, gave an overview of the English Curriculum in the Middle School and High School that included independent reading, reading response strategies, John Collins Writing Program, Six Trait Writing, vocabulary instruction, and common assessments.

**B. Social Studies – Program Review**

P. Sampson, Program Supervisor of Social Studies and Unified Arts, gave an overview of the Social Studies program at the Middle School and High School. The Social Studies program

structure at the Middle School is a world studies curriculum; the High School focuses on U. S. History, economics, contemporary issues and community involvement. One of the core features of the High School curriculum is National History Day that begins in September and runs through June. All sophomores and junior students participate in lieu of midterm exams and do a semester of research and prepare an exhibit or report.

**C. Professional Development Plan 2008-2009**

A. Patriquin reviewed the Professional Development Handbook that included opportunities and resources for 2008-2009.

**D. Student Enrollment – October 1, 2008**

Dr. Olson presented the official October 1, 2008 enrollment numbers that totaled 2706 students.

**E. Town Meeting Motions**

Dr. Olson recommended the following motions for the School Department warrant articles for the October 20, 2008 Special Town Meeting:

**Article 11 – Utility Budget**

I move that this article be indefinitely postponed.  
(Request will be dealt with under Article 10)

**Article 12 – High School Roof**

I move that the Town vote to appropriate \$100,000 from the September 2008 Foundation Reserve state grant and to transfer \$415,751.60 from the following articles for the purpose of this article:

- \$660.00 from Article 1 of the October 1997 Special Town Meeting;
- \$2,277.52 from Article 8 of the May 2002 Special Town Meeting;
- \$2,140.00 from Article 12 of the October 2002 Special Town Meeting;
- \$11,504.77 from Article 14 of the October 2006 Special Town Meeting; and
- \$399,169.31 from Article 8 of the October 1997 Special Town Meeting as amended by Article 2 of the March 2002 Special Town Meeting.

**ACTION:** A motion was made by M. Grimaldi and seconded by D. Maurer to indefinitely postpone Article 11. The motion was approved 5-0.

**ACTION:** A motion was made by M. Grimaldi and seconded by D. Maurer to approve Article 12 motion for the High School roof. The motion was approved 5-0.

**F. Middle School – Statement of Interest**

**ACTION:** A motion was made by D. Maurer and seconded by S. MacNeill to adopt the following resolution. The motion was approved 5-0.

Having convened in an open meeting on October 14, 2008, the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Stoneham in accordance with its charter, by-laws and ordinances, has voted to authorize the Superintendent to submit to the Massachusetts School Building Authority the Statement of Interest dated October 9, 2008 for the Stoneham Middle School located at 101 Central Street, Stoneham, Massachusetts, which describes and explains the following deficiencies and the priority categories for which the Stoneham Public Schools may be invited to apply to the Massachusetts School Building Authority in the future:

Priority 5 – “Replacement, renovation or modernization of the heating system in a schoolhouse to increase energy conservation and decrease energy related costs in the schoolhouse.” The HVAC and related energy systems (including exterior walls and insulation) are 50 years old and do not provide the temperature control and fresh-air required by current codes. The building consumes about 50% more energy on a square-foot basis than our similarly-aged High School and about 10% more than our renovated elementary schools that do meet current codes;

Priority 7 – “Replacement of or addition to obsolete buildings in order to provide for a full-range of programs consistent with state and approved local requirements.” The school was designed in 1955 as a high school and does not offer any of the facilities (team meeting rooms, flexibly-arranged classrooms, technology and related programs, special education facilities, etc.) required for a middle school curriculum;

and hereby further specifically acknowledges that by submitting this Statement of Interest, the Massachusetts School Building Authority in no way guarantees the acceptance or the approval of an application, the awarding of a grant or any other funding commitment from the Massachusetts School Building Authority, or commits the Town of Stoneham to filing an application for funding with the Massachusetts School Building Authority.

### **III. Old Business**

None

### **IV. Discussion**

The SBCEF will sponsor a Pumpkin Festival October 25<sup>th</sup> that will include games, refreshments and prizes.

D. Maurer proposed videotaping tours of the schools for public viewing. Members all agreed that this would be a good idea. D. Maurer volunteered to oversee the project.

### **V. Superintendent’s Report/Announcements & Correspondence**

None

### **VI. Executive Session**

None

### **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 8:10 P.M.

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED**  
**LES E. OLSON, SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS**