



Town of Littleton School Committee

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PAUL AVELLA, Vice Chair
NANCY MIZZONI, Member

CHARLIE ELLIS, Chair

MIKE FONTANELLA Secretary
SHAWNA STEA, Member

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MINUTES November 15, 2007 7:30 PM

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PRESENT: Charlie Ellis
Paul Avella
Mike Fontanella
Shawna Stea (8:03 p.m.)
Nancy Mizzoni (8:33 p.m.)

ALSO PRESENT: Diane Bemis
Steve Mark
Marilyn Fedele
Amber Cardoos

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CALL TO ORDER (7:34 PM)

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A. Charlie Ellis called the meeting to order.

B. On a motion by Paul Avella and seconded by Mike Fontanella, it was voted to approve the Consent Agenda with the exception to hold the minutes of 11/5/07 because of the title on the page. (AYE (Unanimous))

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INTERESTED CITIZENS

A. George Ogilvie re. the policy on naming facilities – he has reconsidered and would like to have the field named Tigers Alumni Field with every coaches name for outdoor sports put on a plaque. He would also like to have a plaque inside the auditorium for all the coaches of indoor sports.

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RECOGNITION

A. Every name on the list for the John and Abigail Adams Scholarship has been acknowledged. Congratulations! This is one-fifth of the senior class.

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B. Thanks to Thomas Kostizak for coming to the Introduction to Engineering course. We would like to continue the relationship with Raytheon.

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C. Thanks to Nagog Orchards for their contribution of apples to the Middle School.

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SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

A. High School Student Update – National Honor Society induction is this week. Last week was a homework free weekend. There is a BIG football game Thanksgiving. The Powder Puff football game is on Tuesday, the 20th. The performance of Midsummer Night's Dream was a great success over the weekend.

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Deleted: Halloween parade for seniors; Powder Puff game where the girls play and the boys are the cheerleaders. The Girls soccer and field hockey teams made States.

Our mission is to inspire and sustain learning and achievement, preparing each student for the challenges of life in the 21st century.

- B. Personnel Update: Dr. Diane Bemis gave an update on the latest staff changes.
- C. Update on Professional Development: Jane Hall gave an update on professional development which is alive and well in the Littleton School District. It is no longer just teacher training. Curriculum never stops; professional development is a fluid process. There is a very strong mentoring program. Carol Watson gave an update on integrating technology into teaching at the middle and high schools. Make curriculum maps in depth.
- D. State of Curriculum -- VHS and TEAMS: Gail Poulter gave an update on how the VHS Program is growing both at the high school and at the middle school. The TEAMS Program students attend classes at UMASS Lowell every day and the students earn college credit.
- E. MCAS Report : Dr. GeriLyn Ajemian gave an update on the recent MCAS scores. The Littleton School District showed a very favorable comparison between the District and State.
- F. Policy on Naming Facilities: A second reading was done on this policy. The third and final reading will be at the next meeting of the School Committee on December 6, 2007.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Paul Avella gave a Municipal Building Committee update. The last change order to the basic contract, No. 28 was signed. The gymnasium is beautiful and getting used.
- B. Budget Subcommittee – The first pass of the salary numbers have been given to the FinCom and distributed to the School Committee. We will not review this evening. Increase in SPED tuitions for next year. Level staff, 5.9% salary increase from last year. Administration requesting additional staffing. We will start to address the expense budget.
- C. Safety and Security Subcommittee – Meeting is scheduled for December 19, 2007 at 12 noon in the Superintendent's Office. Police and Fire have all the policies on safety and security. Expect to finalize the process at that time. Dr. Bemis will be representing Littleton at the State House on November 28th in support of an act requiring AED's in all public schools. The Safety and Security seminar to all staff will take place in the afternoon of November 28th.
- D. Policy Subcommittee – nothing to add.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Energy Education, Inc.: We will have an open forum with EEI at 6:30 p.m. on 12/6/07. We will invite LELED, LWD, and the Conservation Commission to attend. Our legal counsel has approved the contract and LELED and LWD are in favor.
- B. Fee Schedule for Requests for Information: This will be put on the next agenda, 12/6/07.
- C. Age Ranges Survey: Paul Avella made a motion to develop a survey letter with parents' concerns on the buses. The motion was not seconded.

INTERESTED CITIZENS

- A. John Lance: Questions at least fourth grade math. It seems like we are trending very well, but not fourth grade math; curious what we are going to do about this. Dr. Ajemian stated that we are taking a look at the implementation program.

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- Deleted: John Overcash gave a quarterly update on the food service. He also mentioned the Thanksgiving dinner at the High School on 11/15/07
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- <#>SPED Transportation: Steve Mark gave an update on the costs for SPED transportation as well as working with other towns to try to consolidate transportation for the best price.¶
- Policy on Naming Facilities
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B. George Ogilvie: In consideration of naming sports facilities can we put an address on the facilities.

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C. Bob O'Neil: Had concerns on fourth grade Math and ELA.

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D. Bob O'Neil would like to thank the administration, teachers, and the staff and bus drivers for the transition made in the evacuation of Shaker Lane students to Russell Street.

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ADJOURNMENT

A. On a motion by Paul Avella and seconded by Mike Fontanell, it was voted to adjourn at 10:45 p.m.

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On a motion by Shawna Stea and seconded by Paul Avella it was voted to adjourn at 9:18 p.m. to (AYE: Unanimous)

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The students taking this course need to be very well organized.

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with transportation provided by the University,

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for this

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Looking at students with Advanced Science and Advanced Math, both juniors and seniors.

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Consider this the first reading of the policy. Shawna Stea mentioned not to preclude any public involvement in the naming of fields. She recommended that the second reading can be as is but change the timeframe to three (3) years. The second reading is scheduled for November 15, but at a little later time in the meeting.

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District

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Card:

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. No vote taken because it requires three readings. Paul Avella did the second reading. Remove the last sentence

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Our District Report Card for the DOE was completed last spring. It has far more information than the report card that was produced previously. We will continue to use the DOE No Child Left Behind Report Card. It comes out in April. This is mandated to be shared with the school community.

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Middle School is complete. The

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Building Committee is working to have the sign installed. Sponsorship to be a separate issue.

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Will not go over them tonight.

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Meet with the Finance Committee re. our capital requests. Create a new cost center for Technology. Principals are responsible for defining and justifying their requirements.

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The magic date

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is 12/19

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Hope

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Still on a holding pattern with the Police and Fire Departments. They will have

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responses for us at the next meeting, scheduled for 11/28/07.

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Dr. Bemis to be honored at the State House on December 28. There are AED's in every school building. Safety and Security seminar on the same afternoon.

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Charles Kaye Memorial – Working on fund raising and proceeding forward.

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Track Team: Questionnaires to parents to be on the agenda for the next meeting, November 15

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We do not want a "sales pitch", we want to be education as to how we can save dollars through conservation.

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Health Fact Sheet: Sending something home on the Staph Infection (Mercer Fact Sheet).

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Energy Education Package: A review on the 7th. Paul Avella and Charlie Ellis will attend. There are some potential savings. Want LELD and LWD to be at the meeting. There are some potential savings. Will report at the next meeting.

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We will go forward with the parent survey in the spring; we will probably not ask for comments.

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Motion died

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Request from a Citizen to review our payroll. Payroll needs to be washed so that there are no Social Security numbers. We cannot give information out and have to contact the attorney. Nothing can leave the building. Steve Mark to come up with a fee schedule to cover the legal fee as well as Xeroxing, staff time, and a charge for the work involved. Need to start the process; take a set of bills and redact them. Everything is on hold till we set a fee. Privacy is key. The School Committee is in the middle.

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Bob O'Neil – Does the District Report Card include the goals for the District; that's what the

School Improvement Plan groups are looking for. The vision has not changed; the mission has not changed; the strategic plan will not change. The goal is for the administrative team to revise the 3 to 5 year District Improvement Plan in early January. If there is something wrong with the goals and objectives, please let us know. We would welcome the School Improvement

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Council's input.