

**SCHOOL COMMITTEE
MINUTES
December 4, 2008**

PRESENT: Charlie Ellis
Paul Avella
Shawna Stea (6:40)
Mike Fontanella (6:35)
Nancy Mizzoni

ALSO PRESENT: Diane Bemis
Marilyn Fedele
Steve Mark
Sara Adams

CALL TO ORDER (6:33 PM)

- A. Charlie Ellis called the meeting to order.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

- A. On a motion by Paul Avella and seconded by Nancy Mizzoni, it was voted to enter Executive Session for the purpose of negotiation strategy (Exemption #3) with the intention of returning to Open Session. (Roll Call: Paul Avella, AYE; Nancy Mizzoni, AYE, and Charlie Ellis, AYE)

OPEN SESSION RESUMED AT 7:33 PM

- A. On a motion by Shawna Stea and seconded by Nancy Mizzoni, it was voted to approve the Consent Agenda. (AYE: Unanimous)

INTERESTED CITIZENS

None

RECOGNITION

- A. Congratulated Angell Shi for receiving the MASS Certificate of Academic Excellence.
- B. Dot Wade - Speech Pathologist was thanked by a parent for the wonderful work she did for her son.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- A. Sara Adams gave the High School update starting with the High School Football team. They are going to the Super Bowl for the first time ever. They are playing Putnam in Westfield, Saturday, December 6, at 10:00 a.m. All winter sports have started; there is a Relay for Life meeting on December 9th; an Applebee's breakfast buffet for the Drama Department on December 13th; a financial aid meeting on the December 8th. Mid-term progress reports are December 12th.
- B. Shawna Stea presented the personnel update.
- C. Budget Update – Dr. Bemis gave a budget update
- D. Dr. GeriLyn Ajemian presented the District MCAS Report.
- E. Dave Riley gave an update on the Energy Education Project.
- F. Gail Poulter gave an update on Math State of Curriculum.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. School Building Committee - Going forward with the OPM to the MSBA. Working on a timeline for the May Town Meeting; placeholder. On a motion by Paul Avella and seconded by Mike Fontanella, it was voted to appoint Jane Hall as the School Committee designee on the School Building Committee Designer Selection Panel Subcommittee. (AYE: Unanimous)
- B. Budget Subcommittee – Continuing to work to scale down the numbers, specifically on the salary side. Moving forward with the analysis of the Cost Center expense requests by building. On schedule.
- C. The Safety and Security Subcommittee – Passed out new Emergency/Response flip charts to all the schools.
- D. Policy Subcommittee – reviewing one policy, The Use of Electronic Messaging by the School Committee (BHE). Will look into Community Service Requirements for all students.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. School Committee/Administration Council Holiday Gathering is December 15 at 3:00-4:00 p.m.
- B. Open Forum for the School Calendar Discussion is scheduled for December 18th at 6:30 p.m. here. Looking for comments re. holidays, vacations, start times, half days Wednesdays, etc. Taking electronic transmission to the Superintendent.
- C. Circuit Breaker – Dianna Peterson reported on the Circuit Breaker audit which was held recently. All paperwork and documentation was validated.

INTERESTED CITIZENS

None

ADJOURNMENT

- A. On a motion by Shawna Stea and seconded by Mike Fontanella, it was voted to adjourn at 9:08 p.m. (AYE: Unanimous)