

Plymouth School Committee

July 16, 2007

A meeting of the Plymouth School Committee was held on Monday, July 16, 2007, at Plymouth South Middle School at 7:00 p.m.

Members present were John White, Margie Burgess, Nicole Manfredi, Dennis Begley, Robert Bielen, and Debra Betz.

Present from Administration were Barry Haskell, Gary Maestas, Dr. Carol Young, and Robert Gurek.

Mr. White opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. White called for a moment of silence in memory of Jane McNally, who gave 13 years service to the Plymouth schools as a cook.

1.0 To receive comments from the general public.

None.

2.0 To receive comments from student representatives.

None present.

3.0 To receive comments from the Education Association of Plymouth & Carver.

None present.

4.0 Communications

4.1 Correspondence

Mr. White noted a letter to Mr. Haskell and the Plymouth School Committee from parent Shannon Looney applauding and thanking the Gemini 7th Grade team and all at PCIS who worked with her son, Tyler.

Mr. White noted a letter from David A. Sinclair, Principal at Cold Spring School, to Plymouth Police Chief Robert J. Pomeroy, expressing appreciation for Sergeant Shawn Coughlin's two visits to the school to discuss his job and how it relates to the students.

5.0 To receive a Policy CD.

Mr. Maestas presented the Plymouth Public Schools Policy Handbook CD,

indicating that it will be distributed to all staff, and updated yearly. He suggested that the Policy Handbook could be posted on the Plymouth School Committee website.

- 6.0 To receive a Unified Arts Director job description and take the necessary action(s).

Dr. Young presented the new Unified Arts Director job description, developed with the assistance of Mrs. Burgess, noting minor changes to Performance Responsibility Nos. 8 and 10. There were questions and comments from the Committee and a discussion followed. Performance Responsibility No. 14 was added and reads, "Works collaboratively with community arts organizations."

Motion by Mrs. Burgess to approve the Unified Arts Director job description as corrected, seconded by Mrs. Manfredi. Vote to approve the Unified Arts Director job description was unanimous.

- 7.0 To receive a report on the new bus contract.

Mr. Gurek reported on the bus contract process and announced that a new three-year contract had been signed with the current vendor and only bidder, First Student. He discussed the terms of the contract and responded to questions and comments from the Committee. Mr. Gurek recommended that consideration be given to routing, and that an increase in the bus fee may be in order. Mr. Maestas and Mr. Gurek will review the Transportation Policy.

- 8.0 To receive a report on FY07 Final Expenditures and warrants approval.

Mr. Gurek reported on end-of-year transactions. He indicated that the Summary Report ended in good shape with a cushion to Special Education. He is awaiting \$13,000 in Town adjustments to arrive at a \$.62 FY07 Year End Balance.

- 9.0 To discuss the 2008-2009 School Committee goals.

Mr. Haskell presented a draft of the School Committee Goals developed at the School Committee Retreat in June. The goals had to meet the criteria of being achievable and measurable. Five goals were presented and discussed; four goals were selected: Student Performance, Facilities, Community Relations, and School Safety and Climate. Mr. Haskell will prepare drafts of the four goals with "as measured by," for further review and discussion.

- 10.0 To discuss high school space.

Mr. Haskell reported that MSBA is now requesting the projected student

enrollment for K-12 for the years 2006-2016, and that he is in the process of compiling a statistical analysis to present to MSBA.

11.0 Reports.

11.1 Calendar of Events

None.

11.2 To receive reports and proposals from Committee members.

None.

11.3 To receive a report from the Plymouth Permanent School Building Committee.

Nothing to report.

11.4 To receive a report from the Plymouth Building Committee.

Mr. Begley requested the Plymouth Building Committee attend an upcoming School Committee Meeting to report progress at PCIS. Mr. Haskell indicated that it would be put on the Agenda for September 10, 2007.

11.5 To receive a report from the Communications Subcommittee.

Mr. Begley indicated he is tracking and will be reporting on the number of hits to the School Committee website. He also suggested televising the School Committee web address during the airing of the School Committee Meetings.

11.6 To receive reports and proposals from the Superintendent.

Mr. Haskell reported that all school principals are in place.

Mr. Haskell presented a Memorandum to the Board of Selectmen from The Town Manager, the Superintendent of Schools, and the Director of Planning and Development, recommending they exercise a Right of First Refusal to the 31.37 acres of Waverly Oaks land abutting Plymouth South High School, for the price of \$6,200,000, subject to appropriation by Town Meeting on July 10th.

Mr. Haskell announced adding a third School Resource Officer for middle schools costing \$35,000.

Mr. Haskell indicated that adding combined lacrosse would be a \$60,000-\$80,000 commitment.

11.7 Personnel

Dr. Young announced 23 appointments. Also noted are 5 leaves of absence, and 13 resignations.

12.0 To receive minutes from the following meeting and take the necessary action(s).

11.1 June 4, 2007

Motion by Mrs. Burgess to approve the minutes, seconded by Mr. Begley. Vote to approve the minutes was unanimous.

13.0 To receive recommendation(s) for the Disposal of Obsolete Equipment from the following school(s) and take the necessary action(s).

13.1 Plymouth North High School

13.2 Plymouth South High School

13.3 Plymouth South High School Tech Studies

13.4 Mr. Gurek noted the need for approval for the disposal of items of obsolete equipment from Plymouth North High School, Plymouth South High School, and Plymouth South High School Tech Studies.

Motion by Mrs. Manfredi to approve disposal of obsolete equipment from Plymouth North High School, Plymouth South High School, and Plymouth South High School Tech Studies, seconded by Mrs. Betz. Vote to approve disposal of obsolete equipment is unanimous.

14.0 To receive a schedule of bills and take the necessary action(s).

Mr. Gurek recommended FY07 A/P Warrant #56 dated July 12, 2007, in the amount of \$1,599,296.78, and FY08 A/P Warrant #4 dated July 12, 2007, in the amount of \$135,373.86. Motion by Mrs. Burgess to approve FY07 A/P Warrant #56 in the amount stated, and FY08 A/P Warrant #4 in the amount stated, seconded by Mrs. Betz. Vote to approve FY07 A/P Warrant #56 in the amount stated, and FY08 A/P Warrant #4 in the amount stated, is unanimous.

Motion by Mrs. Manfredi to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Bielen. Vote to adjourn is unanimous.

The meeting adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary