

Plymouth School Committee

March 19, 2007

A meeting of the Plymouth School Committee was held on Monday, March 19, 2007, at Plymouth Community Intermediate School at 7:00 p.m.

Members present were Linda McAlduff, John White, Margie Burgess, Jane Freedman, Nicole Manfredi, and Dennis Begley.

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

Mrs. McAlduff opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mrs. McAlduff noted that the first order of business is to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing contract negotiations and take the necessary actions.

Motion by Mr. Begley to go into Executive Session for the purpose stated, seconded by Mr. White. On a roll call vote to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing contract negotiations, all voting in favor, approved unanimously.

Into Executive Session at 7:01 p.m.

Out of Executive Session at 7:16 p.m.

The meeting reconvened at 7:16 p.m.

Mrs. McAlduff reported that the members present voted to approve the contract and thanked the EAPC for their hard work.

1.0 To receive comments from the general public.

Christine Benoit, former teacher at Plymouth North High School, came to the table to discuss the Plymouth North High School memorial bench. She requested it be grandfathered into the new Memorials policy.

2.0 To receive comments from student representatives.

None present.

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

Karen Mitchell, President, and Frank Smith, Vice President, of EAPC

came to the table and thanked the Committee for ratifying the contract for the EAPC. They expressed that they were looking forward to creating a closer partnership with the Committee, noting the development of a candidate recommendation committee for new elections to the School Committee, as well as starting a new cable TV show.

4.0 Communications

4.1 Correspondence

Mr. White noted a memo to Mr. Haskell from John Siever, Principal of Plymouth North High School, announcing their winners in the District One Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA) Marketing Competition for 2007. He noted and congratulated each winner.

Mr. White noted a letter copied to Mr. Haskell from Mr. Siever expressing his thanks to the Loretta LaRoche Productions for their \$6,000 donation to Plymouth North High School, also noting letters of appreciation sent to students who organized a raffle at the concert generating \$1,000. He noted and congratulated each of the students.

4.2 Retirements

Dr. Young announced the retirement of Judith Foster, Kindergarten Teacher at Indian Brook Elementary School. In behalf of the Committee, Mrs. Freedman thanked Mrs. Foster for her 23+ years of work in the school system and her contribution to excellence in education in Plymouth, noting the hundreds of students she set off in the right direction. She wished Mrs. Foster well in her retirement.

5.0 To receive recommendation(s) relative to the following policies and take the necessary action(s).

5.1 Memorials New

Mr. Maestas outlined the process and progress of the development of the new Memorials policy and presented it for discussion, noting Mrs. Freedman's twelve proposed drafts based on suggestions and recommendations from previous discussions, as well as Mr. Begley's breakdown of the twelve proposed drafts. By consensus, the Committee agreed to use Mr. Begley's breakdown to frame the discussion that followed. Topics of discussion included who may receive a memorial, what types of memorials are acceptable, scholarships, grants, the administration of memorials, tagging of memorials, plaques, customized memorials, and procedures for the grandfathering of approved or pending memorials. There was a

recommendation made that the principals must be in attendance for discussion of any pending or currently approved memorials. Mr. Maestas indicated that the Policy Subcommittee would take the tabled suggestions into consideration, rework the policy, and present another draft, for further discussion.

- 6.0 To discuss the Superintendent's evaluation and take the necessary action.

Mr. Haskell presented the Superintendent's Evaluation along with the Superintendent's Goals, including an outline of the areas worked on this year to meet those goals. Mr. Haskell will forward the Superintendent's Evaluation electronically to all Committee members. Each member will email his/her evaluation to Mrs. McAlduff not later than April 2, 2007.

- 7.0 To discuss high school space.

Mr. Haskell noted a copy of a letter from the New England Association of Schools & Colleges (NEASC) regarding Plymouth South High School's progress toward school renovations/additions. The letter outlined commendations and recommendations, continuing its warning status. A special progress report is due on November 1, 2007.

- 8.0 To discuss the FY08 budget and take the necessary action(s).

Mr. Haskell indicated that the Capital Outlay Committee has prioritized and forwarded the list to the Town Manager who will decide the amount of funds and which projects will be funded.

- 9.0 Reports

- 9.1 Calendar of Events

Mrs. Burgess noted a meeting of the Permanent School Building Committee on March 20th at Town Hall, at 6:30 p.m. Mrs. McAlduff noted a joint meeting of the Plymouth School Committee with the Planning Board and the Board of Selectmen on March 27th at Town Hall at 7:00 p.m.

- 9.2 To receive reports and proposals from Committee members.

Mrs. Burgess noted her attendance at the North East Sustainable Energy Conference at the World Trade Center and obtained materials on "green schools" and MSBA partnerships which Mr. Haskell and Mr. Maestas will review. The Energy Committee will make a presentation to the Selectman on March 20th. Mrs. Freedman restated a point from her attendance at the National School Board Association meeting in November regarding the need for indoctrination and orientation of newly elected School Board

members.

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

Mrs. Burgess reported they would meet on March 20th, at 6:30 p.m.

- 9.4 To receive a report from the Plymouth Building Committee.

Mr. White reported that they met and toured the Plymouth Community Intermediate School HVAC system along with the project manager. They will continue to meet twice a month and once a month with the project manager at PCIS. The HVAC system is the priority.

- 9.5 To receive a report from the Communications Subcommittee.

Nothing new to report.

- 9.6 To receive reports and proposals from the Superintendent.

Mr. Haskell noted his March 12th meeting with representatives of Home School Associations, PTAs, and PTOs wherein they discussed the Capital Outlay process, fundraising, the new high school project, memorials, and sponsorships. Mr. Haskell noted the joint meeting next week with the Selectmen and stated that they would discuss the facility master plan final report, as well as the SBA. Mr. Haskell reminded the Committee of their Wednesday, March 21st meeting at 6:00 p.m. with the Office of Educational Quality & Accountability (EQA) Visiting Team.

- 9.7 Personnel

Dr. Young announced one appointment, six leaves of absence, and one resignation.

- 10.0 To receive minutes from the following meetings and take the necessary action(s).

- 10.1 February 26, 2007

Motion to approve the minutes, by Mr. White. Seconded by Mr. Begley. Vote to approve the minutes was unanimous.

- 10.2 February 26, 2007, Executive Session

Motion to approve the minutes, by Mr. Begley. Seconded by Mr. White. Vote to approve the minutes was unanimous.

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

Mr. Gurek recommended FY07 A/P Warrant #39 dated March 22, 2007, in the amount of \$1,479,293.89. Motion by Mr. White to approve Warrant #39, in the amount stated, seconded by Mrs. Manfredi. Vote to approve payment of Warrant #39 was unanimous.

12.0 To discuss strategies with respect to unaffiliated contracts pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 39, Section 23B (3) and take the necessary action(s).

Motion by Mrs. Manfredi to go into Executive Session for the purposes stated, seconded by Mrs. Manfredi. On a roll call vote to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing strategies with respect to unaffiliated contracts pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 39, Section 23B (3), all voting in favor, approved unanimously.

Into Executive Session at 8:57 p.m.

Out of Executive Session at 9:40 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary