

## Plymouth School Committee

May 21, 2007

A meeting of the Plymouth School Committee was held on Monday, May 21, 2007, at Plymouth Community Intermediate School at 7:00 p.m.

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

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

Mrs. Burgess called the meeting to order and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mrs. Burgess announced the annual School Committee Organization.

### 1.0 Annual Plymouth School Committee Organization

#### 1.1 To receive nominations for the following officers of the School Committee and take the necessary action(s).

##### 1.1.1 Chair

Mr. Begley nominated Linda McAlduff as Chair of the Plymouth School Committee, seconded by Nicole Manfredi. Vote to elect Linda McAlduff as Chair is unanimous.

##### 1.1.2 Vice Chair

Mr. Begley nominated John White as Vice Chair of the Plymouth School Committee, seconded by Mrs. Manfredi. Vote to elect John White as Vice Chair is unanimous.

##### 1.1.2 Secretary

Mr. White nominated Margie Burgess as Secretary of the Plymouth School Committee, seconded by Mrs. Manfredi. Vote to elect Margie Burgess as Secretary is unanimous.

#### 1.2 To discuss the annual appointments to subcommittees and school liaisons.

### 2.0 To receive comments from the general public.

Amy Collins, parent of a kindergarten student at Nathaniel Morton Elementary School, spoke regarding the need for more teachers in the

kindergarten classes and requested a discussion at the next meeting.

3.0 To receive comments from student representatives.

No student representatives were present; however, Mrs. Burgess introduced a senior student who participated in the Great East Festivals with other chorus members, where they won a Gold placement.

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

Karen Mitchell, President of EAPC, welcomed the two newest members of the school committee and announced that she will introduce the EAPC's new officers at next month's meeting.

5.0 Communications

5.1 Correspondence

Mr. White read a memo from Mr. Valente to Mr. Haskell regarding the Skills USA & DECA. He announced and congratulated all students who won medals in their trade areas, and in marketing, noting that Plymouth South is the first school, ever, in Massachusetts to receive the Gold Medal for Business Plan Event.

5.2 Retirements

Dr. Young announced 2 retirements: Candace Perry, Art Teacher for 32 years at Plymouth South High School; and Norman Jenkins, Head Custodian at Manomet Elementary for 20+ years. On behalf of the Committee, Mr. White thanked Mrs. Perry and Mr. Jenkins for their combined 52 years of service and for their dedication and service to the children of Plymouth.

6.0 To receive Science Fair State and International students and projects.

Mr. Haskell announced a presentation by students who participated in State, National, and International Science Fairs. Mr. Micozzi, Science Coordinator, introduced 9 of 12 students who presented their projects, noting Lauren Maloney, a junior from Plymouth North High, as the first Plymouth student, ever, to go on to the International Science and Engineering Fair twice.

Meeting into recess at 7:40 p.m.

Meeting reconvened at 7:47 p.m.

Mrs. McAlduff returned to Agenda Item 1.2 and discussed annual appointments to school committees and school liaisons.

7.0 To receive School Improvement Plan from the following schools and take the necessary actions.

7.1 Plymouth South High School

Ms. Connors, Principal of Plymouth South High School, thanked the members of the School Council and discussed accomplishments of goals outlined in the 2006-2007 School Improvement Plan for ELA, Math, and Culture and Climate. Jim Hanna, Housemaster of Freshman Academy, discussed the success of the "Failure Is Not an Option" program and plans to move forward with it in 2007-2008. Ms. Connors noted a consistency of goals for the 2007-2008 School Improvement Plan and discussed the four goals of proficiency in ELA, proficiency in Math, a Safe and Drug Free School, including Climate and Culture, and to enhance visibility. A brief discussion of credit recovery followed.

Motion by Mrs. Burgess to accept the School Improvement Plan for Plymouth South High School, seconded by Mr. Begley. Vote to approve School Improvement Plan for Plymouth South High School is unanimous.

7.2 South Elementary School

Ellen Gunning, Principal, introduced the School Council Members. She reviewed accomplishments of last year's goals and discussed how this year's goals are built upon those achievements for ELA and Math. Daniel Sylvestre, Physical Education teacher at South Elementary School, discussed the accomplishments of the Beautification Committee and the goals for 2007-2008, noting fundraising and community involvement in the continued refurbishing of athletic fields and a watering system for them.

Motion by Mrs. Burgess to approve the School Improvement Plan for South Elementary School, seconded by Mr. Begley. Vote to approve School Improvement Plan for South Elementary School is unanimous.

7.3 Indian Brook Elementary School

Dan Harold, Principal, introduced the members of the School Council. He presented a synopsis of the goals for 2006-2007, noting adjustments and improvements for 2007-2008 for proficiency in ELA and Math, noting pre and post-school programs. He discussed Goal #3 to "Encourage Healthy Lifestyles," noting the success of the Bullying Program and plans for its continuation in 2007-2008, as well as implementations for school safety. He discussed Goal #4 to "Create a Readiness Support Program,"

noting computer usage, the need for alternate approaches to parent involvement, and teacher/volunteer training. A discussion of the guidelines for volunteer involvement followed.

Motion by Mr. Begley to approve the School Improvement Plan for Indian Brook Elementary School, seconded by Mrs. Manfredi. Vote to approve the School Improvement Plan for Indian Brook Elementary School is unanimous.

8.0 To discuss High School space – Statements of Interest.

Mr. Haskell presented the Statements of Interest for each building project as required by MSBA, noting their additional request for current and projected demographic information by school. Mr. Haskell acknowledged and thanked Ms. Connors, Mr. Siever, and Mr. Montrond, for their work on the Statements of Interest, as well as Mr. Wohlander for demographic information, and Mr. Hartmann in the Town Planning Department for demographic projections. He requested feedback on the draft Statements of Interest by the Committee.

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

Mr. Haskell announced that the Annual Budget Book was printed and included in the agenda. He noted that the Finance Committee had reviewed and recommended the School Committee has approved FY08 budget with additional funds of \$72,072,076, and that it will be presented to Town Meeting by the Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee.

10.0 To receive a report on the National School Board Association National Conference.

Mrs. McAlduff presented a report on her attendance at the National School Board Association National Conference in San Francisco. She gave an overview of the general sessions and workshops, highlighting President Clinton's presentation and message to focus on children's health and combat childhood obesity under his Alliance for Healthier Children. Mrs. McAlduff noted that the Plymouth Schools are on target with Mr. Clinton's recommendations to schools. Mrs. McAlduff indicated that she will provide other handouts to the committee at future workshops on the subject.

11.0 Reports

11.1 Calendar of Events

Graduation on June 2<sup>nd</sup> was added to the calendar. May 30<sup>th</sup> and May 31<sup>st</sup> was noted for Plymouth North and South High Schools' Honors and Scholarship nights.

- 11.2 To receive reports and proposals from Committee members.

Mr. White reported having attended “Three Cheers for the Red, White and Blue,” performed by the kindergarten classes of Indian Brook Elementary School. Mrs. Burgess noted her participation in an EPA and Energy Star conference call, as well as a workshop on energy saving.

- 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. White noted that the next meeting is Thursday, May 24<sup>th</sup>, for a Plymouth Community Intermediate School HVAC update.

- 11.5 To receive a report from the Communications Subcommittee.

Nothing to report.

- 11.6 To receive reports and proposals from the Superintendent.

Mr. Haskell reported on his attendance, along with Police Chief Robert Pomeroy, at the Chief Executive Officer Safety Schools Forum in Appleton, Wisconsin, where interagency programs, their development, and training was discussed, as well as the types of interagency programs currently in place. They worked on an action plan that will be reviewed for implementation. Assistance with a school crisis prevention plan was offered, along with recommendations for broadening views on school safety with an emphasis on prevention.

Mr. Haskell requested that suggestions for dates for an all-day School Committee retreat be emailed to Barbara Zazzarino.

Mr. Haskell noted graduation on June 2<sup>nd</sup> with ceremonies at Memorial Hall; Plymouth North High School at 10:00 a.m., and Plymouth South High School at 1:00 p.m. He provided instructions for those Committee members wishing to attend. He also noted the start times for Honors and Scholarships Nights with Plymouth South High School at 7:00 pm, and Plymouth North High School at 7:30 pm on their respective dates.

- 11.7 Personnel

Dr. Young announced 2 appointments of 2 certificated staff, 1 leave

of absence, and 8 resignations, including Nancy Pelletier, Vice Principal of Indian Brook Elementary School for 14 years, with regrets. In addition, a reception for Mary Mortensen, the new principal of Plymouth North High School, will be held on June 5<sup>th</sup> from 2:30-3:30 p.m., at Plymouth North High School.

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

12.1 Plymouth North High School

12.2 Plymouth South High School

Mr. Gurek noted the need for approval for the disposal of approximately 16 items of obsolete equipment from Plymouth North High and Plymouth South High Schools.

Motion by Mr. White to approve disposal of obsolete equipment from Plymouth North and Plymouth South High Schools, seconded by Mrs. Manfredi. Vote to approve disposal of obsolete equipment is unanimous.

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

Mr. Gurek recommended A/P Warrant #48 dated May 24, 2007, in the amount of \$1,323,396.21. Motion by Mr. White to approve Warrant #48 in the amount stated, seconded by Mrs. Burgess. Vote to approve Warrant #48 is unanimous.

Mrs. McAlduff welcomed Mrs. Betz and Mr. Bielen to the Committee and congratulated them.

Motion by Mr. White to adjourn, seconded by Mrs. Burgess. Vote to adjourn is unanimous.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary