

Plymouth School Committee

September 11, 2006

A meeting of the Plymouth School Committee was held on Monday, September 11, 2006, at Plymouth Community Intermediate School at 7:00 p.m.

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

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

The meeting was called to order by Chair, Linda McAlduff, and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. Ms. McAlduff then asked for a Moment of Silence to remember and reflect on this September 11th National Day of Mourning. Ms. McAlduff also asked for an additional Moment of Silence for Jean Patenaude who served for 42 years in the Plymouth School System as head guidance coordinator and guidance counselor at Plymouth Community Intermediate School and as a teacher of English, Social Studies and Latin at Plymouth Junior High School.

- 1.0 To introduce new teachers and Lisa White, English Language Arts Coordinator.

Ms. McAlduff welcomed all new teachers and turned the introductions over to Dr. Young. Dr. Young reported that there were 73 new teachers this year and reviewed their broad areas of expertise.

Dr. Young reported that there were too many to introduce individually and asked that teachers stand when their schools were called. She further reported that there were seven new teachers at Federal Furnace Elementary School, two at Indian Brook Elementary School, four at Manomet Elementary School, two at Mt. Pleasant Preschool, one at Nathaniel Morton Elementary School, fifteen at Plymouth Community Intermediate School, twelve at Plymouth North High School, sixteen at Plymouth South High School, four at Plymouth South Middle School, three at South Elementary School and four at West Elementary School.

In addition, Dr. Young welcomed three representatives from My Turn, which is a program that runs at both high schools.

Dr. Young then welcomed and introduced the new administrators and asked that they come before the Committee. They are Kevin Farrell, Housemaster at Plymouth North High School; Jim Hanna, Housemaster at

Plymouth South High School; Derek Thompson, Vice Principal at Plymouth North High School; Carolyn Whittle, Vice Principal at Plymouth South High School and Lisa White, ELA Coordinator.

Mr. Haskell welcomed the new administrators and Ms. McAlduff also welcomed them and thanked them for being there. Ms. Burgess then complimented Ms. Whittle on her good job this year. She welcomed all new teachers.

Ms. Freedman then welcomed the new Recording Secretary, Maureen Rosa. Ms. McAlduff then welcomed Ms. Rosa officially from the School Committee.

2.0 To receive comments from the general public.

Sgt. First Class O'Donnell, career counselor with the Army National Guard, expressed his concern about no access to the high schools. He indicated he thought it was an injustice to the students to not allow the military into the schools.

Ms. McAlduff stated that it was the policy of the Committee during general public speaking to listen and say thank you. She thanked him for his service and for being there.

3.0 To receive comments from student representatives.

None

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

Karen Mitchell, President of EAPC, and Frank Smith, Vice President, were present. Ms. Mitchell reported that they had come as an association to speak in favor of Question No. 1. They are unequivocally in support of the School Committee and various other organizations around the Town of Plymouth working for a "Yes" vote. She thanked everyone involved. Mr. Smith also thanked the Committee and other various organizations.

Ms. McAlduff thanked them for their support.

5.0 Communications

5.1 Retirements.

Dr. Young reported that there were two retirements: Barbara Gregory, Grade 5 Classroom Teacher at Hedge Elementary School

(35 years) and Barbara Laverty, Grade 3 Classroom Teacher at Hedge Elementary School (21 years 8 months).

Mrs. Freedman, on behalf of the Committee, thanked the retirees for their years of service and contributions to excellence in education in Plymouth and wished them both well in their retirement.

6.0 To receive a report on expectations of School Resource Officers.

Mr. Haskell asked the School Resource Officers (SRO) to come before the Committee. Mr. Haskell introduced Officer Robert Hicks who will be servicing Plymouth South High School and Plymouth South Middle School, as well as Officer Kenneth Groppi who will service Plymouth North High School and Plymouth Community Intermediate School.

Mr. Haskell welcomed Officers Hicks and Groppi as our schools' Resource Officers. Mr. Haskell explained the outline of the SRO Program. He reported that it is a TRIAD Program. The Program is using the Police Officer to perform in roles as Police Officer, Teacher and Counselor. He went on to say the Committee has worked hard to bring this program to Plymouth. He stated that having SRO's is a pro-active statement. It is an effort on our part to avoid issues rather than be reactionary and have to call for help because an incident has occurred.

Linda McAlduff welcomed both officers and asked them to introduce themselves.

Margie Burgess welcomed the officers and asked Officer Hicks to give the Committee his background with the schools.

Pat Adelman welcomed Officer Hicks and thanked him for his good rapport with the students. She welcomed both officers and thanked them for being there.

Jane Freedman asked the officers to express thanks to Chief Pomeroy and express gratitude for supporting this program from the beginning. She also stated how appropriate it is that today is September 11th and we are hearing about yet another program that exemplifies the commitment of the Police Department to the community and its citizens.

John White asked the officers to explain their schedules. Officer Groppi reported that they are stationed at the high schools. Officer Groppi has an office at Plymouth North High School and Officer Hicks has an office at Plymouth South High School. Officer Groppi reported that primarily they

will be at the high schools with calls to the middle schools. He stated that their schedules model the schools' schedules.

Mr. Haskell reported that they will be developing programs at the middle school, i.e. school safety, anti-bullying, etc. The original grant was for four officers, two at the middle schools and two at the high schools. Each officer has the opportunity to develop relationships with students at both the high school and middle school.

Margie Burgess asked if there would be any involvement in extra-curricular activities. Officer Hicks reported that they would be attending some events.

Mr. Haskell stated that it would be in addition to any officer on duty. The SRO's would be with the students. They are not designed to be in place of an on-duty officer.

Linda McAlduff thanked them both and wished them a great year.

7.0 To receive recommendation(s) relative to the School Year 2006-2007 Home Education Program and take the necessary action(s).

- 7.1 Case #022 – 07
- 7.2 Case #023 – 07
- 7.3 Case #024 – 07
- 7.4 Case #025 – 07
- 7.5 Case #026 – 07
- 7.6 Case #027 – 07
- 7.7 Case #029 – 07
- 7.8 Case #030 – 07
- 7.9 Case #031 – 07
- 7.10 Case #032 – 07
- 7.11 Case #033 – 07
- 7.12 Case #034 – 07
- 7.13 Case #035 – 07
- 7.14 Case #036 – 07
- 7.15 Case #037 – 07
- 7.16 Case #038 – 07
- 7.17 Case #044 – 07
- 7.18 Case #045 – 07
- 7.19 Case #052 – 07

Mr. Haskell explained that these are the second Home-School recommendations for the 2006-2007 School year and stated that Mr. Sherman has worked with each of the families to be sure that all of the programs comply with state guidelines and that all of these plans meet at

least a minimum standard. He stated that this is an action item and recommended approval of these plans.

Mrs. Burgess moved to approve the plans as recommended, seconded by Mr. White. Vote to approve the motion was unanimous.

8.0 To discuss School Committee goals and take the necessary action(s).

Mr. Haskell reported that some of the goals are ongoing and would like to know what items the Committee would like to work on. These goals really serve as the direction for the school district. The Superintendent's goals are based on these as are the goals of our schools.

Lengthy discussion followed about each of the goals, including student performance, facilities, highly qualified work force, community relations, and school safety and climate.

9.0 To discuss high school space.

Mr. Haskell reported that we are getting down to the wire. He discussed compliance with DEP regulations.

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

Mr. Haskell reported that he has been working with Mark Sylvia and Bruce Miller and explained the revenue projections for FY08.

11.0 Reports

11.1 Calendar of Events.

There will be no Building Committee meeting on the 12th.

11.2 To receive reports and proposals from Committee members.

Margie Burgess gave a report on the Energy Committee.

Robert Gurek updated the Committee on the energy savings realized. He stated he will be bringing a report to the School Committee in the future.

Discussion followed.

Margie Burgess stated that the Obery Street Master Plan has been approved and will go to the Selectmen.

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

Linda McAlduff stated that the Permanent School Building Committee will be meeting regularly with the School Building Committee. She stated that the Chairman of the Permanent School Building Committee has resigned and Nancy Scheid will be the Chairman with Christopher Grant serving as the Vice-Chairman.

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

Pat Adelman gave a report from the Plymouth Building Committee.

- 11.5 To receive reports from the Communications Subcommittee.

Nicole Manfredi gave a report from the Communications Subcommittee.

- 11.6 To receive reports and proposals from the Superintendent.

Mr. Haskell reported that the first two weeks have gone well. He reported on the enrollments at the various schools. He explained the difficulties due to the many changes.

Linda McAlduff asked about the space per student. It was explained that this differs by level. Mr. Haskell explained the special education laws.

Discussion followed.

- 11.7 Personnel

Dr. Young explained that there were thirty-two appointments, nineteen certificated, eight classified, five coaches and four leaves of absence. She stated there were also twenty-two resignations.

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

- 12.1 July 17, 2006

Motion by Pat Adelman, second by Nicole Manfredi, to accept the minutes of the July 17, 2006. Vote to approve the motion was unanimous.

12.2 July 17, 2006, Executive Session

Motion by Pat Adelman, second by Nicole Manfredi, to accept the July 17, 2006, Executive Session minutes. Vote to approve the motion was unanimous.

12.3 August 21, 2006

Motion by John White, second by Pat Adelman, to accept the minutes of August 21, 2006. Vote to approve the motion was unanimous.

12.4 August 21, 2006, Executive Session

Motion by Pat Adelman, second by Margie Burgess, to accept the August 21, 2006, Executive Session minutes. Vote to approve the motion was unanimous

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

Robert Gurek presented the warrant for approval.

Motion by John White, second by Nicole Manfredi to approve warrant #12 in the amount of \$1,309,969.77. Approved unanimously.

Motion by John White, second by Margie Burgess, to adjourn. Approved unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 9:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary