

Plymouth School Committee

September 18, 2006

A meeting of the Plymouth School Committee was held on Monday, September 18, 2006, at Plymouth Community Intermediate School at 7:00 p.m.

Members present were Linda McAlduff, John White, Margie Burgess, 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.

1.0 To receive comments from the general public.

Peta Shepherd from Educate Plymouth joined members at the table to thank the Committee and Administration for working toward a "Yes" vote in tomorrow's election. She requested that the community make every effort to get out and vote.

2.0 To receive comments from student representatives.

Devon Legare and Kaitlin Pisano of Plymouth South High School joined members at the table. Kaitlin introduced Devon to the Committee. Devon reported that the school year is off to a good start and stated the students are busy with the freshmen elections, sports, planning the junior prom and senior Oktoberfest.

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

Frank Smith, Vice President of the EAPC, joined members at the table to thank them for their support and to urge everyone to vote in tomorrow's election.

4.0 Communications

4.1 Dr. Young reported on the retirement of Lillian Brenner.

John White, on behalf of the Committee, thanked Mrs. Brenner for her thirty-five years of service and wished her well in her retirement.

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

- 5.1 Case #013-07
- 5.2 Case #014-07
- 5.3 Case #018-07
- 5.4 Case #039-07
- 5.5 Case #040-07
- 5.6 Case #041-07

Mr. Haskell explained that Bob Sherman has reviewed each of these plans to make sure they meet state guidelines. He stated he recommends their approval.

Motion by Pat Adelman, second by John White, to approve the Home Education Programs. Approved unanimously.

6.0 To receive a report on the Superintendent's Goals and take the necessary action(s).

Mr. Haskell explained the five goals outlined in the packet. He stated he will continue to work on the "as measured by" portion. He suggested that his goals should dovetail the goals of the School Committee as both are supposed to be working on similar things.

Discussion followed.

7.0 To receive recommendation(s) relative to the following job descriptions and take the necessary action(s).

7.1 Title 1 Director

Dr. Young explained the proposed changes to the Title 1 Director job description in detail. She also stated that she needs someone to serve on the screening committee which will be convening next week.

Pat Adelman emphasized #9 under qualifications and stated she thought it was important in case they find a good candidate who didn't meet the qualifications under #1.

Dr. Young thanked Pat Adelman and Jane Freedman for working on this revision with her.

Motion by Margie Burgess, second by John White, to accept the new Title 1 Director job description as presented. Approved unanimously.

8.0 To discuss high school space.

Mr. Haskell reported that tomorrow is the big day when the community has to make a decision. He stated that kids don't always believe what we tell them, but they believe what we do. He stated there is no plan B and we can't manufacture space.

Nicole Manfredi thanked Peta Shepherd and Anne DiFrancesco for working tirelessly for a "Yes" vote. Linda McAlduff thanked them as well. Pat Adelman echoed their sentiments and thanked the volunteers and the public for being so well informed. Margie Burgess also thanked everyone who worked for a "Yes" vote. John White thanked Peta, Anne, and Educate Plymouth. He urged everyone to go to the polls tomorrow and vote "Yes."

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

Mr. Haskell reported that they continue to work on the budget but there is nothing new to report.

Margie Burgess expressed her concern that people in the community feel that the budget process is a closed process. She stated that the budget process is open to the public and anyone can access the budget. She stated there will be public hearings in November and stated that anyone wishing to see the budget can obtain a copy from the School Department or from a School Committee member.

John White stated the public hearings will be held on November 6, 7 and 8.

Robert Gurek explained the three-tiered budget, stating there is a level service budget, a recovery of services budget and an adjustment to either of those budgets. He stated this is an open process available to the public and he encouraged everyone to participate.

10.0 Reports

10.1 Calendar of Events.

There are no changes.

10.2 To receive reports and proposals from Committee members.

Margie Burgess reported that tomorrow night at the Selectmen's Meeting, the Obery Street Committee will be presenting two by-laws as a result of the Master Plan. She stated they will be meeting at Plymouth Community Intermediate School at 7:00 p.m.

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

Margie Burgess stated they haven't met since the last School Committee meeting.

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

Pat Adelman reported that there was nothing to report.

- 10.5 To receive a report from the Communications Subcommittee.

It was reported that they haven't met since the last School Committee meeting.

- 10.6 To receive reports and proposals from the Superintendent.

Mr. Haskell reported that Sgt. O'Donnell spoke to the School Committee about access to the students. He stated that we provide the same access to the military as we do to college recruiters. He stated that he suggested to Sgt. O'Donnell that they hold events in the evenings for parents and so far this has been declined. He stated that under No Child Left Behind, we are mandated to provide names to the military but there is also an opt-out provision.

- 10.7 Personnel

Dr. Young reported on the appointments of sixteen certificated staff, eight classified staff and one coach as well as three resignations.

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

- 11.1 Plymouth North High School

- 11.2 Plymouth South High School

Robert Gurek explained that the items were obsolete.

Motion by John White, second by Nicole Manfredi, to approve the disposal of twelve computers from Plymouth North and a printer and computer at Plymouth South High School. Approved unanimously.

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

Motion by Margie Burgess, second by John White to approve Warrant #13 dated September 21, 2006, in the amount of \$581,344.87. Approved unanimously.

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

Motion by John White, second by Dennis Begley to go into Executive Session to discuss strategies with respect to collective bargaining pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 39, Section 23B (3) and take the necessary action(s). On a roll call vote, all voting in favor, approved unanimously.

Into Executive Session at 7:52 p.m.

Out of Executive Session at 8:16 p.m.

Motion by John White, second by Nicole Manfredi, to adjourn. Approved unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary