

## OPEN SESSION

**SHARON PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
School Committee Meeting  
**Wednesday, September 28, 2005**  
Administration Building  
One School Street  
Sharon, MA 02067

**Present:** Mr. Mitchell Blaustein, Mrs. Jane Furr, Mrs. Suzanne Gervais, Mr. Donald Gilligan, Mr. Sam Liao (arrived at 8:41 p.m.), Mr. Andrew Nebenzahl

**Also present for the Open Session meeting:** Dr. Claire Jackson, Dr. Barbara Dunham, Lior Haas, Student Representative, Mr. Alpert from the Finance Committee, Leo Brehm, Ken Wertz, Gordon Gladstone, Maureen Doherty, a representative from Connect Ed and a representative from the community.

Mr. Nebenzahl called the Open Session meeting to order at 7:38 p.m.

### **ADMINISTRATIVE/REGULAR ITEMS**

#### **Correspondence**

Mrs. Furr read a letter from Thor VanVaerenwyck, Chair of the STA Negotiating Committee, requesting the School Committee to begin the process of collective bargaining for a new STA Agreement.

#### **Approve Minutes**

**MOTION:** (Furr/Gervais) Moved to approve the Executive and Open Session minutes for the September 7, 2005 meeting as drafted and submitted. Vote was five in the affirmative. Mr. Liao was absent.

#### **Introduce Student Representative**

Lior Haas, was introduced as Sharon High School's student representative to the School Committee for the 2005-06 school year.

#### **Announcements**

Dr. Jackson distributed an analysis of home-educated students for the past three years, indicating a decline: 2003-2004 – 18 students; 2004-2005 – 11 students; 2005-2006 – 8 students.

### **STRATEGIC PLANNING/POLICY ITEMS**

#### **Discuss Acceptance of East and Cottage Schools**

Mr. Gladstone explained to the Committee that a formal vote accepting the Cottage and East Schools was needed in order to file for reimbursement from the state. Mr. Gladstone explained that the Standing Building Committee would continue to finalize the outstanding items on the punch lists and an acceptance vote would not affect the responsibilities of the Standing Building Committee in

regard to completing the punch lists. After a brief discussion, Mr. Nebenzahl requested a motion for a vote.

**MOTION:** (Furr / Gervais) Moved to accept the Cottage Street School for educational purposes. Vote was five in the affirmative. Mr. Liao was absent.

**MOTION:** (Furr / Gervais) Moved to accept the East Elementary School for educational purposes. Voted was five in the affirmative. Mr. Liao was absent.

Mrs. Doherty gave an update on the status of the HVAC project at the Middle School. She stated that the work of the contractor has been exemplary and the project is ahead of schedule.

### **Discuss Capital Outlay Planning**

Mr. Nebenzahl stated that because some of the capital requests were submitted late, this agenda item would be deferred until the Oct. 11<sup>th</sup> meeting.

### **Announce Sub-committee Appointments**

The sub-committee appointments for the 2005-2006 school year will be:

#### **TOWN COMMITTEE:**

Priorities Com.	A. Nebenzahl, D. Gilligan (M. Blaustein – alternate)
Capital Outlay Com.	J. Furr, S. Liao (D. Gilligan – alternate)
Government Study Com.	A. Nebenzahl (M. Blaustein – alternate)
Standing Building Com.	D. Gilligan (S. Liao – alternate)
Recreation Com.	M. Blaustein (J. Furr – alternate)
Com. Youth Coalition	S. Gervais (J. Furr – alternate)

#### **S.C. SUB COMMITTEES**

Teaching & Learning	J. Furr, S. Gervais (D. Gilligan – alternate)
Personnel, STA	TBA
Facilities, SBC, SBA	D. Gilligan (S. Liao – alternate)
Health Issues Joint Com.	S. Gervais (S. Liao – alternate)

#### **SCHOOL LIAISONS**

East PTO	D. Gilligan
Cottage PTO	A. Nebenzahl
Heights PTO	S. Gervais
Middle PTO	J. Furr
High School PTO	S. Liao
Alternative School PTO	M. Blaustein
SSEPAC	S. Gervais
Early Childhood PTO	S. Liao

Mr. Nebenzahl stated that the sub-committee assignments would be posted on the web.

### **Vote School Committee Goals 4-7**

Mrs. Furr requested that prior to taking a vote on the remaining goals, that an additional long-term goal be added: "Continue to broaden the foreign language program to include: Expansion of foreign language to the elementary level."

**MOTION:** (Gilligan/Gervais) Moved to adopt the Goals 4-8 as amended. Vote was five in the affirmative. Mr. Liao was absent.

### **Rental Policy**

Dr. Dunham reviewed the current rental policy and the requested language change. The current policy reads: Non-profit groups – comprised primarily of residents, who rent a facility will be granted a 40% reduction in rental fees. The suggested language change would read:

In June, July and August, a 50% reduction in rental fees will be granted to non-profit groups comprised primarily of residents, who rent a school facility. During other months of the year, the reduction in rental fees for the same groups will be 40%.

**MOTION:** (Gervais/Furr) Moved to adopt the administration's recommendation on language change in the rental policy. Vote was five in the affirmative. Mr. Liao was absent.

### **SUPERINTENDENT'S ITEMS**

#### **Presentation on Trip to China**

Dr. Jackson showed a brief video of her recent to China. While she was in Brookline, Dr. Jackson entered into a student and teacher exchange with the Gaoxin School. She was a guest of the provincial government to celebrate the tenth anniversary of the Gaoxin School.

#### **Budget Update and Proposed Timelines**

Dr. Dunham outlined the preliminary proposed budget timeline for the 2006-2007 budget: 12/7/05 – Budget hearing FY07; 12/21/05 – Draft preliminary FY07 budget; 1/18/06 – Semi-final preliminary FY07 budget; 2/15/06 – Final preliminary FY07 budget; 3/06 – Present budget to Finance Committee; 5/8 & 9/06 – Town Meeting; 5/24/06 – Final FY07 budget to be voted by School Committee. These dates are preliminary and subject to change.

#### **Introduction to Connect-Ed**

Leo Brehm, Technology Director, gave an overview of the program and answered any questions members had regarding the implementation and protocol to be used. Some local communities that have Connect-Ed are: Weymouth Public Schools; Braintree Public Schools and Marshfield Public Schools. Mr. Brehm will be in contact with these schools and will model Sharon's implementation after these schools. He will coordinate all facets of Connect Ed.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

Dr. Dunham stated that while the High School is not in session, work will be done on the entrance to the student parking lot.

Mrs. Gervais inquired as to how the full-day kindergarten was progressing and whether the fees had been received and how they were being expended. Dr. Dunham stated that there are 15 families who have not yet paid the tuition. If the

fees are not paid, these families would be dropped from the full-day kindergarten program and placed in the half-day program.

There being no further business to come before the Committee, Mr. Nebenzahl requested a motion to adjourn.

**MOTION:** (Blaustein/Gervais) Moved to adjourn the Open Session meeting at 9:43 p.m. Vote was six in the affirmative.

Submitted on behalf of the School. Committee by: Helen Campanario, Recording Secretary