

OPEN SESSION

SHARON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

School Committee Meeting

Wednesday, June 21, 2006

Administration Building

One School Street

Sharon, MA 02067

Present: Mr. Glenn Allen, Mr. Mitchell Blaustein, Ms. Suzanne Gervais, Mr. Sam Liao, Mr. Andrew Nebenzahl

Absent: Mr. Donald Gilligan

Also present for the Open Session meeting: Dr. Claire Jackson, Dr. Barbara Dunham, Attorney Harry Beach, Jose Libano, Peg Arguimbau, Thor VanVaerenewyck, Ellen Bender, members of the community and a member of the press

Mr. Nebenzahl called the Open Session meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

ADMINISTRATIVE/REGULAR ITEMS

Correspondence

Three pieces of correspondence were received:

- A communication from the Norfolk County Sheriff's Office outlining the youth programs that will be offered this summer. This will be posted on the school's web site.
- A letter from Jeannine Neuman expressing her concerns regarding the budget for next year.
- A letter from Nadine Tung expressing her support of the Community Service Learning Program.

Approve Minutes

MOTION: (Gervais/Liao) Moved to approve the Executive and Open Session minutes of the May 24, 2006 meeting as drafted and submitted. Vote was four in the affirmative. Mr. Allen abstained.

MOTION: (Blaustein/Liao) Moved to approve the Executive and Open Session minutes of the June 7, 2006 meeting as drafted and submitted. Vote was three in the affirmative. Mr. Allen and Ms. Gervais abstained.

Student Representative

Lior Haas, Student Representative, updated the Committee on events at the High School:

- The Boys' Varsity Tennis Team won the State Championship for the second year in a row.
- The schedules for next year have been issued and modifications will be made prior to the start of school.

Mr. Nebenzahl presented Lior with a plaque from the MASC (Massachusetts Association of School Committees) for being an outstanding student representative to the School Committee.

Announcements

In response to community and School Committee concerns regarding the preservation of the Community Service Learning Program for 06-07, Dr. Jackson met with its Director. The Director will attempt to secure grant funding in order to move the agenda forward.

Mr. Liao reminded everyone of the upcoming Father Bullock Road Race Fund Raiser, which will take place on Sunday, June 11th.

SUPERINTENDENT'S ITEMS

Introduce High School Principal

Dr. Jackson introduced Mr. Jose Libano, our newly appointed High School Principal. Mr. Libano received his graduate and undergraduate degrees from Providence College. Prior to his appointment in Sharon, Mr. Libano was Assistant Principal of Dighton-Rehoboth High School.

FY 07 Staffing Proposal

Dr. Jackson outlined her staffing proposal for the 2006-07 school year:

- Maintain the system-wide stringed instrument music teacher
- \$30,000 for professional development system-wide
- \$26,438 for community service learning stipends to be allocated to individual schools
- .5 SPED evaluator was left off the budget in error

MOTION: (Blaustein/Liao) Moved to approve the staffing proposal for FY 07 as recommended by Dr. Jackson. Vote was five in the affirmative.

Award Bid for Food Services

Dr. Dunham highlighted the School Committee memo regarding the bid for food services. The bids went out in June. Chartwells, our current vendor, was the sole bid. Dr. Dunham requested the Committee to vote approval of a three-year contract to Chartwells. Mr. Liao inquired why only one bid was received. Dr. Dunham stated that it is very time consuming for potential vendors to submit a bid. As Sharon has been satisfied with Chartwells, vendors chose not to dedicate the time to submitting a bid.

MOTION: (Blaustein/Allen) Moved to award the food service contract to Chartwells Food Service Company and authorize the Chair to sign documentation on behalf of the Sharon Public Schools. Vote was five in the affirmative.

Vote Health and Wellness Policy

Dr. Jackson explained that Federal law requires public schools to adopt a wellness policy. Dr. Dunham and the Wellness Committee created the policy

submitted to the School Committee. Dr. Jackson requested the Committee to vote the approval of this policy.

There was a brief discussion regarding food allergies and how information regarding specific students with allergies is disseminated.

MOTION: (Gervais/Liao) Moved to adopt the Sharon Public Schools Wellness Policy as recommended by Dr. Jackson and Dr. Dunham. Vote was five in the affirmative.

Consider Extra Curriculum Transportation Policy

Dr. Jackson asked the Committee to review the proposed co-curricular transportation policy that was in their packet. The Committee will consider a vote on the policy in the fall.

STRATEGIC PLANNING/POLICY ITEMS

Ratify and Vote STA Contract

Attorney Beach, on behalf of the Sharon School Committee and the Superintendent of Schools, submitted the proposed agreement between the Sharon Teachers' Association and the Sharon School Committee for ratification. The STA voted approval of the contract on June 13th. The contract will be in effect from July 1, 2006 through June 30th 2009.

MOTION: (Liao/Gervais) Moved to ratify the proposed agreement with the Sharon Teachers' Association as embodied in the documents and as recommended by Attorney Harry Beach. Vote was five in the affirmative.

Dr. Jackson and the School Committee expressed their appreciation to the STA for their spirit of collegiality during the negotiation process.

Dr. Jackson, Mr. Nebenzahl, Peg Arguimbau and Thor VanVaerenewyck formally signed the documents.

Attorney Beach, Peg Arguimbau and Thor Vanvaerenewyck left the meeting at 7:45 p.m.

Discuss and Vote Town Meeting Articles

There was a brief discussion regarding the fall Town Meeting and the two placeholder requests that have been submitted to Town Hall. The Articles will be an agenda item for the August 30th meeting.

Superintendent's Evaluation

Mr. Nebenzahl outlined the procedure for compiling individual evaluations into a complete document. Five members participated in the evaluation process. Mrs. Jane Furr did not as her term had expired and Mr. Glenn Allen did not as he has been on the Committee for just a few weeks. Mr. Nebenzahl compiled the documents and reviewed it with Mr. Liao, Vice-Chair. The seven categories for evaluation were:

Educational/Instructional Leadership: Exceeds Expectations
Financial Management: Exceeds/Far Exceeds Expectations
General Management/Management of Personnel: Exceeds Expectations
Facilities: Meets Expectations
Community Relations: Meets/Exceeds Expectations
School Committee Relations: Meets/Exceeds Expectations
Overall Performance Appraisal: Exceeds Expectations

Vote Warrant Signing During Summer

Dr. Dunham requested that the Committee vote authorization for Dr. Joy Turpie to sign payroll and warrants in the absence of Dr. Jackson and Dr. Dunham.

MOTION: (Liao/Gervais) Moved to authorize Dr. Joy Turpie to sign payroll or warrants when needed in place of Dr. Jackson or Dr. Dunham. Vote was five in the affirmative.

Vote the High School Student Handbook

Dr. Jackson requested the School Committee vote the approval of the Student Handbook as submitted to them by e-mail.

MOTION: (Gervais/Blaustein) To approve the 2006-2007 High School Student Handbook as proposed and submitted. Vote was five in the affirmative.

Mr. Nebenzahl announced that the next meeting of the School Committee would be on August 30th. A workshop meeting to discuss the goals will be scheduled and coordinated by the Chair. The meeting will be posted.

OTHER BUSINESS

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

MOTION: (Gervais/Blaustein)) Moved to adjourn Open Session. Vote was five in the affirmative.

Open Session was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

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