

Winchester Public Schools
Winchester, MA 01890
September 12, 2006

Roll Call

Notice having been given in accordance with the requirements of law, a meeting of the School Committee was held at 7:04 p.m. on Tuesday, September 12, 2006, in the Lynch Elementary School Library. Present were Mr. O'Connor, Ms. Swiger, Ms. Bodie, Dr. Kounaves, Mr. Schindelman, Director of Finance Mr. Rippin, and Superintendent Marini. Dr. Kerble was absent

Public Comment

Mr. Roger Haines, a parent of two Vinson Owen students spoke to the issue of the reduction of crossing guards. Mr. Haines focused on the Ridge and Buckman Street area and demonstrated the dangers of not having a crossing guard at that intersection as well as the dangers of the alternate route. Mr. Haines has spoken with both the Chief of Police and the Town Manager about the safety concerns and he will attend the Board of Selectmen meeting on Thursday, September 14th to share his concerns.

Student Representative

Brett Howley reported on the improvements that took place at the high school during the summer months that included new bathrooms, new carpeting in the library, new tile in the open areas, and the addition of new computers. The Open House for the high school will take place on September 21st. There are 460 students involved in sports this season and the students are looking forward to several night games this fall. On October 11th and 12th there will be evening games for field hockey and girls soccer. Ms. Howley introduced Ms. Jenna Anglin, a sophomore, who will be reporting as a school committee student representative as well.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Marini reported on the opening day activities for teachers and thanked Dr. Kerble for all his work in organizing the day. Dr. Marini stated that the special education reorganization will be monitored during the first part of the year and he will report back to the school committee with an update. Because of the reduction of the substitute caller each school will be assigned a specific number of Instructional Support Staff (ISS), who are essentially permanent substitutes. The goal is to allow for continuity of instruction by having the ISS be a part of the staff.

MSBA Statement of Interest

Mr. O'Connor provided the committee with an overview of the Massachusetts School Building Authority Statement of Interest forms. The purpose of the Form is to ascertain

from the town whether they believe they have any deficiencies in their respective school facilities that meet one or more of the statutory priorities set forth in M.G.L. c. 70B, and for which they anticipate filing an application for funding with the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA). The Form is not intended to obtain information about any plans or designs of any construction or renovation project that the town may be considering, and no such information should be included in or submitted with the Form.

The purpose tonight is to have the school committee review the forms and vote to submit the forms to the MSBA. Dr. Marini indicated that the submission of the Form was an initial requirement with the MSBA and will begin the process to have substantive discussions.

Bob Deering, chair of the EFPBC, joined the committee. Mr. Deering shared his concerns around the current enrollment projections and the immediate need for additional classroom space. Mr. Deering outlines three courses of action that should be considered:

1. Go with the course of the Statement of Interest
2. Have the town move forward on their own
3. Reuse of the Parkhurst School on a limited basis

Ms. Swiger agreed with the need to look at both long and short term solutions and the importance of having cost estimates for alternative solutions.

Mr. Schindelman indicated that the possible solutions could have consequences around an elementary school becoming too large, the need for additional support services, and the possibility of redistricting. At the last school committee meeting Ms. Bodie indicated the possibility of having new families in town be assigned to a specific school where enrollment numbers are smaller.

Dr. Marini stated that a new Master Plan needs to be developed. In the meantime the Statements of Interest will be submitted to the MSBA after all the appropriate signatures are obtained. Dr. Marine indicated that the Mystic School was not included in the Statement of Interest at this time.

On a motion by Ms. Swiger, seconded by Ms. Bodie the committee unanimously

VOTED to approve the Statement of Interests as they are presented by the Superintendent starting with the Ambrose Elementary School: Resolved: having convened in an open meeting on September 12, 2006, the Winchester School Committee of Winchester, MA, in accordance with its charter, by-laws, and ordinances, has voted to authorize the Superintendent to submit to the Massachusetts School Building Authority the Statement of Interest Form dated September 12, 2006 for the Ambrose Elementary School located at 27 High Street, Winchester,

MA which describes and explains the following deficiencies and the priority category(s) for which an application may be submitted to the Massachusetts School Building Authority in the future and hereby further specifically acknowledges that by submitting this Statement of Interest Form, the Massachusetts School Building Authority in no way guarantees the acceptance or the approval of an application, the awarding of a grant or any other funding commitment from the Massachusetts School Building Authority, or commits the Town School District to filing an application for funding with the Massachusetts School Building Authority.

On a motion by Ms. Swiger, seconded by Ms. Bodie the committee unanimously

VOTED to submit a Statement of Interest for the Lincoln Elementary School as per the language of the motion of the Ambrose Elementary School.

On a motion by Ms. Swiger, seconded by Ms. Bodie the committee unanimously

VOTED to submit a Statement of Interest for the Lynch Elementary School as per the language of the motion of the Ambrose Elementary School.

On a motion by Ms. Swiger, seconded by Ms. Bodie the committee unanimously

VOTED to submit a Statement of Interest for the Muraco Elementary School as per the language of the motion of the Ambrose Elementary School.

On a motion by Ms. Swiger, seconded by Ms. Bodie the committee unanimously

VOTED to submit a Statement of Interest for the Vinson Owen Elementary School as per the language of the motion of the Ambrose Elementary School.

On a motion by Ms. Swiger, seconded by Ms. Bodie the committee unanimously

VOTED to submit a Statement of Interest for the McCall Middle School as per the language of the motion of the Ambrose Elementary School.

On a motion by Ms. Swiger, seconded by Ms. Bodie the committee unanimously

VOTED to submit a Statement of Interest for the Winchester High School as per the language of the motion of the Ambrose Elementary School.

On a motion by Ms. Swiger, seconded by Ms. Bodie the committee unanimously

VOTED to submit a Statement of Interest for the Parkhurst Elementary School as per the language of the motion of the Ambrose Elementary School.

On a motion by Ms. Swiger, seconded by Ms. Bodie the committee unanimously

VOTED to submit a Statement of Interest for the Winchester High School Energy and Life Safety Improvement Projects completed in the last two years in the form requested by the State.

Dr. Marin thanked Mark Twogood, Pete Lawson, Meg White, and Ed Grant for their efforts working on this initiative.

Elementary Enrollment Report

Mr. Rippin provided the committee with an overview of the enrollments to date. In grades K-5 the projected enrollment was 1901 and the actual was 1895. However, the overall growth of 34 new students took place at the high school level. An October 1 enrollment report will be provided to the school committee, which is the date enrollments are reported to the Department of Education.

Approval of Gift

On a motion by Ms. Swiger, seconded by Mr. Schindelman, the committee unanimously

VOTED to accept with gratitude the \$15,000 grant to help support the McCall Middle School extracurricular activities.

Next Meeting Date

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 26th at 7:00 p.m. in the Lynch library.

Roll Call

For the purpose of an executive session.

Adjournment

The committee voted to adjourn at 8:37 p.m.