

**ACTON-BOXBOROUGH REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

Grange Room
Boxborough Town Hall

May 5, 2005
7:30 p.m.

Members Present: Rebecca Neville, Marie Altieri, Jo-Ann Berry, Michael Coppolino,
Terry Lindgren, Liz Markiewicz, Sharon McManus, John Ryder,
Bruce Sabot

Also Present: William Ryan, George Frost, Susan Horn, citizens and press

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m.

CHAIRPERSON'S INTRODUCTION

The chairperson welcomed new School Committee members, Sharon Smith McManus and John Ryder. The chairperson thanked the ABRHS student reps for their attendance and contributions at meetings this year.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of March 31 and April 11, 2005, were approved as presented.

STATEMENT OF WARRANT

Warrant #05-021 in the amount of \$1,149,168.90 and warrant #05-022 in the amount of \$1,429,554.50 were signed by the chairperson and circulated to other members of the Committee for signature.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Marty Benson, ABRHS student rep, spoke on behalf of the student council. They are concerned about the early start date of school - August 31. He mentioned several reasons why this is disadvantageous - families plan for Labor Day weekend, sports teams have fewer double sessions and some teams can't attend athletic camps, summer jobs may require 10 week contracts, and seniors are looking at colleges in late summer. He asked the Committee to consider these factors in the future.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. ABRHS Building Project

- George Frost reported on the close-out process. Punch list issues are still being addressed. The first phase of the commissioning process is pretty well in hand. Many items have been addressed or are in process. They will begin AC commissioning process in a few weeks.

2. Leary Field Update

- George Frost reported on a meeting held at the field today. The project will begin the Monday after graduation.

3. Recommendation to Accept the Renovated R.J. Grey Junior High School Building from the Building Committee

It was moved (Ryder), seconded (Coppolino) and unanimously

VOTED: That this School Committee, having had presented to it information regarding the status and completion of the addition and renovation of the R.J. Grey Junior High School (the "Project") and the settlement of the contract disputes with the general contractor therefore; and having had submitted to it by the Building Committee (who has by delegation of authority from this School Committee overseen such renovation process) a request to officially turn over the Project to the School Committee, and after due deliberation and consideration of the same, hereby votes (with thanks from this

School Committee for such hard work and efforts) to accept the Project from the Building Committee and to henceforth end all of the Building Committee's authority with respect to the Project and the R.J. Grey Junior High School.

4. BLF Report

- Becky Neville reported on the upcoming Boxborough Town Meeting on May 9th. She urged everyone to vote for the override on May 16th.

5. FY'06 Budget Process

- Bill Ryan reported that the House has passed a budget; it will now go to the Senate. There may be additional money for transportation and per pupil allocation. Liz Markiewicz reported on a May 10 rally at the State House in support of more state funding for education. Buses will leave from Douglas School.

6. School District Goals, 2004-05 - Final Report

- Bill Ryan reviewed the final updates/revisions.

7. ABRHS School Choice Update

- Bill Ryan asked the Committee to support the ABRHS School Choice numbers for the 2005-06 school year:
 - Senior class - 4
 - Junior class - 11
 - Sophomore class - 15
 - Freshman class - 20*

* May accept more freshman, up to a total of 50 of School Choice students
The Committee approved this plan.

8. Health Insurance Trust Report

- Marie Altieri reported that they will send out two RFPs in the next few weeks, in preparation for next year. Employee health fairs were held. The School Committee has one representative to the trust. Marie Altieri will continue to serve in this capacity.
- Terry Lindgren would like to have a School Committee discussion on the topic of health insurance, essentially for information about all the options/alternatives. There was discussion about how to structure this session - whether to have a 2020 meeting with other town boards, bargaining units and/or to have just a School Committee discussion, etc. Becky Neville suggested putting it on the July School Committee meeting agenda. Marie Altieri will ask when the consultant can present at an informational meeting.

9. CAFY Report

Bill Ryan mentioned presentations that CAFY is sponsoring in May. Michael Coppolino encouraged the press/cable TV to cover the events and any followup. Terry informed the Committee about a stronger link with the Middlesex County DA's office and the speakers/programs available to us.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Recommendation to Revote CASE Agreement

Ed Orenstein, Exec. Director of CASE, explained the proposed changes in the agreement. It was moved (Markiewicz), seconded (Berry) and unanimously

VOTED: To accept the administration's recommendation to approve the revised CASE agreement as presented.

2. Recommendation to Accept Gift from AB Girls Youth Lacrosse Program

It was moved (Altieri), seconded (Ryder) and unanimously

VOTED: To accept, with gratitude, the generous gift of \$750 from the Acton-Boxborough Girls Youth Lacrosse Program.

The gift will be used to pay for close to one-third the cost of new varsity uniforms.

3. Recommendation To Accept Gift from Intel Corporation

It was moved (Sabot), seconded (Ryder) and unanimously

VOTED: To accept, with gratitude, the donation of \$ 1,000 to the ABRHS science department from Intel Corporation.

4. Recommendation to Approve Bids

It was moved (Coppolino), seconded (Altieri) and unanimously

VOTED: To approve the administration's recommendation to approve the FY'06 TEC (The Education Cooperative) bid/vendors as presented.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

- The Superintendent referred to several items.
- It was suggested that the Day of Silence be placed on the June meeting agenda.
- Michael Coppolino asked that the Junior High use the same format as ABRHS for the monthly discipline report.

(Joint Session held 8:22 pm - 9:20 pm)

EXECUTIVE SESSION/JOINT EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 9:30 p.m. it was moved, seconded and unanimously

VOTED: To go into executive session to discuss strategies relative to collective bargaining under Chapter 39, Section 23 B, paragraph 3. Each member was polled individually and each voted in the affirmative to go into executive session for the stated purpose.

The Committee returned to open session at 9:45 p.m. to adjourn.

NEXT MEETING: June 2, JH Library - 7:30 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Sarah T. Lawton, Secretary