

Kingston School Committee Meeting

Monday, November 13, 2006 Kingston Intermediate School Library

Chair Joseph Chaves at the K.I.S. Library called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT FROM THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE:

Mr. Joseph Chaves, Mr. Christopher Mamakos, Mrs. Sheila Vaughn, Mrs. Kathleen Jenkins-Brown

ABSENT FROM THE COMMITTEE:

Mr. Paul Barry

PRESENT FROM THE ADMINISTRATION:

Mr. Dana Parker, Superintendent; Mrs. Joy Blackwood, Assistant Superintendent; Mrs. Paula Bartosiak, Kingston Elementary School Principal; Ms. Cheryl Wrin, Kingston Intermediate School Principal

OTHERS PRESENT (signed in):

Erin Smith, Teacher KIS; Vikki Johnson, Teacher KIS; Carol McGilvray, Kingston resident; Susan Whelan, Kingston resident; Joanne Haugstad, Kingston resident; Cindy Lynch, Kingston resident; Marianne Howard, Kingston Resident and PTO President

Mr. Chaves announced that as of November 1, 2006, Mr. Paul Barry has resigned from his position of Vice Chairman of the Kingston School Committee.

MOTION

On a motion from Mr. Chaves, seconded by Mrs. Vaughn, and it was unanimously **VOTED** that Mr. Christopher Mamakos would become Vice Chairman. Mr. Mamakos accepted the said position.

I. Visitors Addressing Committee

Mrs. Lynch, Kingston resident, requested an update on the progress of the Wellness Policy. Mr. Chaves responded that the Committee has not instituted a Wellness Policy as of November 13, 2006, however the document will be made available when instituted. Susan Whelan, Kingston resident, requested information on how one could voice their opinion. Mr. Chaves responded that the Principals manage the schools and report to the Superintendent.

II. Approval of Minutes

MOTION

On a motion from Mr. Mamakos, seconded by Mrs. Vaughn, it was unanimously **VOTED** to accept the minutes with one change on page 3 under SUPERINTENDENTS REPORT.

III. Teachers Corner

No report

IV. PTO Report

Mrs. Marianne Howard, President of the PTO, reported that attendance at the PTO meetings is up from previous year. Fundraising profits were so great that next years curriculum enhancement programs are fully paid. Saturday, December 9, 2006 is Breakfast with Santa and February 2, 2007, will be the start of the Bookfair which will feature 2 family nights.

V. Committee Correspondence

No report.

VI. Administration

A. Principals' Reports

Mrs. Paula Bartosiak, KES, reported on the following:

- Enrollment is at 475 students; up 3 students
- Calendar of Events including a Professional Development Day for teachers on Tuesday, November 14, 2006 focusing on literacy; Michael Cooper will be performing on November 8; American Education Week is November 13-17; KES Thanksgiving Feast is November 16; DIBELS training is November 21; grades close on November 22 with a 12 noon dismissal for Thanksgiving break November 23 & 24; Food Play sponsored by Hannaford Supermakets will be presented on November 29; Report cards go home on December 4.

Ms. Cheryl Wrin, KIS, reported on the following:

- Enrollment is at 692; up 2 students
- Calendar of Events including a field trip for 3rd grade to Plymouth Plantation on November 10; School Council Parent Survey will go out November 13; American Education Week is November 13-17 with many activities planned in the classroom; November 16 is the Thanksgiving Feast; November 30 is Lifetouch Picture retake day; Report cards go home on December 4.

Mr. Chaves commented on the Halloween plans at KIS and asked that in the future the School Committee be notified ahead of time to changes that may require a response from them to the Kingston community. Mr. Chaves allowed Mrs. Lynch to comment further that with earlier notification some of the bad feelings that resulted may have been avoided.

B. Business Manager

Since Mr. Tuffy was not present, Mr. Parker shared a report that Mr. Tuffy had prepared ahead of time.

- Financial Report for the month of November was distributed
- Fuel charges have increased over the previous year
- SpEd – budget surplus in this area

- Enrollment sheet due on October 1, 2006 is the benchmark for distribution of funds
- Governor has until February 28, 2007, for budget
- At the next School Committee Meeting will begin to discuss budget

Mr. Chaves asked if 2000-2001 Kindergarten study is sufficient or if it should be updated. Mr. Parker responded that it was sufficient and will be supported by the new literacy program with reading instruction beginning in kindergarten.

C. Assistant Superintendent of Schools

Mrs. Joy Blackwood reported:

- Dr. Christopher Parker will direct discussion/training on DIBELS. November 21 and 22, Kindergarten through Grade 3 teachers and additional support staff will work with a DIBELS team for training. The last week in November or the first week in December district-wide DIBELS testing will begin in Kindergarten through Grade 3.
- This reading initiative identifies areas needing help at an earlier age. It is timed testing that will occur fall, winter and spring.
- Currently working on a Kindergarten grant which would allow a more serious look at full day Kindergarten for Kingston and Halifax. Also working on a Gifted and Talented Grant. Turn around time for these grants is approximately 2 months.

October presentation of MCAS results was discussed with concern noted from Mr. Mamakos that statistically in ELA overall grades 4, 6, and 10 have not shown improvement. Mrs. Blackwood noted that they are implementing new tools (DIBELS) to access and find weaknesses earlier.

D. Superintendent of Schools

Mr. Dana Parker reported:

- All the teachers are working very hard.
- Shared Costs 2007-2008 Draft Budget will be discussed in Executive Session
- Concerning Capital Improvements: Mr. Parker will work with Mr. Tuffy and the Principals to create a list.

VII. Report of Standing Committees

- A. Administrative Review – no action taken
- B. Bylaw – no action taken
- C. Pilgrim Area Collaborative –
Location is still under discussion. Not all information back for a decision on transportation
- D. Union 31 – will be discussed in Executive Session
- E. Negotiation Budget Advisory – no action taken
- F. Facility Oversight – no action taken

- G. Policy – second readings 1201, 1202, 5215, 5709, and 5710
 - Mr. Chaves recommends no discussion at this time.Policy for Defibrillator
MOTION
On a motion from Mr. Mamakos, seconded by Mrs. Jenkins-Brown, it was unanimously **VOTED** to accept the policy as presented.
- H. K-12 Regionalization Ad Hoc Study Committee – no action taken
- I. Safety – Mr. Chaves reported a positive meeting on October 12, 2006. Working list was created with some capital items.

VIII. Unfinished Business

- A. Connect-Ed Phone System – in use.

IX. New Business

- A. Mr. Mamakos discussed the continued concern with bullying and possible additions to curriculum (teaching conflict resolution and training for early warning signs) and programs that could be added addressing bullying. Mr. Mamakos distributed information for Committee members to take home to review.

X. Approval of Bill Schedule – Approved

XI. Other Matters

- A. Executive Session to follow meeting

Dates to Remember:

November 15, 2006 K-12 Reg. Ad Hoc Study Committee at KIS
November 23 & 24, 2006 Thanksgiving Recess, close @ noon on Nov. 22
November 27, 2006 Union 31 Meeting, Dennett Elementary at 7 p.m.
December 11, 2006 Next School Committee Meeting

MOTION

On a motion by Mr. Mamakos, and seconded by Mrs. Jenkins-Brown it was unanimously **VOTED** to adjourn the meeting at 9:05 p.m. and after a brief recess go into executive session.

Respectfully Submitted by,
Lisa J. Turcotte
Secretary
Kingston Elementary School