

GREENFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

MINUTES  
Meeting of January 14, 2010  
Approved February 11, 2010

Present: Chairperson Doris Doyle (DD); members Dalton Athey (DA), Maryelen Calderwood (MC), Marcia Day (MD), John Lunt (JL), Keith McCormic (KM) (arrived at 6:15 p.m.), Mayor Martin (MM), Also present: Interim Superintendent Hollins, Attorney Peter Smith, and members of the public and press.

I. Call to Order

With a quorum present, the chairperson called the meeting to order at 6:12 p.m.

II. Approval of Minutes

Motion by MM; 2<sup>nd</sup> MD: To accept the minutes of December 10, 2009. Passed.  
JL & MC abstained, as they were not present.

Motion by MC; 2<sup>nd</sup> KM: To accept the minutes of November 12, 2009 (tabled on December 10<sup>th</sup>) to give KM time to review. Passed. Unanimous.

Motion by MC; 2<sup>nd</sup> KM: To accept the minutes of December 28<sup>th</sup> as written.  
Mr. McCormic wanted to draw attention to unanimous consent which represents a vote. Passed. JL and MC abstain.

III. Reports

Chairperson. None this evening

Superintendent: Gave an update of happenings in schools and explained the US News and World Report pass-out with package.

Strategic Planning Subcommittee. None

Policy Subcommittee: MD reported that facilities policies will be ready for the next meeting. Section A will be reviewed next Tuesday and policy subcommittee meetings will continue on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays of the month for 90 minutes.

Student Representative: Kyle Kendal gave the GHS student report. He explained his role on the Western MA Regional Student Advisory Council and how they reviewed and supported the DESE RTTT proposal. After reading the actual Race to the Top state grant, he would change his vote of support.

IV. Old Business

A. Superintendent

Motion by MC; 2<sup>nd</sup> MM: To enter non-public session under Chapter 39, Section 23A, (3) to negotiate with non-union personnel. Unanimous by roll call.

The committee entered non-public session at 6:48 p.m.

Motion by MM; 2<sup>nd</sup> DA: For the chair to direct the school committee attorney to amend the superintendent's contract and votes of November 17<sup>th</sup> and secure the superintendent's approval to do so.

Attorney Smith offered to develop the motion this evening. The motion is written and read three times.

Motion by MM; 2<sup>nd</sup> Marcia Day: **To move by unanimous consent the following motion as read by Attorney Smith:**

Notwithstanding stated timelines within the current contract of employment between the Committee and Dr. Hollins, and within the Superintendent Evaluation Instrument, and upon agreement of the Interim Superintendent, the school committee shall evaluate the Interim Superintendent for her work from July 1, 2009, through January 2010, as follows:

1. Each member shall evaluate the Interim Superintendent using the Evaluation Instrument adopted by the School Committee on 11/17/2009;
2. Members shall turn in their completed Evaluation Instruments to the Chair on or before January 22, 2010;
3. The Chair shall compile a summary of committee members evaluations of the Interim Superintendent and present the summary in open session on January 28, 2010;
4. The chair shall provide the above-referenced summary to the Interim Superintendent by January 27, 2010.

This procedure shall have no precedential effect.

Roll call vote. **Passes 6:1** with MC voting no.

**Motion to exit non-public session by roll call. Unanimous.** The committee returned to public session at 8:11 p.m. The meeting resumes at 8:15 p.m. with KM being recognized.

Motion by KM; 2<sup>nd</sup> MM: **Move to forego a search for a new superintendent for the time being and attempt to enter into a successor contract with the Interim Superintendent. Passed. 6:1 with MC voting no.**

B. Update on ESCO at Four Corners and Greenfield Middle School  
Hollins shared the ESCO audits as had been requested. No action taken.

C. Update on MOU and RTTT  
Hollins reviewed the happenings of the last week including the frenzied communications among and between districts, the state, and MTA associations. In the end, Greenfield's chairperson and superintendent submitted RTTT documentation knowing the school committee would have to ratify. The union did not sign on, however. MD explains she has been following the national debate and it seems the goals are to improve the urban school performance and decrease the achievement gap. Motion by JL; 2<sup>nd</sup> MD: **To ask the superintendent to contact the GEA and clarify if they opted not to sign or ran out of time**, and if they would like to sign, and if so the district would send this in. This vote on

contacting the GEA **passed 5:2 with MC and DD abstaining.**  
Motion by JL/ 2<sup>nd</sup> MD: **IF the GEA informs the superintendent that they did intend but ran out of time, to ask the superintendent to notify the state and subsequently send the MOU in (Note: voting would require the school committee to agree). Motion fails.** Discussion is that fundamental concerns is lack of clarity about being able to drop out.

5. Collective Bargaining.

The press raises a concern about non-public session and the business manager position (agenda item #5). Motion by KM; 2<sup>nd</sup> MC: **To suspend rules to rearrange the agenda. Passed.** Motion by KM; 2<sup>nd</sup> MC: **To table item #5 to the January 28, 2010, meeting (to give MC time to see a job description). Passed. Unanimous.**

Motion by DA; 2<sup>nd</sup> JL: **To move into executive session to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining and litigation. Roll call. Unanimous.**

The committee discussed negotiation strategy with respect to the Greenfield Educators Association.

Motion by JL; 2<sup>nd</sup> MD: **To come out of executive session. Passed by roll call vote at 11:16 p.m.**

The committee then adjourned at 11: 17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Susan Hollins