

**GREENFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
SCHOOL COMMITTEE**

MINUTES

March 4, 2010

6:00 p.m. Library, Greenfield High School

Voted March 11, 2010

Present: Chairperson Doris Doyle (DD), Committee Members: Maryelen Calderwood (MC), John Lunt (JL), Dalton Athey (DA), (KM), Keith McCormic (KM) Mayor William Martin (MM), Marcia Day (MD) (arrived at 6:15) Also Present: Superintendent Susan Hollins, School Attorney Peter Smith (arrived at 6:50), press, members of the public

I. Call to order: Chair person Doyle called the meeting to order at 6:13 p.m.

II. Budget Hearing, public comment

The Superintendent provided a short review of the budget for the benefit of the public. Then, Chairperson Doyle opened the public budget hearing at 6:18 p.m.

Only one person spoke and asked a question, GEA President, Thomas Bevacqua. He inquired as to whether there was any funding set aside for a new teacher contract. The superintendent replied that money has been sent aside for all current contractual obligation increases, but there is no sum included for new contract settlements.

Hearing no other comments, the public hearing was closed at 6:28 p.m.

III. Superintendent Evaluation

In alphabetical order, each member of the school committee was allowed 5 minutes to present comments on their evaluation of the Superintendent's performance during the previously agreed upon timeframe, (the past 6 months). After all commentary was presented, the Superintendent was asked if she had any comments. SH noted that she had listened carefully and wanted time to digest the information before responding. She thanked all for their time and feedback.

A member of the public commented.

Chairperson Doyle called a 5 minute recess at 7:00 p.m.; MD left for a short time. The public session resumed at 7:09 p.m.

IV. Other; Executive Session

Motion by KM; 2nd MC: To enter Executive Session under MGL Ch 39 § 23B (3) to discuss strategy in preparation for contract negotiation with non-union personnel. Roll call vote; Passed. Unanimous. Intent to return to public session noted. Executive Session began at 7:12 p.m.

Public session resumed at 8:43 p.m. Chairperson Doyle turned meeting over to Vice Chair Lunt who asked for motion to accept the contract of employment for the Superintendent of Schools.

Motion by KM; 2nd MD: To accept the negotiating committee's report (corrected version) of the Superintendent's contract and to authorize the chair to sign the contract on behalf of committee.

Discussion: DA, KM, DD, MM and JL all spoke in support of the contract and pointed out that the first page of the contract contains important language and drives direction going forward. JL pointed out that the last two years were rescue work and going forward Committee and Superintendent would need to work together to set goals and would like that topic to be on the next agenda. KM asked that innovation of schools be part of that discussion as well.

MC stated that she is a proponent of doing a search and wants it on the record that she does not agree with the way the committee has handled this process and she will not support the contract based on that. Motion passes. 6:1 with MC voting no.

Mayor Martin requested that the chair add 'new business' to the next agenda and requested these items:

- Background information on Traumatic Brain injury (concussion) to develop a policy for coaches
- Explanation of drop out report in the Recorder
- Communication avenues with the GEA, as noted by Mr. Bevacqua
- Develop a procedure and sharing of the fiscal responsibilities of committee members, for sharing by all committee members, e.g. warrants

V. MC motioned to adjourn; KM 2nd: Passed. Unanimous.

This meeting adjourned @ 8:55 p.m.

Audrey LaBonte',
Recording Secretary