

**GREENFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
SCHOOL COMMITTEE**

MINUTES

**October 22, 2009 Work Session
6:00 p.m. Davis Street Building**

Approved November 12, 2009

Present: Chairperson Doris Doyle, Committee Members: Maryelen Calderwood, Marcia Day, Dalton Athey, Keith McCormic (arrived @ 6:09 p.m.); Mayor William Martin (arrived @ 6:15 p.m.)

Also Present: Peter Smith, Esq.; Mackenzie Issler, Reporter for the Greenfield Recorder; Stacey Meyer and Donna Rivers from the Four Corners School PTO

1. Call to order: Chair person Doyle called the meeting to order at 6:09 p.m.

2. Discussion Topics:

A. Fundraiser (Soup and Games Night)

Ms. Meyer and Ms. Rivers presented an invitation to the Soup and Games night being hosted by the Hope & Olive Restaurant in Greenfield on Monday, November 2nd from 5:00 – 8:00. Soup and Bread are donated by local businesses; there will also be a bake sale and a 50/50 raffle. They requested permission to put up posters. Everyone agreed. All proceeds will be split equally among Federal Street, Four Corners and Newton Schools.

B. Capital Projects

Chair asked members for suggestions for capital projects. K. McCormic suggested allocating \$\$ for feasibility study for HS renovations. Chair Doyle stated that the idea was not applicable for capital \$\$\$. Comment was made that the Superintendent usually provided the suggestions for consideration.

C. Virtual Schools

The Superintendent and Mayor attended a DESE Advisory Committee meeting on October 21, 2009. Overall, a very positive experience. One more meeting is scheduled in late November; may be ready to do a pilot project by January. Both J. Lunt and D. Doyle queried if there was a sense that Greenfield will be selected for the pilot. It was the committee's sense that we would. K. McCormic questioned whether there was progress on the legislation.

D. Evaluation Committee

J. Lunt, Chair of Superintendent Evaluation Subcommittee presented steps taken by Committee to arrive at evaluation criteria. Reviewed district's recent past and reminded members of current goals for the future.

Review Criteria recommendation:

Fiscal management; leadership abilities/staff development; relationship with town; physical plant; curriculum development; problem solving skills.

Spirited discussion ensued about other criteria to include; i.e. academic achievement; relationship with School Committee; compliance with MGL's; legislative advocacy.

D. Athy suggested that one measurable goal for next year should be that the Superintendent submits a monthly written report to the School Committee. Topics to include:

- What does Committee need to know
- Items requiring Committee's action
- Any compliance issues
- Review of academic performance (actual vs. planned)
- Review of financial performance (perhaps quarterly)
- Any upcoming important dates & events, VIP visits, etc.
- Cost center roll ups as defined by School Committee.
- Progress toward initiatives
- Pending litigation
- Follow up on audits

Other topics discussed:

The Superintendent joined the meeting.

Moving regular SC meetings to HS Library to be televised. Entertainment will be at every televised meeting.

Committee would like mirror posting of each school's event calendar to appear on the general calendar

Committee would like gross cost center report to review as a sample before next meeting (vs. full line by line budget report)

Committee discussed challenges with records/report requests; K. McCormic suggested different time frames for different documents; Mayor Martin suggested all requests be funneled through the chairperson. No firm decisions reached.

K. McCormic reminded that there is a SC Summit on November 7, 2009, and to provide feedback to M. Day.

3. Chairperson Doyle called Executive Session at 8:21 p.m. regarding personnel matters (the Superintendent's performance evaluation). J. Lunt seconded. Roll call vote. Passed unanimous

Respectfully submitted by Audrey LaBonté