

GREENFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING  
Minutes

Meeting of Friday, October 1, 2010  
Approved December 15, 2010

Present: Chairman John Lunt and members Andrew Blais, Maryelen Calderwood, Marcia Day (late arriving), Doris Doyle (late arriving), and Mayor Martin. Also present, Superintendent Susan Hollins.

I. Call to Order

With a quorum present, Chairman Lunt called the meeting to order promptly at 6:30 p.m. He explained that the meeting would review the virtual innovation school plan and proposal, include a public hearing, and he would like members to have time to ask questions but he will try to move the meeting along in a timely manner.

II. Virtual School Innovation Plan

- A. Review: Superintendent Hollins described the Plan and then reviewed the document. She noted that there are two listings of enrollment—one giving 500/year as per the July administrative rule, and one giving the original plan—500, 1000, 1500 over three years. She wanted a record of the original plan since there was no advance notice of the late-July enrollment cap.

She then reviewed the vision and goals and read each. Mayor Martin was concerned the goals might be too high (at 90%). It seemed agreeable to leave high goals even if they may not be met in the first year—a difficult year because all the students are unknown and are just starting with a new school program.

She reviewed the staffing and budget sections of the virtual school innovation plan. Maryelen Calderwood asked about chain of command. The chairman said it would be the same: School Committee, Superintendent, Principal, Teacher. Doris Doyle inquired if we would accept students part-time. The concern was related to students who had illnesses and could not carry a full course load. The superintendent said ‘yes,’ depending on the circumstances, although the school will primarily serve full-time students.

Mayor Martin asked about wages—would the 3% administrative fee for the school system be exclusive of wages and benefits paid to school personnel. The Superintendent clarified that the fee is separate from the budgeted funds for wages and benefits.

The Superintendent read reviewed the policies that had been approved and mentioned that additional policies would be proposed, as needed, as the school

evolves. She reviewed the monthly plan for administrative training and the commitment that all teaching personnel have professional development plans and programs. The innovation school plan includes detail about teacher training.

Mrs. Doyle asked if school committee members could attend administrative training. Yes.

Marcia Day requested to be reminded of the procurement process. The Superintendent explained that the financial administrator to be certain all the major companies saw the RFP, she researched who these companies were and sent the RFP directly to each in addition to following posting guidelines.

Marcia Day also asked about status of DESE correspondences (were attached to the plan). Hollins reviewed Commissioner requests and agreed upon waiver. Approval of the innovation plan is the next step.

#### B. Hearing

With the Innovation Virtual School plan reviewed, Chairman Lunt called for a motion to recess at 6:59 p.m. **Motion by Blais; 2<sup>nd</sup> Mayor Martin: To have a three minute recess. Passed. Unanimous.**

Mr. Lunt said he would begin the hearing. Having no speakers, Chairman Lunt closed the hearing at 7:01 p.m. The Chair and Superintendent mentioned that most information being reviewed this evening has been reviewed previously at school committee meetings, which are open to the public and televised.

Comments from the school committee continued. In noticing a spelling error, the chairman asked for consensus that any spelling and grammar errors could be addressed after approval. Consensus granted.

#### C. Action

**Motion by Mayor Martin; 2<sup>nd</sup> Doris Doyle: To approve the Innovation Virtual School plan as presented and reviewed this evening** (this ratifies the virtual innovation school). Calderwood asked for a roll call vote:

Blais = Abstain. Doyle = yes. Lunt = yes. Mayor Martin = yes. Calderwood = no. Day = yes. The motion passes: 4:1 with one abstention.

#### III. Adjournment

Doris Doyle motioned to adjourn, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Calderwood. Passed.

The meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m.