



QUABBIN REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

School Committee Meeting
Minutes –March 11, 2010
Educational Support Center

PRESENT

Lee Wolanin	Member, Barre
Dr. Richard Allan	Member, Barre
Mark Brophy	Member, Barre
John Barringer	Member, Oakham
Paula Bolger	Member, Barre
Ned Kelly	Member, Hardwick
Charles Miller	Member, Barre
Dr. Thomas Tashjian	Member, Oakham
Peggy Thompson	Member, New Braintree
Timothy Williams	Member, Hubbardston
Mark Wigler	Member, Hubbardston
Cheryl Wolfe	Member, Hardwick

ALSO PRESENT

Dr. Maureen Marshall	Superintendent of Schools
Cheryl Duval	Director of Administrative Services
Katt Copeland	Student Representative, QRHS
Joshua Lapierre	Student Representative, QRHS
District Administrators/Staff	
QRTA Representative	
Townspeople	
Press	

ABSENT

Chairman Edward Leonard	Member, Hubbardston
Robert Dupuis	Member, Hardwick

I. Vice Chair Lee Wolanin called the meeting to order at 7:34 PM.

II. **Approval of Minutes**

- a) A motion was made by John Barringer and seconded by Mark Brophy to approve the minutes of February 11, 2010.

The motion passed by a vote of 11-0-1. Dr. Allan abstained.

- b) A motion was made by John Barringer and seconded by Dr. Allan to approve the minutes of February 25, 2010.

The motion passed 9-0-3. Mr. Barringer, Mr. Miller and Mr. Wigler abstained.

III. Administrative Reports

a) Superintendent of Schools –

- 1. Blue Ribbon Recognitions – The Superintendent introduced QRHS Teachers Laurie Monteverdi and Anthony DiBenedetto who presented a PowerPoint presentation on the goals and activities of the newly implemented advisories at the High School.

b) Director of Administrative Services –

- 1. Presentation of Warrants: AP Warrants 17 & 18 were presented for signature and Payroll Warrants 21 & 22 were approved by the Warrant Subcommittee.
- 2. Director Duval informed the Committee that the final copy of the audit report was received. No instances of non-compliance were reported. Copies will be distributed to committee members.
- 3. Due to the lack of quorum at the February meeting, the Director requested the Committee vote on the following budget items: 2100-3200 Instructional Support and the total FY11 budget.
 - a) A motion was made by Cheryl Wolfe and seconded by Ned Kelly to approve 2100-3200 Instructional Support in the amount of \$15,470,163.

The motion passed by a vote of 10-0-2. Mr. Barringer and Mrs. Bolger abstained.

- b) A motion was made by Ned Kelly and seconded by Cheryl Wolfe to approve the total FY11 budget in the amount of \$33,391,808.

The motion passed unanimously.

c) Teachers Advisory Council – No report was given.

d) Student Advisory Council –Katt Copeland and Joshua Lapierre presented the student report.

IV. Subcommittee Reports

a) Administrative Review Subcommittee – No report was given.

b) Alternative Funding Adhoc Subcommittee – No report was given.

c) Audit/Central Office Subcommittee – No report was given.

d) Policy, Review and Reform Subcommittee –Dr. Allan reported that the next meeting of the Policy Subcommittee will be held on the first Monday in October. Policy recommendations from the subcommittee appear later in the agenda for approval.

- e) Barre Building Subcommittee – No report was given.
- f) Budget Subcommittee – Mark Brophy informed the Committee that the next meeting of the Budget Subcommittee will be held on Wednesday, March 17th at 6:30 PM. Members of the administration & school committee will be meeting with the Barre Finance Committee on March 17th at 7:45 PM. The district continues to work with the towns during this difficult fiscal year.
- g) Collective Bargaining Subcommittee –Mark Brophy reported that the Collective Bargaining Subcommittee will be meeting with the six bargaining units.
- h) Plants & Facilities Subcommittee – Ned Kelly reported on the meeting held earlier this evening. The subcommittee addressed the following issues: fire alarm repairs in Hardwick and water tank repairs in Hubbardston. He reported that the Oakham roof project is progressing. The other major issue discussed was the atrium roof & panels at the middle/high school. The subcommittee met with the architect who reviewed his report. The project must proceed due to safety concerns addressed in the recent engineering report. Both the roof and panels need attention. The estimated cost of repair is \$3.5-\$4 million. A stop-gap repair measure will cost approximately \$172,000. The Supt. will contact SBA representatives to discuss this matter and to see if this project can be classified as an emergency and will qualify for reimbursement.
- i) Special Education Subcommittee – Paula Bolger reported that the Director of Student Services search is moving forward. The subcommittee will meet with the finalist on March 17th at 5:30 PM.

A motion was made by Ned Kelly and seconded by Mark Brophy to allow the subcommittee to authorize the Superintendent to offer a contract to the recommended finalist.

The motion passed unanimously.

- j) Technology Subcommittee – Tim Williams reported that members of the Quabbin administration toured St. John’s High School and met with members of the technology staff. The subcommittee is scheduled to tour the Quabbin Regional Middle/High School on March 23rd at 4:00 PM.

5) **Unfinished Business**

- a) A motion was made by Dr. Allan and seconded by Ned Kelly to approve the revisions to Policy JHCA Physical Education of Students.

The motion passed unanimously.

- b) A motion was made by Dr. Allan and seconded by Ned Kelly to approve the revisions to Policy JHCB Inoculation of Students.

The motion passed unanimously.

c) Valedictorian/Salutatorian

Principal Marilyn Tencza, Guidance Dept. Chair Mark Pellegrino, and Guidance Counselor Donna Hubbard addressed the committee relative to valedictorian/salutatorian. The High School administration supports reinstating the recognition of valedictorian/salutatorian; however, does not recommend reinstating class rank. The High School does currently recognize the top 1% and 5% students (summa, magna, cum laude).

A discussion ensued.

A motion was made by Dr. Allan and seconded by John Barringer to accept the recommendation of the school administration to reinstate valedictorian/salutatorian effective with the Class of 2011.

The discussion continued.

Mark Brophy offered a friendly amendment that we pilot this with the Class of 2011 with a review by the Policy Subcommittee with data and report back to the full committee in October/November 2011.

A motion was made by Dr. Allan and seconded by Mark Brophy to reinstitute the valedictorian/salutatorian with the Class of 2011 as a pilot, collect the data with a review by the Policy Subcommittee.

The motion as amended failed by a vote of 4-8. The vote went as follows:

Mark Brophy-yes; John Barringer-yes; Dr. Allan-yes; Mark Wigler-yes; Lee Wolanin-no; Peggy Thompson-no; Tim Williams-no; Paula Bolger-no; Cheryl Wolfe-no; Dr. Tashjian-no; Charles Miller-no; Ned Kelly-no.

A motion was made by Dr. Allan and seconded by Tim Williams to reinstitute the valedictorian/salutatorian effective with the Class of 2014.

The motion passed 10-0-2. Cheryl Wolfe and Ned Kelly abstained.

6) School Committee Concerns

- a) Dr. Allan commented that despite the financial distress, the district is trying to move forward.
- b) Mark Brophy reminded committee members of the QUEST event, "Quabbin's Funniest People" scheduled for April 1st at Eagle Hill.
- c) Lee Wolanin commented on the recent Senior Night for the basketball & cheerleading teams, the wrestling tournament, and middle school athletic awards. All were very successful and well attended.

7) **New Business**

- a) Status Report: New Braintree/Oakham Merger – The Supt. informed the Committee that the administration continues to work with parents and the community relative to the proposed merger of New Braintree Elementary and Oakham Center Schools. She commended Principal Worthington for her efforts in reaching out to the parents and community. They hope to have a recommendation in April.

8. **Public Comment**

Barre Resident Craig Shibley addressed the Committee and asked the Committee to consider multi-year contracts with all bargaining units. He also requested that all contracts and Memorandum of Understanding be posted on the district's website. Director Duval responded that all district contracts have been submitted to the Department of Elementary & Secondary Education and is available to the public via the DESE website.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Dr. Allan and seconded by Mark Brophy to adjourn.

The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 9:01 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy A. Landry, Secretary