

*QUINCY, MASSACHUSETTS – September 6, 2006*

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Regular Meeting of the Quincy School Committee

A regular meeting of the Quincy School Committee was held on Wednesday, September 6, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers. Present were: Ms. Linda Stice, Mrs. Anne Mahoney, Mr. Kevin Mulvey, Mr. Dave McCarthy, Mr. James Timmins, and Mrs. Elaine Dwyer, Vice Chairman.

Regular Meeting

Vice Chairman Presiding

The Superintendent called the roll and Mayor Phelan was absent. Also present were: Dr. Richard DeCristofaro, Secretary, and Mrs. Tefta Burrelli, Clerk; Drs. Mariano and Pattavina. Messrs. O'Brien, Ryan, Walsh, McPhee, Keith and Kevin Segella, and Mr. Mullaney; Ms. Todd, Hughes, Powell, and Roberts.

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On a motion by Mr. Timmins, seconded by Mr. McCarthy, the Committee approved the regular session minutes for June 21, 2006. The ayes have it.

Reg. Minutes Approved  
6/21/2006

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Mayor Phelan arrived at 7:14 p.m.

Mr. Keith Segalla reported that Summer Scene 2006 had another very successful summer with 1,800 students participating. The members watched a short film showing students participating at Summer Scene.

Supts. Report

The School Business Partnership announced two new members to the Board of Directors -- Dr. Gary Gibbons, CEO of the Quincy Medical Center and President Martha Sue Harris of Quincy College.

The Annual Teacher Mini Grant Reception will be held on October 19<sup>th</sup>. A new event has been added-- *Tis the Season Symphony* featuring the two high school choirs and the Quincy Symphony Orchestra at the Marriott on Tuesday, December 5<sup>th</sup>.

The School Improvement Plan schedule will begin to take shape in the next two weeks. The Superintendent will check with the Mayor and Ms. Stice to arrange the meeting dates and times

Full Day Kindergarten children will begin their first full day of school

on Monday. This initiative has tremendous momentum as teachers and their paraprofessionals spent today and will continue half day tomorrow engaged in Staff Development focused upon our new reading program.

New curriculum materials are in as are the new buses. The Kindergarten enrollment continues to climb and we will engage close to 185 more students as compared to our last years. The Superintendent thanked everyone for their support in getting Kindergarten classes ready and the Mayor for his vision and leadership in this ground breaking investment in young children.

The Superintendent introduced Ms. Renee Lalumiere, Acting Principal at Wollaston, Margaret MacNeil, Asst. Principal at Atherton Hough; Ann Marie Ford, Asst. Principal at Squantum, Ruth Witmer, non teaching Asst. Principal at Lincoln Hancock; Ms. Edie Hughes as Coordinator of Early Childhood Education, Ms. Erin Perkins, SPED Team Administrator; and Ms. Ellie Papile, SPED Team Administrator, who was not present this evening. The Committee wished them all well in their new positions.

Appointments

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As no one wished to be heard at the Open Forum, the Committee went on with the business at hand.

Open Forum

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Mr. Canavan reported that over the summer Maintenance renovated eight elementary schools for full day kindergarten including upgrading plumbing and electrical work. At Central they replaced the security system, painted ten classrooms, hallways, replaced window moldings, and at Point Webster they replaced the fire alarm. At Lincoln Hancock they updated girls' and boys' locker rooms, and at Wollaston, they are meeting with the LSP on Friday to determine what steps to take with the oil tank that has a small leak. All elevators were inspected and outside vendors are cleaning boilers.

Bldg. Update

The Mayor said he visited Central and found the first floor hallways much brighter than the second and third floors. He asked that more lights be installed in the second and third floor hallways.

Mr. McCarthy asked Mr. Canavan to check on the Sterling gym and he felt the bathroom facilities need more upkeep.

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The Mayor has appointed a Building Committee consisting of Ms. Coyningham, City Solicitor; Frank Santoro, QHS Principal; Elaine Dwyer, School Committee Vice Chair; Mayor Phelan; Superintendent DeCristofaro, and Mike Ryan as the

New QHS

Chair. They continue to meet and are making progress. As well, the Building Needs Subcommittee has been meeting and has been apprised of the progress within the entire project, but specifically the developing educational program. Representatives from Tishman, SMMA, Mr. Ryan, and the Superintendent met with Mr. Joe Buckley of the Mass School Building Assistance Bureau to review our progress and discuss the next steps. As well, Tishman representatives have submitted an application for a 2% loan to the MSBA.

This evening, the Superintendent shared the Quincy High School educational program for discussion and eventual approval. The Superintendent believes that this proposed program satisfies the many converging challenges facing students, professional staff and the community.

The program focuses on a comprehensive integrated program of studies with space that creates an excellent climate for learning. The design offers small interest based learning communities -- academies, that as research and current design indicate, are similar to neighborhoods where students feel more comfortable and never feel isolated. The Educational Program that Mr. Pitkin shared with the committee this evening shows a vision of a personalized educational environment that

- a. presents a clear system goal of rigorous curriculum and state of the art, career and college readiness opportunities for all students
- b. it creates the setting for a positive school culture and climate by designing common spaces within the academies for student gatherings, meetings or large or small group instruction
- c. these areas also stress and emphasis the importance of positive relationships among students and professional staff.

This will be a comprehensive high school. Technical classrooms will be located near the core subject classrooms. There will be a 750 seat auditorium, a Freshman academy for ninth graders. SMMA has designed a complex that will enhance the community.

Mr. Alex Pitkin gave a three dimensional slide show of a classroom. The Committee will vote at the next School Committee meeting on the document. The site plan showed a new Quincy High School on Coddington with Woodward closed off, a court yard, 350 parking spaces, 250 in back and 100 at Coddington St. for visitors and students. The first floor plan shows the service functions--a large common space and dining hall, the building can be locked down at night. SMMA will work with academic staff on classrooms.

The members asked for a print out of the power point presentation. Mr. McCarthy was concerned with traffic getting out of the parking lot after a game. He suggested another exit by Russell Park. The Mayor asked if

there was a possibility of an access road around the building.

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Mr. Jim Timmins brought up the issue of a dress code for coaches. He was at a football game and there was a gentleman who wasn't dressed appropriately running up and down the field. He later found out he was a coach. He said he was embarrassed to see a coach who represents the school system dressed as this individual was. He mentioned BC High and North Quincy coaches who dress with khaki pants and polo shirts with collars. This, he said, sends a positive message to students and our community and to other communities. It reflects on administration and School Committee members. He would like to see colored shirts and khaki pants.

Dress Code

He asked that the Athletic Director send out notices to all coaches and invite the feedback. Mr. Timmins made a motion, seconded by Mr. McCarthy, to refer the matter of dress codes for Athletics in the Quincy Public Schools to the Policy Subcommittee.

Ms. Stice said she would approach it differently. She passed out a copy of Policy 7.3.2 and the MIAA Coaches Code of Ethics. The fact that Quincy doesn't have a dress code does not mean that Mr. Rendall or any principal in the school system does not have the responsibility to see that staff are properly attired. They have the responsibility and it is within their authority to speak to coaches and teachers. Mr. Walsh speaks about teacher attire to staff every year. Although she is in complete agreement with Mr. Timmins, she feels the way to address it is by bringing it to the Athletic Director's attention and have him speak to the coaches. She does not agree that it requires a policy change. If a teacher is not dressed properly, it is within the principals authority to say something. Just because it isn't spelled out, in no way takes away the authority of administrations to have a say in the way people come to work in the Quincy Public School.

Mr. McCarthy was in favor of a consistent type of uniform for coaches in every sport.

The Mayor thought it was a great idea and to discuss it in the Policy Subcommittee and invite Mr. Rendle and get input from coaches.

Mr. Mulvey's recommendation was to have Mr. Rendle present.

On a roll call vote, this issue was placed in subcommittee. MS. MAHONEY, MR. MCCARTHY, MR. TIMMINS, MR. MULVEY AND MAYOR PHELAN voted YES. MRS. DWYER and MS. STICE voted NO. The motion passed 5-2.

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Mrs. Mahoney asked the Mayor what the status is on Veterans Stadium. The Mayor said they are working on the inside bathrooms. Work is on schedule and he will keep the Committee updated. Lockers and bathrooms will be replaced. With regard to the brick wall around the stadium, it will be repaired in sections.

Veterans Stadium

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The Out of Country travel request to France by North Quincy High students was tabled. Ms. Stice ask for a copy of the current letter which explains to parents that the price of a student’s trip includes the cost of chaperones. The Mayor also questioned why they needed three chaperones.

Out of Country  
Travel

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On a motion by Ms. Stice, seconded by Mrs. Mahoney, the Committee accepted the gift of \$1,972.00 from the Rural Masonic Lodge A.F. & A.M. to Health Services for the purchase of EpiPens for the upcoming year. The ayes have it.

Gift: Health Services

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On a motion by Mrs. Mahoney, seconded by Mr. Mulvey, the Committee accepted the donation of broadcasting equipment and a bus from Quincy Telecommunications Board of Directors totaling \$50,000 to the broadcasting students and the bus to the automotive department. On a roll call vote, the motion passed 6-0. Mr. Timmins ABSTAINED.

Gift: Broadcasting  
& Automotive

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The appointment of Mrs. Teresa Connors as a school nurse was tabled by Mayor Phelan until her resume is presented to the Committee.

School Nurse  
Tabled

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Under Additional Business, Mr. McCarthy asked that another column be added to the Resignation page of the Personnel Package entitled “Reason.”

Additional Business

The Committee asked why the Superintendent moved the ELC to Central. The Superintendent told them it was due to space issues and that the students in the ELC Program would eventually go to Central. Plans have been confirmed with Ms. June Joyce and Ms. Fay Beers. Ms. Joyce has informed all the parents.

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The Committee thanked Brian Smith for the great job he did on the video of the Summer School.

Staff Recognition

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Mrs. Dwyer reported that there was a Building Needs Subcommittee meeting on August 29. The Building Committee has been meeting all summer and making decisions on the new Quincy High School. There will be a Building Needs Subcommittee meeting on September 13 at 5:00 p.m. Any questions the Committee has should be forwarded to Mrs. Dwyer.

Bldg.Nds.Subcommittee

With regard to School Improvement Plans, Ms. Stice told the Committee that the Policy Subcommittee meets with all 18 schools. Any questions the members want addressed should be submitted to Ms. Stice. Ms. Stice took off the Policy Subcommittee listing the Wellness Policy, Homework Policy, School Committee Start Time and Name AH Gym.

School Improvement Plans

The Superintendent announced that they had a positive meeting with Joe Buckley at the MSBA. This meeting was held to bring everyone up to date and promote a good working relationship. There is another meeting scheduled for September 20<sup>th</sup>.

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The Committee noted the following Resignations:

Resignations

David Arruda  
Stephanie Costa  
Scott Madden  
Leigh O'Donoghue  
Susan Greeley  
Anna Izsak  
Jaimie Langevin  
Kathleen Mann  
Kimberly Stetz  
Virginia Barrett  
Kelley Condon  
Jane Bowe

Danielle Casey  
Alison LeClerc  
Karen Monahan  
  
John Haelsen  
  
  
Dana Calabro

Teachers  
  
  
Instructors  
Occupational Therapist  
Speech Pathologist  
Occupational Therapist  
Guidance Counselor  
Lunch Attendants  
  
Paraprofessional

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The Committee noted the following Retirements:

Retirements

Lois Brandes

Stephen Brenner

Teachers

Margaret Brownell  
 Thomas Donnelly  
 Anne Emerson  
 Janice Gherardi  
 Janet Halloran  
 Jean Healy  
 Cathlene Lamping  
 Joyce Lebewohl  
 Gretha Lovejoy  
 Margaret O'Brien  
 Eve Powell  
 Richard Scanlon  
 Susan Sweetser  
 Joanne Tribulauskas  
 Barbara Webster  
 Robert Schiess  
 Dr. Lynn Wegner  
 Joyce Leberwohl  
 Warren Meehan  
 Edwin Miller  
 Kathleen Mitchell  
 Charles Weiler  
 Beverly Ladner  
 Catherine Smith

Dorothea Craig  
 Jeanne Donroe  
 Frances Gautreau  
  
 Richard Hart  
 Helene King  
 Teresa Lawrence  
 Linda Lew-Hanson  
 Joan Meehan  
 William Pactovis  
 Stephanie Sanborn  
 John P. Sullivan  
 Edgar Tatro  
 Joan Walsh

Dr. Cynthia Ganung

Computer Chair  
 Psychologist  
 Speech/Language  
 Asst. Principal  
 Athletic Director  
 Library/Media Chair  
 Team Admin.  
 Cook  
 Science Chair

The Committee noted the following Leaves of Absence:

Laurie Guthrie

Leaves of Absence

Guidance

The Committee noted the following Appointments:

Stephanie Aubin  
 Janet Campbell  
 Dorothy Clark  
 Kerri Composto  
 Jessica DelGizzi  
 Amy DiRocca  
 Christine Duncan  
 Meghan Ginty  
 Charles Holtz  
 Marie Joy  
 Courtney Judge  
 Nancy Kelly  
 Jennifer Leary  
 Christine Metrakas  
 Rebecca Moje

Matthew Benner  
 Dean Chin  
 Jessica Cochrane  
 Seth Connors  
 Jennifer Diauto  
 Marisa Donovan  
 Judith Flaherty  
 Elizabeth Haritgan  
 Matthew Howard  
 Kimberly Jones  
 Colleen Keenan  
 Alison LaBarge  
 Valerie Lynch  
 Brian Miller  
 Mary O'Brien

Appointments

Teachers

Cara Pekarcik  
Laura Powers  
Belinda Ranstrom  
Jennifer Russo  
Kathleen Scales  
Courtney Sudmyer  
Lisa aTracy  
Deborah Parrish  
Eileen Maver  
Vasiliqi Daci  
Patricia Fraiser  
James Costa  
Donna Raimondi  
Susan Stille

Lorraine Principi  
Teresa Quinton  
Margaret Rosenbaum  
William Ryan  
Aaron Skowyra  
Erin Trumble

Doreen Fraiser

Michael Furtado

Occupational Therapist  
School Adjustment  
Literacy Specialist  
Lunch Attendants

Jr. Custodians  
Sr.Clk.&Typist  
Jr.Clk.&Typist

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On a motion by Mr. Timmins, seconded by Mr. Mulvey, the Committee voted to adjourn for the evening at 9:00 p.m. There was no Executive Session. On a roll call vote, the motion passed unanimously 7-0.

Adjournment