

## MINUTES

### **The Standing Committee on Finance & Facilities Wednesday, September 20, 2006 Memorial Building, Room 164 Beverly, MA**

Members Present: Dr. James Hayes, Superintendent; Paul Manzo; Nancy Brusil; James Latter; Dr. Marie Galinski, Assistant Superintendent; Joan Liporto, Director of Finance & Operations; Timothy Flaherty, Beverly City Council; and Kris Silverstein, Parent Representative

Also in Attendance: Maria Decker, Annemarie Cesa, and David Manzi

Mr. Manzo called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m.

Mr. Manzo opened the meeting by introducing Joan Liporto the new Director of Finance & Operations.

#### **FY06 Budget – Carryover expenditures**

Dr. Hayes reported that the monies for the FY07 budget had just rolled over and there was not a lot of information available right now. There was a lengthy discussion with regards to the \$492,000.00 that was remaining when the FY06 budget closed and about the handout detailing the FY06 surplus items.

#### **Enrollment**

Dr. Hayes reported that as the school year was set to begin Briscoe did not have the high 6<sup>th</sup> grade enrollment numbers that were originally anticipated. This was due in large part to many students who did not show up. Briscoe Principal Poska told Dr. Hayes he had no advance notice that these students had enrolled elsewhere. One suggestion was that a poll be taken of 5<sup>th</sup> grade students at the end of the school year as to what middle school they plan to attend.

Dr. Hayes reported that the overall feeling at Briscoe was that things were going very well and, as other members reported, the teachers as well as students seem much happier than at the start of last school year.

Dr. Hayes reported that the numbers overall were as expected except at the high school where enrollment is up from last year. This prompted questions about class sizes, study hall chaos, full schedules for students, and any classes over thirty.

#### **Full Day Kindergarten**

Dr. Galinski reported that the enrollment numbers for kindergarten overall are down from last year. This was not anticipated due to last year's high kindergarten enrollment numbers. Dr. Galinski did report though that the revenue is better than first thought but cautioned that we need to find a better system of tracking payments for full day kindergarten. Ms. Liporto said that the business office is working hard to put that in place and reports will be given to Ms. Liporto and Dr. Galinski on a monthly basis.

#### **Use of Facilities**

Dr. Hayes reported that with the data collected last spring a decision was made to raise building use rental fees. This has prompted complaints that there was not sufficient notice of the increase and the rental rate was too high for some of the groups (i.e., basket-ball and cheerleading). There was a discussion surrounding the possible impact this would have on the revenue with not as many groups renting our facilities. In addition Ms. Liporto has been meeting with the custodial union to resolve a grievance regarding private details. Ms. Liporto said she is currently trying to work out an agreement with the custodial union on this issue.

In the discussion that followed there were comments and questions about the types of groups renting the facilities, whether they are primarily Beverly residents, the possibility of having multiple groups using one building, and/or directly charging students to cover the rental fee.

**Pothole Grant**

Ms. Liporto reported that she has applied for the Pothole Grant and should know the results by October 13, 2006. She said that we did not qualify for this grant last year but that we had been a recipient in the past. Ms. Liporto said there is not a specific statement of use nor does she know what the amount of the Grant will be at this time.

Meeting adjourned 8:45 p.m.

Paul Manzo, Ph. D.  
Chair, Finance and Facilities Standing Committee