

MAYNARD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Minutes of Schools Committee Meeting
Coolidge School
March 27, 2008

Present: W. Kohlman, B. Brannelly, A. Pratt, B. Smith, P. Berry
Administrators: M. Masterson, D. Mayer, P. DiCicco, L. Chesson
Facilities Committee Members: M. Howrey, A. Midey, K. Neuhauser, M. Briggs
Guest: Pam Gray-Bennett, Executive Director of NEASC, Commission on Public
Secondary Schools

Chairperson Mr. Kohlman opened the work session at 6:00 p.m..

NEASC

Anthony Midey, speaking in behalf of the Facilities Committee outlined the efforts made by the committee, cf. attached.

Ms. Bennett focused the attention of the committees on current generations of students. She was not unsympathetic to the construction challenges, but said many of the issues were unaddressed since the original site visit, now 6 years ago. "Accreditation is a choice", she explained and emphasized the importance of current generations of students, that 'waiting for MSBA' is not satisfactory. Not as a specific suggestion, but as an example, she cited the lack of privacy space for guidance. She provided a list of facilities issues she had culled from previous NEASC letters. She suggested a review of the facilities issues under three lenses, Health & Safety, Infrastructure and Teaching & Learning. For current students, she suggested a focus on what directly effects teaching and learning. She shared a list of concerns she had taken from previous NEASC letters, suggesting that several of those simply should be addressed. The School Committee and Facilities Committee members thanked her for her time and assistance.

The School Committee regular agenda session started at 7:30 p.m.

Fields

Tim Lawton presented to the School Committee a series of proposed field improvements totaling \$1M, cf. attached.

Mr. Lawton explained the research and work his group had done to generate their improvement plan, that they would be submitting a citizen's petition warrant to this spring's town meeting. He identified his group as including Wayne Lameroux, Eric Koskinen, Dan Caldicott, Steve Dyer, Paul Howes, Steve Jones and Chris Howell. School Committee members questioned plans for long term maintenance, project manager oversight, and spec. development. Since those had not been worked out, Mr. Lawton agreed to meet later with the Business Manager and Superintendent.

Budget

The Superintendent presented, attached, a recommended set of priorities for a small override. The SC discussed the whole list, eliminated any reduction of athletic fees, and settled on an override of \$390,500. That was followed by a motion for a new band a new budget of \$13,650,770; passed unanimously, 5-0.

Recognizing that there could be confusion regarding the placement of \$60k insurance in the school budget, the Chair made a motion to direct the \$60 insurance, to be included in the override figure, but to be budgeted in the town insurance line; it passed 5-0.

Minutes

Mr. Kohlman made a motion to approve the minutes of March 13, 2008; motion passed 4-0, 1 abstention.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m..

Respectfully submitted,

Mark R. Masterson, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools