

**MAYNARD PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
**Minutes of School Committee Meeting**  
**Coolidge School**  
**August 15, 2007**

Present: W. Kohlman, A. Pratt, M. Brannelly, B. Smith, P. Berry  
Administrators: M. Masterson

Chair opened the meeting 7:00 p.m.

Town request:

Bill Cranshaw, Selectmen, and John Curran, Town Manager gave the School Committee their perspective on the Governor's Municipal Partnership Act, specifically the proposed telecom legislation. They explained that "closing the telephone pole loophole" would provide Maynard with an additional \$136,000 each year.

The Chair thanked the Selectman and Town Manager and agreed to put the issue on a future agenda for School Committee action.

The Town Manager also mentioned that the Conservation Preservation Act application for funds was due September 1. Mary B. offered to contact a CPA member and inquire into the applicability of some form of 'fields' application.

District Goals:

Mary & Mark reviewed the recent history of SC goals, specifically referencing the 'drivers' model developed two years previously. Mary asked Mark to briefly address the specifics under the curriculum goal Improvement of Instruction & Learning.

Suggested goals:

- Facilities:
  - Find ways to push MSBA
    - Mary will serve as SC designee to call MSBA
    - Ann & Mark will meet w/HS PTO
    - Mark will work w/John Curran to seek Selectmen's assistance
  - Develop and promote capital needs for each school building, including school fields.
- Budget:
  - Administrators request SC to lead District beyond continuing cycles of reductions.
  - Lengthy discussion of past 'sales' problems:
    - Difficulty of marshalling support, given District successes
    - Litany of past cuts
  - Challenge is to find more effective "message"
    - Perhaps, "X needed for our kids to be competitive"
    - "Best practices suggest..."
    - "State is headed..."

- Bring back previous list in this fashion.
- Seek PR assistance in crafting message?
- Improve co-curricular activities.
- Eliminate fees.

Reports requested by SC:

- HS Library, plan & progress
- HS Guidance, new structure & progress
- HS Senior Projects
- Wellness progress, particularly PE
- School Safety
  - Bike helmets?
  - Safety officer (appointed to begin 8/20)
  - Pandemic Flu plan
- School Choice reports, in/out, etc.
- Student exit interviews >Dan

A SC member observed the Alumni Fields appeared brown.

Minutes approved June 20, 4-0-1 (Mr. Berry abstains); July 10, 5-0

The Committee voted by roll call vote to enter into Executive Session at 9:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark R. Masterson  
Superintendent of Schools