

AYER SHIRLEY REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
Page Hilltop Elementary
Professional Development Room
Tuesday, December 7, 2010 7:00 p.m.

In attendance:

Robert E. Prescott, Chair (S)
 Patrick W. Kelly, Vice Chair (A)
 James Quinty, Secretary (S) *{Arrived at 7:31 pm}*
 Daniel W. Gleason, Member (A)
 Brenda Magno, Member (A) *{Arrived at 7:15 pm}*
 Joyce Reischutz, Member (S)

Others in attendance:

Mary Beth Hamel, Superintendent (AS)
 George B. Frost, Superintendent (A)
 Malcolm P. Reid, Superintendent (S)
 Evan Katz, Business Manager (S)
 William J. Plunkett, Director of Administrative/Business Operations (A) *{Arrived at 7:28 pm}*
 Virginia K. DeWitt, Director of Special Education and Student Services (A)
 Teri Babetski, Director of Student Services/Early Childhood Coordinator/Grants (S)

Call to Order

The meeting of the Ayer Shirley Regional School Committee was called to order by the Chair, Robert E. Prescott, at 7:05 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

- Regional School Committee Minutes from November 17, 2010
 - Dan Gleason: "Roll call", on page 4, was added twice - the second needs to be deleted from the minutes.

Motioned by Pat Kelly; Seconded by Joyce Reischutz to approve November 17, 2010 meeting minutes with changes. Unanimous Vote

- Ayer Shirley Regional Executive Session Minutes November 17, 2010 – Not for Immediate Release
 - Dan Gleason: "Roll call", was added twice - the second needs to be deleted from the minutes.

Motioned by Pat Kelly; Seconded by Dan Gleason to approve November 17, 2010 executive session meeting minutes with changes. Unanimous Vote

Warrant

- None

Comments from the Public Concerning Items on the Agenda

- None

Superintendent's Report

Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) Update

- Superintendent Frost and Superintendent Reid met with both the Ayer and Shirley Town Clerks, and discussed the logistics of the election process.
 - The group is striving to move forward with February 5, 2011 as the date for the election, to be held concurrently in Ayer and Shirley. Actual time TBD.
 - Mr. Frost stated 2 informational nights regarding the ballot question (1 in Ayer, 1 in Shirley) will be scheduled for sometime after the first of the year.
- Edward Lennox, legal council for the region, is drafting the proper language for the ballot question, which will be shared with both town clerks, and presented to the regional school committee at the December 15, 2010 meeting.
- Superintendent Frost presented a list of 18 volunteers interested in serving on the Ayer Shirley Regional School District Building Committee.
- Pat Kelly volunteered to serve on the building committee as another school committee representative.
 - Mr. Frost is recommending all 19 volunteers, including Pat Kelly, be appointed to serve on the building committee.
 - Mr. Frost stated, in accordance with 963 CMR 2.00 the regional school committee must appoint the building committee and assign which members have/do not have voting rights. Typically, all building committee members have voting rights with the exception of the school principal, but this decision is up to the RSC.

Motioned by Dan Gleason; Seconded by Brenda Magno that the Ayer Shirley Regional School Committee accept the recommendation of Superintendent Frost to appoint the 19 volunteers to the building committee and the only non voting member being the high school principal.

Moved by Joyce Reischutz; Seconded by Jim Quinty to amend by striking out the only non voting member being the high school principal and inserting have all 19 members be voting members.

Roll Call: Bob Prescott - Yes; Pat Kelly – Yes; Dan Gleason – Yes; Joyce Reischutz – Yes; Brenda Magno – Yes; Jim Quinty – Yes. Motion carried.

Health Insurance Update

- Superintendent Frost, Ayer and Shirley union representatives, John Brouder of Boston Benefit Partners and Joyce Reischutz have met with sales representatives from the Group Insurance Commission (GIC), Massachusetts Inter-local Insurance Association (MIIA), and Minuteman Nashoba Health Group (MNHG).
 - GIC will not be an option at this time, as they had a sign up date of December 1, 2010.
 - MIIA, the group Shirley is currently with, only offers Blue Cross Blue Shield.
 - MNHG, the group Ayer is currently with, offers Harvard Pilgrim, Tufts, and Fallon; no BCBS.
- The request for proposals will go out to providers early January; with a target decision date by mid February.

Technology Update

- Evan Katz informed the committee members that third party lending requires a vote from the regional school committee. A positive vote would authorize the lease purchase of Unifund, principal amount of \$56, 834.00, to be paid in 4 equal lease payments of \$16, 500.00 over 3 years.

Motioned by Joyce Reischutz; Seconded by Brenda Magno to authorize the leasing of Unifund; the principal amount of \$56, 834.00, to be paid in 4 equal lease payments of \$16,500.00

FY '12 Budget

- Superintendent Reid and Evan Katz presented an initial summary of the ASRSD FY 12 budget; taking the locally funded FY 11 budgets from Ayer and Shirley and converting them into a regional budget format.

Ongoing Business

Web Design Update

- Superintendent Hamel stated she and the website design subcommittee researched and identified five model sites. Pat Kelly will create a Brainshark website design survey to be sent to teachers and parent groups asking them to rank order the sites and comment on the features that are the most appealing to them.

Administration Organization/Search Committees

- Superintendent Reid stated there are 31 superintendent applicants; 13 women, 18 men. 15 are from Massachusetts, 16 from other states: New Hampshire, Texas, Vermont, Maine, and Arizona.
- The 15 member Superintendent search committee, including Superintendent Reid, have met to review the resumes; will meet again on Friday, December 10, 2010 to recommend the 8-10 finalist choices, and hope to schedule interviews during the first two weeks of January; presenting 3-4 finalists to the regional school committee by the January 19, 2011 meeting.
- Superintendent requested the committee start discussion around the final review process.
- Superintendent Frost stated he met with the high school principal search committee members on November 30, 2010 to do a walkthrough of the timeline and task involved.
- Mr. Frost stated he will post the brochure/invitation to apply for the High School Principal position at the beginning of January, with a deadline of January 28, 2011; start the interview process by February 4, 2011, hoping to have finalists to the Superintendent by late February.

Strategic Plan Update

- Superintendent Hamel, facilitator Dr. William Connors, of Ribas Associates, and the 14 member strategic planning committee had their first all day session on November 30, 2010 at the Page Hilltop School.
- Superintendent Hamel stated by the end of this first day, the group came to a solid agreement on core values, beliefs and mission statement.

- The strategic planning committee will meet group again on January 6, 2011; snow date January 7, 2011.

Policies Plan Update

School Committee Section E & F of Policy Manuals

- Second reading of section E and F.
- Bob Prescott requested the last paragraph under section EBCD-R No School Announcement Policy be removed.
- Mr. Prescott noted a typo in the second paragraph, third line of section EB Safety Program: the word should be “plan” not “plant”.

Motioned by Pat Kelly; Seconded by Dan Gleason to accept second reading of Section E, and Section F. Unanimous Vote

New Business

Anti Bullying Task force

- Lura A. White Principal, Pat Fitzgerald, Page Hilltop Principal, Fred Deppe, and the Ayer Shirley Middle School Principal, Brian Haas, presented the Ayer Shirley Regional District’s Bullying Prevention and Intervention Plan.
- Mr. Deppe stated there was a public forum, held at the Ayer Shirley Middle School Auditorium on Tuesday, November 30, 2010 at 7:00 pm, sharing the draft of the district’s Anti-Bullying plan. The Anti-Bullying Plan is available for viewing on each of the schools website, as well as www.ayershirleyregion.org.

Communications

- Ayer Shirley Middle School Newsletter Dated 11/23/2010
- December Calendars
- Letter from Darlene Lynch, DESE dated 11/18/2010
- December SEPAC Newsletter

Future Meetings

- December 15, 2010 Shirley Middle School Library

It was moved and seconded to enter Executive Session to discuss negotiation strategy only to return to open session to adjourn. Roll call: Mr. Prescott-yes, Mr. Kelly, Mr. Quinty-yes, Mr. Gleason-yes, Mrs. Reischutz and Mrs. Magno-yes. Unanimous Vote - Meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m. It was moved and seconded to leave Executive Session and return to open session to adjourn at 9:58 p.m. Roll Call: Mr. Prescott-yes, Mr. Kelly, Mr. Quinty-yes, Mr. Gleason-yes, Mrs. Reischutz and Mrs. Magno-yes. Unanimous Vote

Mr. Prescott called back to order the regular session at 9:59 p.m.

Moved, seconded and carried to adjourn at 9:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Amanda U. Lewis