

EDGARTOWN SCHOOL COMMITTEE MINUTES

Tuesday, October 16, 2007
Edgartown School Library
7:00 PM

Those present were Chairperson Susan Mercier, Member David Rossi, Superintendent Jim Weiss, Principal John Stevens, Assistant Principal Anne Fligor, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum Laurie Halt, Town Treasurer Sharon Willoughby, PTO Representative Deirdre Morris, and Teachers Sandy Joyce and Donna Lowell-Bettencourt. Member Les Baynes was absent.

I. Approval of Minutes of September 19, 2007

On a motion by David Rossi, seconded by Susan Mercier, the Committee agreed to accept the minutes of September 19, 2007.

II. Parent Groups and Community Input

Mrs. Morris asked the Committee to look into the shipping status of the new swingset.

III. Finance Report

No report was given.

IV. Superintendent's Report

A. School Choice Policy – 3rd Reading

Dr. Weiss distributed the most recent revision of the School Choice Policy for Edgartown School, which stated that the maximum classroom size allowed would be 18. On a motion by David Rossi, seconded by Susan Mercier, the Committee agreed to accept the third and final reading of the School Choice Policy.

V. Principal's Report

A. Enrollment

Mr. Stevens reported that the school enrollment was 328 as of October 11th.

B. Vacancies

Mr. Stevens updated the Committee on the current vacancies and filled positions. A classified advertisement has been published for a .4 FTE kindergarten assistant. Enrichment Coordinator Ann Hoyle has been rehired for this school year. Spanish Teacher Amy Hewitt will be leaving the MVRHS and joining the Edgartown School faculty around November 5th. Retired Computer Teacher Susan Graves has agreed to come back to be a .5 FTE computer teacher for the 2007 – 2008 school year.

C. NCLB/AYP

Mr. Stevens told the Committee that the Edgartown School met the State's improvement score as a result from the MCAS test scores last Spring. Mr. Stevens used overhead projection graphs to explain the various scores by grade and subject. See attached.

D. Out of State Conference Request

Mr. Stevens reported that Teacher Donna Lowell-Bettencourt submitted a request to join Teacher Moira Silva at the NCTE Annual Conference in New York City, an out of state conference. On a motion by David Rossi, seconded by Susan Mercier, the Committee agreed to allow Mrs. Lowell-Bettencourt to attend the conference.

E. Student Activity Fund

Town Treasurer Sharon Willoughby spoke to Committee regarding the new created Student Activity Fund. This fund will hold monies for several student-serving areas in the school, including the Student Council, the musical theatre department, the student needs fund, the

yearbook fund, and the 8th grade fund. The Town Accountant will set up the fund. The Town Treasurer will oversee the monies going into the fund. The school will set up a checkbook and the Town will balance the statement of the related checkbook. Mr. Stevens plus two additional personnel will be allowed to sign checks, two signatures required on each check. The school's business secretary will keep the spreadsheet for the various entities. On a motion by David Rossi, seconded by Susan Mercier, the Committee agreed to allow the school to establish a Student Activities Fund through the Town. The Committee will vote and sign warrants when funds need to be transferred to the checking account, and the checkbook will maintain a balance of no more than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) at any given time. The account will be audited by the Town's auditor each year. The Edgartown School Committee will develop a policy for this fund.

F. Facilities

Mr. Stevens reported that in regards to the ventilation system, the custodians will be doing regular cleaning maintenance of the filters, resulting in no need for a maintenance agreement. Mr. Stevens said the boiler has been serviced in the past by A.P. Fortes Plumbing and Heating Company. The boiler needs to be serviced twice a year. This past summer, the service of the boiler cost \$6571. Mr. Rossi asked if servicing the boilers should go through the bid process. Dr. Weiss replied that a request for proposal (RFP) will be done. Mr. Stevens also said that he spoke to Town Administrator Pam Dolby regarding the gym roof, which is in need of new shingles. The \$75,000 estimated cost will be on the warrant at the December 4th Town Meeting, and then it will go out to bid. Mr. Stevens will report on the need to power-wash and paint the exterior of the school.

VI. Patricia Neal Theatre Project

Bob Brown, school custodian, AV manager, and spear-head of the theatre project, gave an updated status report. He spoke of his discussions with MVTV Donna Swift and the Selectmen. He explained that a feasibility study will need to be performed. However, Donna Lowell-Bettencourt, member of the "Old School" Committee said that other proposals have been requested by the Council of Aging, the Superintendent's Office, and others besides this theatre group.

VII. Old/New Business

The Committee agreed to schedule the next meeting for Wednesday, November 14, at 7:00 PM.

With no further business to discuss, the Committee agreed to adjourn at 8:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted

Pamela L. Cassidy
Secretary to the Committee