

## **Tisbury School Committee Meeting**

January 9, 2007

Members present: John Bacheller (Chairperson), Dr. Robert Tankard, and Maura Valley  
Others present: Superintendent Dr. James Weiss, Principal Maureen DeLoach,  
Financial Officer Amy Tierney, Teachers John Custer and Patricia Ryan,  
and Secretary Donna Tankard

The meeting was called to order at 4:03 p.m.

1. The minutes of the December 19, 2006 meeting were read and approved as written.
2. Financial Report:
  - a. Ms. DeLoach passed out the Student Activity Account and the Revolving Lunch Spreadsheets for review. Some discussion took place about the lunch program and how she would like to market that program a little better. She has asked Linda Rose to take an accounting of which grades are eating and to also ask what kinds of things they would like to eat. Questions were asked about more nutritious meals and whether that would increase or decrease participation. Also Ms. DeLoach shared that she is researching ideas for better nutrition with the wellness committee.
  - b. Ms. DeLoach passed out the Site Budget FY 2006-2007 for review. She shared with the committee to keep in mind that at the end of the year the budget will be in the red by \$117,000 due to the funding of School Choice.
  - c. Warrants were passed out and signed by the committee members.
  - d. Ms. DeLoach passed out three Warrant Articles that were submitted to the town asking that the town to raise, appropriate, borrow or transfer from available funds monies:
    1. To fund the Examination of the Fire Alarm System and Replacement of Fire Alarm Components as needed
    2. To Fund Examination of Tisbury Elementary School Gymnasium Roof
    3. To Fund the Replacement of Tisbury Elementary School Gymnasium RoofMs. DeLoach stated that she would get advice from Fred Lapiana and John Schilling about what exactly needs to be done. A motion was made and a unanimous vote taken to approve all three Warrant Articles as stated.
  - e. Ms. DeLoach shared with the committee that the smoke alarms throughout the school are older than ten years old and the law states that they should be replaced every ten years.
  - f. The 2007-2008 Budget was discussed. It was reported that the Tisbury Finance Committee wants all town budgets to come in at no more than 3.5%. Ms. DeLoach shared that the operational part of the budget was only increased by 1.9% and the remaining 3% was personnel. There was concern from the committee about funding a residential student and the loss of the REAP Grant and a decrease in Title I money for next year.
3. Principal's Report:
  - a. Ms. DeLoach shared with the committee that over the Christmas break there were approximately 7 students who returned to Brazil and 7 more students that arrived from Brazil, keeping our student population stable.

- b. John Custer shared with the committee about the Geography Bee. Bara Peak, a fifth grader, won and will be eligible for the State competitions. Ms. DeLoach commended Mr. Custer for implementing this program.
    - c. Discussion took place about a security system for the school; what would be the best system to protect kids and the building while school was in session as well as when it is vacated. Dr. Weiss shared that the Oak Bluffs School and the High School both have a FOB system that works well.
  4. Superintendent's Report:
    - a. Dr. Weiss reported about a five-hour presentation made by Dr. Mel Levine on the Saturday, January 6<sup>th</sup> Professional Day. Dr. Levine, who trained at Harvard and at Children's Hospital, presented lots of factual information about how the brain works.
    - b. Dr. Weiss stated that the CPR (Coordinated Program Review) from the State Department of Education would be taking place in May. They will be looking at the areas of Special Education, Method of Administration and English Language Learners.
  5. Sub-Committee Report:
    - a. Dr. Tankard reported again to the committee that the Cape Cod Collaborative Committee has ten positions for Vineyard school students in grades 7 and 8 to attend the Summer Leadership Program held at Massachusetts Maritime Academy in Buzzard's Bay. This is a program designed to develop leaders and to teach how to recognize good leaders, as well as teaching about marine sciences. Dr. Tankard is encouraging the island schools to participate in this most worthwhile program. Mr. Custer reported that he is on the Derby Committee and that committee is looking for ways to help students learn about these subjects.
    - b. Calendar Committee: Dr. Weiss reported that a three-year calendar is being discussed. It was stated that with MCAS testing taking place in March that there could be no vacation during that month. There was concern shared about the 2009-2010 school year where Labor Day is the latest it can every be, and with 5 snow days, it would put the last day of school on July 1<sup>st</sup>, which is illegal.
    - c. Personnel Committee: A meeting will be scheduled in the next couple of weeks.
  6. New/Old Business:
    - a. Mr. Bacheller reported that he, Tristen Israel, Denys Wortman, Wiet Bacheller, Amy Tierney, Jim Powell and Jim Norton would be meeting at the State House on January 11, 2007 at 11:00 a.m. with Representative Eric Turkington and Senator Robert O'Leary concerning implementation of Chapter 70. Mr. Israel will be asking Mr. O'Leary to file legislation to skip the 4-year transition period in order to keep the regional assessment the way it currently is. The delegation will also ask for clarification of the new formula, as well as the data used for determining the assessment. How do they get the figures for towns and what they have to pay to the Regional High School. Mr. Bacheller also reported that the M.V. Times and the Vineyard Gazette might also be in attendance.

The meeting adjourned at 5:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna R. Tankard