

Tisbury School Committee Minutes
Tuesday, October 14, 2008

Members Present: Superintendent, Dr. James Weiss, School Business Administrator, Amy Tierney, Director of Special Education, Dan Seklecki, School Committee Members: Maura Valley and Rebecca Cass. Principal, Richie Smith, Asst. Principal, John Custer, **FinCom Representative, Jynelle Kristal** and School Committee Secretary, Barbara Armstrong

The meeting was called to order at 4:30pm

1. The minutes from the September 9, 2008 Meeting were read and approved as written.
2. Superintendent's Report

- a. Internet Safety

- There will be an internet safety presentation for all island 7th and 8th graders on the island, including the Charter School, on Nov 5th at 9:30am at the West Tisbury School and a parent (only) presentation at 7pm at the Oak Bluffs School. The MV Times and Comcast are sponsoring this presentation.

- b. Memorandum of Understanding between the Cape and Island District Attorney and MVPS

- Dr. Weiss reported that we have begun the process of coming up with a memorandum of understanding with the Cape and Island District Attorney. It will allow principals, guidance counselors, police and district attorneys to discuss things that are pertinent. Student information will be kept confidential. It will help to keep all issues together in one place.

- c. Dr. Weiss distributed the Oct. 1, 2008 enrollment census report for all island schools

3. Financial Report

Expenditure report was distributed. Mr. Smith requested that \$3500 be transferred from our textbook/resources line into the undistributed supplies line. Motion was carried unanimously.

Mr. Smith reported that 15 – 16 students have been participating in the breakfast program.

Student activity account is currently in the in red, under the yearbook line, due to the deposit that is required for the School Yearbook.

Mr. Smith requested \$9343.46 from School Choice funds to pay the following:

Payee	Amount
Origins	\$968.21
ARC Welding Repair	\$2074.34
GRCS, Andrew Nanaa	\$1500.00
New England School Services	\$3060.00
Allen Fortes Plumbing	\$1740.91

Motion for requested funds was carried unanimously.

Mr. Smith requested \$5180 from the Manter Fund to pay the following:

Payee	Amount
The Drum Workshop	\$3380
Phyllis Vecchia Creative Drama	\$1800

Motion for requested funds was carried unanimously

4. Principal's Report

a. Staff Happenings

The 1st through 8th grade MEPA test has been completed. This was a field test that was done for 26 students. The 3rd and 4th grade MEPA will be done soon.

The Harvest Festival was a success with about 160 people coming to the event.

Lauri Halt is conducting a Professional Growth System for our Oct. 22nd Professional Development Day. All K-8 staff will attend the program in the afternoon at the PAC. The program will include films, discussions about the National Board teaching standards and grade level meetings. Mrs. Halt invited everyone to look at the Professional Growth System on the Superintendent's website.

Mr. Smith reported that he is very pleased with the inclusion model that has been implemented at Tisbury School. Besides pulling students out of the classrooms, SPED and resource teachers are going into the classrooms to work with students.

Erin Simmons, our 3rd and 4th grade coach and Suzanne Alberich, our 5th - 8th grade reading teacher are pulling students out of unified arts. Next year, Mr. Smith would eventually like to be pulling students out of study halls rather than Unified Arts.

b. Student Happenings

Mr. Custer reported that on September 30th the 5th and 6th grade students had a guest speaker, David Densmore. Mr. Densmore is a Commercial Fisherman and a Poet. The students viewed a movie in which Mr. Densmore was featured entitled, "Fisher Poets", and then Mr. Densmore spoke to the students and read his poetry. Mr. Densmore was joined by another local commercial fisherman for the discussions. Mr. Custer stated that the event had many connections to the curriculum and that the event exceeded his expectations. Mr. Custer thanked Mrs. Armstrong for introducing the idea.

5. New Business

Mr. Seklecki asked the board to sign the Special Education Program Plan Statement. This needs to be signed every three years. The document includes Special Education rules and procedures. Mr. Seklecki also reported that we are in the mid cycle of a 6 year evaluation.

Mrs. Valley stated that although she had no problem with the school committee meeting time change, she felt that the board should have voted if there was to be a change.

Mrs. Valley reported that health agents around the island are formalizing Emergency Plans. The island-wide emergency site is at the high school. Tisbury School is a designated site for Tisbury. There is no formal agreement with the Tisbury School stating this. Mrs. Valley will be supplying a document for the next meeting so a formal agreement can be done.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:13pm

Submitted by Barbara Armstrong, School Committee Secretary