

LYNN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Administrative Offices
90 Commercial Street
Lynn, MA 01905

Fifth Special Meeting of the School Committee
Thursday, August 11, 2011 at 6:45 p.m.

Members present: Ms. Capano, Ms. Coppola, Ms. Carrasco, Mr. Ford
Mr. Spirito, Mr. Starbard, Mayor Kennedy

In Attendance: Dr. Latham, Superintendent
Dr. Warry, Deputy Superintendent
Mr. McHugh, School Business Administrator
Mr. Iarrobino, Secretary of the School Committee
Attorney Mihos

Mayor Kennedy presided.

The Mayor opened the meeting with a salute to the flag and a moment of silence

NECROLOGY

1. Harrison L. Harley, III, retired teacher on July 9, 2011
2. William A. Cleary, Jr., retired teacher/Principal on July 11, 2011

MINUTES

1. Twelfth Regular Meeting, June 30, 2011

Ms. Capano made a motion to approve the above-listed School Committee minutes. Seconded.

Roll Call

Member	Vote
Ms. Capano	Yes
Ms. Carrasco	Yes
Ms. Coppola	Yes
Mr. Ford	Yes
Mr. Spirito	Yes
Mr. Starbard	Yes
Mayor Kennedy	Yes

Motion passed.

APPOINTMENTS

1. Kevin Benecke, North Reading - Guidance Counselor at English High School effective
2. Anastasia Mower, Groveland - Department Head/English/ELA at English High School, effective school year 2011-2012.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. FY12 Budget.

Superintendent Latham answered specific budget questions from Committee members.

Ms. Capano made a motion to accept the FY 12 Budget. Seconded.

Roll Call

Member	Vote
Ms. Capano	Yes
Ms. Carrasco	Yes
Ms. Coppola	Yes
Mr. Ford	Yes
Mr. Spirito	Yes
Mr. Starbard	Yes
Mayor Kennedy	Yes

Motion passed.

2. Elections

- a. School Nurse(s)

Mayor Kennedy asked for a roll call to elect a School Nurse. Each member of the Committee was asked to state the name of a candidate for the position of School Nurse.

Roll Call

Member	Vote
Ms. Capano	Angie Ackert Reaney
Ms. Carrasco	Angie Ackert Reaney
Ms. Coppola	Angie Ackert Reaney
Mr. Ford	Angie Ackert Reaney
Mr. Spirito	Angie Ackert Reaney
Mr. Starbard	Angie Ackert Reaney
Mayor Kennedy	Angie Ackert Reaney

Angie Ackert Reaney was elected to the position of School Nurse.

Mayor Kennedy asked for a roll call to elect a second School Nurse.

Roll Call

Member	Vote
Ms. Capano	Nancy M. Smith
Ms. Carrasco	Nancy M. Smith
Ms. Coppola	Nancy M. Smith
Mr. Ford	Nancy M. Smith
Mr. Spirito	Nancy M. Smith
Mr. Starbard	Nancy M. Smith
Mayor Kennedy	Nancy M. Smith

Nancy M. Smith was elected to the position of School Nurse.

3. Inspectional Services Department—Information from the MA Department of Environmental Protection, regarding soil testing at Ingalls School garden.

Mr. Michael Donovan, Inspectional Services Director informed the Committee that he met with City of Lynn Attorney James Lamanna and Ms. Marguerite Puleo. Her major concern was the garden having contaminated soil. She provided results of a soil test performed in 2005. She stated that these tests show concentrations of various nutrients and metals in the soil. Ms. Puleo is concerned that the garden's plants have been contaminated.

Mr. Donovan provided Committee members with copies of a July 18, 2011 letter from Ms. Mary Ann O'Connor, Lynn Health Director showing soil testing results from the Ingalls Garden for 2006 - 2011. This sampling was conducted by The Food Project and the soil was tested by UMass Amherst Soil Testing Program. These tests show that the lead in the soil is within an acceptable range.

Mayor Kennedy invited Mr. James Harrison, The Food Project, North Shore Regional Director to address the Committee. Mr. Harrison provided the Committee with soil test results from 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008 and 2011. The 2005 test showed lead levels were very high. Based on this information, we brought in enough clean topsoil and compost to cover the site to a depth of close to 18". This method is effective in maintaining lead levels at exceptionally low levels. Growing food safely is our primary concern at The Food Project, and we will work with the Mass Department of Environmental Protection. We are willing to conduct any testing that the School Committee requires.

Ms. Coppola made a motion to have the School Committee take on the responsibility of conducting testing of the soil at the Ingalls School Garden. Seconded.

Discussion ensued.

Mayor Kennedy passed the gavel to Vice Chair Capano.

The Mayor indicated that Mr. Harrison has stated that The Food Project would be willing to do the soil test if the cost is reasonable.

Ms. Coppola withdrew her motion.

Vice Chair Capano returned the gavel to Mayor Kennedy.

Ms. Coppola made a motion to have The Food Project, at a reasonable cost, test for organic or inorganic toxins in the soil, roots and plant tissues at the Ingalls School Garden. Seconded.

Roll Call

Member	Vote
Ms. Capano	Yes
Ms. Carrasco	Yes
Ms. Coppola	Yes
Mr. Ford	Yes
Mr. Spirito	Yes
Mr. Starbard	Yes
Mayor Kennedy	Yes

Motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Requests to Home School for 2011-12 school year:

a. Baker family (2 children - Grades 5 & 8)

Ms. Capano made a motion to approve the request from the Baker family to Home School 2 children. Seconded. Motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

b. Rice family (1 child - Grade 11)

Ms. Capano made a motion to approve the request from the Rice family to Home School 1 child. Seconded. Motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

c. Bene family (2 children - Grades 2 & 4)

Ms. Capano made a motion to approve the request from the Bene family to Home School 2 children. Seconded. Motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

d. LeClair/Batista family (4 children - Grades 2, 3, 4 & 6)

Ms. Capano made a motion to approve the request from the LeClair/Batista family to Home School 4 children. Seconded. Motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

e. Gilbert family (2 children - Grades 3 & 4)

Ms. Capano made a motion to approve the request from the Gilbert family to Home School 2 children. Seconded. Motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

f. Evans family (1 child - Grade 8)

Ms. Capano made a motion to approve the request from the Evans family to Home School 1 child. Seconded. Motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

2. Ratification of votes taken by Curriculum Sub-Committee. No votes taken.

Mr. Spirito spoke about the eligibility issues. Attorney Mihos noted that the vote regarding this issue was tabled and recommended this be brought up at the next Curriculum Sub-Committee meeting.

3. Ratification of votes taken by Building & Grounds Sub-Committee.

Mr. Ford made a motion to ratify the vote of the Sub-Committee and send a letter to the West Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses allowing the use of 100 Bennett Street for the purpose of parking. Seconded.

Motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

4. Request permission to accept donation of two large cartons of fine chocolate from Ms. Suzanne Sellers, an executive with Lindt Chocolate of Stratam, New Hampshire.

Dr. Warry presented a request by Lindt Chocolate to donate two cartons of fine chocolate. This chocolate will be used at the Leadership and Learning Program this summer.

Ms. Capano made a motion to approve the gift of fine Chocolate from Lindt Chocolate of Stratam, New Hampshire. Seconded.

Motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

5. MA Board of Elementary and Secondary Education adopted on June 28, 2011 Final Regulations on Evaluations of Educators.

Superintendent presented this for information only.

Ms. Capano made a motion to accept for the files. Seconded.

Motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

6. Family of James Leo McGuinness, former Superintendent of Schools, requests to dedicate 100 Bennett Street - Administration Building in his memory.

Ms. Coppola made a motion to name the building at 100 Bennett Street the James Leo McGuinness Administration Building. Seconded.

Motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

COMMUNICATIONS

1. Inspectional Services Department

- a. Commonwealth of Massachusetts adoption of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Renovating Repair and Painting (RRP) Rule.

Mr. Donovan presented an overview of this new regulation. The Renovating, Repair and Painting (RRP) Rule is a regulation within Massachusetts. ISD is in the process of preparing an RRP Policy for employees of this department engaged in a regulated RRP activity. The RRP Rule was promulgated to prevent lead paint poisoning in both target housing and child-occupied facilities for children under the age of six (6) which were built before 1978.

The City of Lynn has received a license to do remodeling of our buildings and all ISD in-house workers have received proper training. ISD is conducting lead paint surveys in all the schools.

Ms. Capano made a motion to accept for the files. Seconded.
Motion passed on a voice vote.

b. Custodial Operations for FY 12 summer cleaning of school buildings.

Mr. Donovan presented an overview of the many obstacles ISD is facing to complete the cleaning of all school buildings this summer.

Specifically,
increased school use of buildings during the summer
custodial staffing levels

Due to these issues, ISD is not capable of completing the summer cleaning program within the nine (9) weeks allotted over the course of the summer using the current Local 1736 employees. ISD has decided to use a cleaning contractor. Mr. Donovan presented a 4-year cleaning cycle where every building has its summer cleaning performed by a contractor once every four years. During the intervening years Local 1736 employees will accomplish the summer cleaning duties. ISD has retained two (2) firms from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts contract list for janitorial services to ensure that all summer cleaning is completed.

c. Pilot Program in cooperation with AFSCME Local 1736 at the Sewell-Anderson School.

Mr. Donovan informed the Committee that a pilot program has been initiated in cooperation with AFSCME Local 1736 regarding summer cleaning of the schools. ISD and the Executive Board of Local 1736 have agreed that Sewell-Anderson Elementary School will be the pilot school. The City and AFSCME Local 1736 have generated a Memorandum of Understanding which outlines the process under which Local 1736 will take responsibility for the summer cleaning of the Sewell-Anderson Elementary School.

Ms. Capano made a motion to accept for the files (1) Custodial Operations for FY 12 summer cleaning of school buildings and (2) Pilot Program in cooperation with AFSCME Local 1736 at the Sewell-Anderson School. Seconded.

Motion passed on a voice vote.

d. Update of the Capital Repair Work

Mr. Donovan provided a list of capital repair work that ISD is doing on this summer. This list addresses projects valued at \$5,000 or more and are being performed by contractors.

Specifically,
Aborn Elementary, new boiler
Fallon School, re-occupation
Marshall Middle School, flooring replacement

ISD is attempting to make aesthetic improvements at the Sewell-Anderson Elementary School and the Lincoln Elementary School. A list of all schools having Capital repairs for Fiscal Year 2012 was provided for information.

Ms. Capano made a motion to accept for the files. Seconded.
Motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

INFORMATION

1. Job Postings
 - a. Vice Principal—Classical High School
 - b. ELL Department Head—Classical High School
 - c. Department Head/Special Education—Classical High School
 - d. Department Head/Science—Classical high School
2. Transportation Manual 2011-12
3. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Latham stated that the emphasis now is opening new classes due to the increase in enrollment.

A motion from the floor was made to adjourn at 8:10 p.m. Seconded.
Motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

THOMAS P. IARROBINO
Secretary of the School Committee

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ADOPTED S.C. - September 8, 2011