

LEXINGTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
Tuesday, September 7, 2010
Cary Hall Auditorium
1605 Massachusetts Avenue

Present: Superintendent Paul Ash, School Committee Chair Rod Cole, School Committee Members Sandro Alessandrini, Margaret Coppe (arrived late), Jessie Steigerwald, Mary Ann Stewart, and Student Representative Noah Coolidge. Minutes were taken by Leora Tec.

The meeting was convened at 7:35 pm

I. Call to Order (Rod Cole)

II. Superintendent's Announcements

1. New Collective Bargaining Agreements: We have a new collective bargaining agreement with our teachers' union. Dr. Ash read a statement put out by Carl Valente regarding the coalition agreement with regard to the health care. \$2,750,000 will be saved by the town and employees over the next few years. The Town contribution to most health care plans will decrease from 85% to 80%. Co-payments will increase.

Dr. Ash explained the salary schedule increases included in the agreement.

2. School Opening: Other than the situation at Estabrook, which we will discuss in a moment, the beginning of school was wonderful.

III. Discussion Items

1. Estabrook School Update. Dr. Ash introduced the topic, including a time-line of how the situation developed and came to light. The presentation included: technical aspects of the situation; the short-term educational implications; the role of the advisory committee; intermediate and long-term space options and alternate space options. Part of the presentation was given by Patrick Goddard, Director of Public Facilities. Estabrook Principal Sandra Trach outlined the upcoming educational plan for Estabrook students. Paul Ash will form an advisory committee to deal with this issue. He explained that we have requested a site-specific needs assessment. Carol Pilarski, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, Instruction and Professional Development presented the thinking and options regarding alternate space if Estabrook needed to be closed, stressing that none of the options is optimal.

There were questions and comments from the Committee. There were comments and questions from the audience, primarily from Estabrook parents.

2. Preliminary 2010-2011 Enrollment Numbers. Paul Ash reported that the enrollment numbers have not dropped, despite predictions to the contrary. There were comments from Phyllis Neufeld, president of the LEA and other members of the audience.

3. Suggested Dates for Future School Committee Meetings. The Committee changed the date of the public hearing from the 22nd to the 29th of January.

Paul Ash said that the Committee should post a meeting for next Tuesday, September 14, in case a meeting is necessary to discuss the Estabrook situation.

IV. Action Items

1. Vote First Reading of Acceptable Use Policy for Technology. This was introduced by Paul Ash.

Motion to approve the first reading of the Acceptable Use Policy for Technology (Stewart, Alessandrini). The motion passed 5-0.

2. Vote to Establish the William F. Tapply Memorial Fund for the LHS English Department.

Motion, with gratitude, to establish the William F. Tapply Memorial Fund for the LHS English Department (Steigerwald, Alessandrini). The motion passed 4-0 (Margaret Coppe had not yet arrived when this vote was taken).

3. Vote to Accept Display Cabinet for The Central Office as a Gift from Tom Hernandez, Owner of HDR Construction.

Motion, with gratitude, to accept the generous donation of the display cabinet for the Central Office as a gift from Tom Hernandez, owner of HDR Construction (Coppe, Stewart). The motion passed 5-0.

4. Vote to Authorize the School Administration to Submit Statements of Interest for the MSBA Green Repair Program. Presented by Patrick Goddard.

Motion to approve the authorization which was read as follows:

Authorization to Submit a Statement of Interest to the MSBA regarding the Lexington Bowman Elementary School

Resolved, having convened in an open meeting on September 7, 2010, the School Committee of the Lexington Public Schools, in accordance with its charter, by-laws and ordinances has voted to authorize the superintendent to submit to the Massachusetts School Building Authority the Statement of Interest dated on or before September 22, 2010, for the Bowman Elementary School located at 9 Philip Road, Lexington Massachusetts, which describes and explains the following deficiencies and the priority categories for which the Lexington Public Schools may be invited to apply to the Massachusetts School Building Authority in the future. Priority Number Five: replacement, renovation or modernization of the school facility systems such as roofs, windows, boilers, heating and ventilation systems, to increase energy conservation and to decrease energy related costs in a school facility, and hereby further specifically acknowledges that by submitting this Statement of Interest The Massachusetts School Building Authority in no way guarantees the acceptance, or approval of an application,

the awarding of a grant or any other funding commitment from the Massachusetts School Building Authority or commits the Lexington Public Schools to filing an application for funding with the Massachusetts School Building Authority (Alessandrini, Coppe). The motion passed 5-0.

Motion to approve the authorization which was read as follows:

Authorization to Submit a Statement of Interest to the MSBA regarding the Lexington Bridge Elementary School

Resolved, having convened in an open meeting on September 7, 2010, the School Committee of the Lexington Public Schools, in accordance with its charter, by-laws and ordinances has voted to authorize the superintendent to submit to the Massachusetts School Building Authority the Statement of Interest dated on or before September 22, 2010, for the Bridge Elementary School located at 55 Middleby Road, Lexington Massachusetts, which describes and explains the following deficiencies and the priority categories for which the Lexington Public Schools may be invited to apply to the Massachusetts School Building Authority in the future. Priority Number Five: replacement, renovation or modernization of the school facility systems such as roofs, windows, boilers, heating and ventilation systems, to increase energy conservation and to decrease energy related costs in a school facility, and hereby further specifically acknowledges that by submitting this Statement of Interest The Massachusetts School Building Authority in no way guarantees the acceptance, or approval of an application, the awarding of a grant or any other funding commitment from the Massachusetts School Building Authority or commits the Lexington Public Schools to filing an application for funding with the Massachusetts School Building Authority (Stewart, Alessandrini). The motion passed 5-0.

Motion to approve the authorization which was read as follows:

Authorization to Submit a Statement of Interest to the MSBA regarding the Lexington High School

Resolved, having convened in an open meeting on September 7, 2010, the School Committee of the Lexington Public Schools, in accordance with its charter, by-laws and ordinances has voted to authorize the superintendent to submit to the Massachusetts School Building Authority the Statement of Interest dated on or before September 22, 2010, for the Lexington High School located at 251 Waltham Street, Lexington Massachusetts, which describes and explains the following deficiencies and the priority categories for which the Lexington Public Schools may be invited to apply to the Massachusetts School Building Authority in the future. Priority Number Five: replacement, renovation or modernization of the school facility systems such as roofs, windows, boilers, heating and ventilation systems, to increase energy conservation and to decrease energy related costs in a school facility, and hereby further specifically acknowledges that by submitting this Statement of Interest The Massachusetts School Building Authority in no way guarantees the acceptance, or approval of an application, the awarding of a grant or any other funding commitment from the

Massachusetts School Building Authority or commits the Lexington Public Schools to filing an application for funding with the Massachusetts School Building Authority (Stewart, Steigerwald). The motion passed 5-0.

V. Motion to adjourn (Stewart, Coppe). The motion passed 5-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:43 p.m.

Handouts: *First reading of Acceptable Use Policy for Technology; Meeting Agenda; Letter from Bob Harris to Paul Ash re: Unit A Wage Settlement FY10-FY12; Memo from Town Manager Carl Valente entitled, Town Settles with Employee Health Insurance Coalition; Memo from Paul Ash to the School Committee entitled, Update on Estabrook School Environmental Concerns (including five attachments: Estabrook School Work Plan from EH&E; Memo from Sandra Trach, Estabrook Principal to Paul Ash re: Estabrook School, September 7, September 8, September 10; Role of the Superintendent's Advisory Committee on Estabrook Environmental Issues; Estabrook School-Environmental Concerns, Possible Decision-making Scenarios; Alternate Space Options); Chronology of Events Related to PCBs in Lexington; Department of Public Facilities Capital Projects Report to the School Committee; LPS Enrollment Numbers; Memo from Mary Ellen Dunn, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Business to Paul Ash re: New Federal and State Privacy Protection Laws; Suggested Dates for 2010-2011 School Committee meetings; Standards for Acceptable Use of Technology in the Lexington Public Schools; Friends of Bill Tapply Memorial Fund Proposal; Green Repair FAQs; Green Repair Proposed Costs for LHS, Bridge and Bowman; Authorization to Submit a Statement of Interest to the MSBA Regarding Lexington High School; Authorization to Submit a Statement of Interest to the MSBA Regarding Bowman Elementary School; Authorization to Submit a Statement of Interest to the MSBA Regarding Bridge Elementary School.*