

LEXINGTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
Monday, March 23, 2015
Lexington High School, Library Media Center
251 Waltham Street

PRESENT: Superintendent Dr. Paul Ash, Chair Jessie Steigerwald, Vice Chair William Hurley, Margaret Coppe, Alessandro Alessandrini, Judith Crocker, Student Representative Abigail Schwartz
The Minutes were taken by Christine Ashness, Recording Secretary
The meeting convened at 6:35 pm

Call to order and welcome: Chair Jessie Steigerwald called the meeting to order, and introduced committee members. Dr. Mary Czajkowski is also in attendance tonight.

Superintendent's Announcements:

Dr. Ash spoke about the Lexington High School April 10th dance. Things in the media sometimes don't reflect what actually happened. He then read Principal Laura Lasa's statement.

"Lexington High School students have selected a theme of American Pride for a junior/senior class dance that will be held on April 10, 2015 as scheduled. As the birthplace of the American Revolution, Lexington is proud of our historic roots that have helped to shape the values of our diverse and inclusive community today."
The dance was never cancelled and it is going forward.

Alessandro Alessandrini arrived at 6:38pm.

Public Comments:

Dawn McKenna, 9 Hancock Street: She appreciates the statement and the change in perception. As you are all aware, we used to do a much better job of instilling pride with our LHS students. It is unfathomable that this would ever come to a conversation in public. Our history has always been at the forefront. She graduated from LHS in 1976, and has invested her whole life supporting Lexington and liberty. We've eroded students being able to make decisions for themselves. We also need to realize the importance of having the graduation ceremony held in Lexington. She urges us all to use this as an opportunity to begin a conversation. People have every right to support their American pride.

Jessie Steigerwald noted that Dr. Ash would be leaving the meeting to obtain materials for tonight's Town Meeting and would return later. Dr. Ash left the meeting at 6:42pm.

School Committee Member Announcements:

Judith Crocker: The opening ceremony for Annual Town Meeting is tonight and the William Diamond Fife and Drum Corps will perform. The bi-annual Battle Road is April 18th, Patriots' Day festivities begin on April 19th and then at 5:30am on Monday April 20th. She recognized that Mary Ellen Dunn would be hosting *Emergency Preparedness* on Tuesday at the Science Lecture Hall at LHS, at 7:30pm. It is a good session for parents to attend.

Crocker thanked the Site-Based School Council Roundtable's Steering Committee for organizing last week's meeting. Carol Pilarski, Len Swanton and Tom Plati gave a great presentation on professional learning (professional development) and technology.

Jessie Steigerwald: She, Judith Crocker and Margaret Coppe attended the Trustee Meeting for Cary library and Steigerwald served on the Nominating Committee for the Executive Board. Steigerwald reported that the Nominating Committee's slate for 2015-2016 included Ms. Coppe and that Ms. Coppe had graciously accepted. This Saturday March 28th is the Lexington Parents Academy at Clarke. Jennifer Wolfrum is the contact person. It is a collaboration between school and municipal staff and community volunteers with different themes at each session. There will be instruction, conversation, and research on the topic of parenting. Saturday night is the Lexington Education Foundation Gala. The online auction can be found at lexedfoundation.org. There will be a consent agenda item Wednesday for minutes for the Ad hoc School Master Planning Committee. Please let her know any edits by tomorrow.

Agenda:

Vote to Dissolve Superintendent Search Committee

Alessandro Alessandrini thanked all the members of the committee for all of their work. As the parent body of this subcommittee, we have the responsibility to approve the final set of minutes from the meeting and our attorney was able to review them in time to get them back to us tonight.

MOTION to approve the final set of minutes from the March 23, 2015 Superintendent Search Committee. (Alessandrini, Crocker)
The Motion was approved 5-0.

MOTION to dissolve the Superintendent Search Committee (Hurley, Crocker)
The Motion was approved 5-0

Discussion of Town Meeting Articles

Margaret Coppe suggested taking formal votes on the Town Meeting Articles the committee supports.

MOTION to support Article 2 on Special Town Meeting (Coppe, Crocker)
The Motion was approved 5-0.

MOTION to support Article 6 on Special Town Meeting, number 2. (Coppe, Hurley)
The Motion was approved 5-0.

MOTION to support Article 4 on Regular Town Meeting. (Coppe, Hurley)
The Motion was approved 5-0.

Jessie Steigerwald stated that the moderator was striving to find efficiencies with 57 articles on the warrant. She proposed submitted a list of articles where committee had taken a position to help save time.

MOTION to support Article 8, Sections I, J, K, L, and M. (Alessandrini, Crocker)
The Motion was approved 5-0.

MOTION to support Article 11, Section E. (Crocker, Hurley)
The Motion was approved 5-0.

MOTION to support Article 12 and Article 13. (Crocker, Hurley)
The Motion was approved 5-0.

MOTION to support Article 16 (Hurley, Alessandrini)
The Motion was approved 5-0.

MOTION to support Article 18 Sections A through L with no position on H. (Hurley, Coppe)
The Motion was approved 5-0.

MOTION to support Article 28. (Coppe, Hurley)
The Motion was approved 5-0.

MOTION to support Article 45, but to not take a position at this time until we have more information. (Coppe, Crocker)
The Motion was approved 5-0.

Mary Ellen Dunn did not have the final report, and only had access to printed material in the budget book. Ms. Dunn will provide any new information as she receives it.

MOTION to support Article 5, Special Town meeting. (Alessandrini, Hurley)
The Motion was approved 5-0.

Margaret Coppe suggested that members keep in mind Article 47, medical marijuana, and also Article 49, the zoning by-law, as they might be of interest to the committee.

TMMA Bus Tour Update

The Town Meeting Members Association held their annual bus tour yesterday. In order to make the tour of Hastings flow efficiently, Pat Goddard, Louise Lipsitz and Jessie Steigerwald set up stations throughout the school. Thanks to Ms. Crocker, Ms. Coppe, Mr. Alessandrini and Mr. Hurley for taking a station, and to the following parent volunteers who served as guides for the tour: Daniel Pan, Sharon Musto, Lin Jensen, Curt Barrentine, Sarah Conrad, Audra Myerberg, Katie Wipke, Dan Strollo, and Kris Spriano. A big thanks to custodian Ken Giblin who had Hastings looking beautiful. Many people said the school was clean, bright, and cheerful.

Louise Lipsitz: Ms. Lipsitz is putting a letter together for Manny Cabral and his staff thanking them. Ms. Lipsitz also explained to the committee that there has been no sign of water leaks in Hastings the last week and a half. She gave credit to the Department of

Facilities they responded very quickly on all of the days they did have leaks. 16 classrooms were impacted.

Judith Crocker stated that the new mural in the cafeteria was beautiful. The Hastings art specialist and MA College of Art students collaborated on it.

If questioned tonight at town meeting, SMMA recommended not renovating Hastings because of the HVAC system, infrastructure, and windows. Jessie Steigerwald asked that the committee sit close together so they will all be able answer questions.

Vote to Approve School Committee Minutes of February 24, 2015

MOTION to Approve School Committee Minutes of February 24, 2015. (Alessandrini, Hurley)

The Motion was approved 5-0.

Margaret Coppe stated that next Monday is the ceremony honoring high school seniors. She also asked when the diversity award would be. The date hasn't been set yet.

Judith Crocker informed members that on Monday March 30th and Wednesday April 1st she won't be at Town Meeting or the School Committee meeting as she will be visiting her daughter abroad.

The School Committee will remain in session and relocate to Lexington High School Auditorium for the purpose of discussing Annual Town Meeting Articles.

Meeting Materials: Agenda; 2/24/15 Minutes; 3/23/15 Memo to School Committee regarding Ad hoc School Master Planning Committee and School Committee minutes.