

LEXINGTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
Monday, March 30, 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
Member Absent: Judith Crocker

The Minutes were taken by Christine Ashness, Recording Secretary
The meeting convened at 6:35pm

Call to order and welcome: Chair Jessie Steigerwald called the meeting to order, and introduced committee members. Steigerwald reminded the committee that Ms. Crocker was away this week and would return next week.

Public Comments: None

Superintendent's Announcements: None

School Committee Member Announcements:

William Hurley: It was a great time at the LEF fundraiser on Saturday night. Thanks to everyone who put it together and participated.

Alessandro Alessandrini: The Lexington Parent Academy was on Saturday at Clarke and was excellent. Thanks to Lexington's School Health Advisory Council, PTA Presidents Council, Lexington Human Services Department, Lexington Chamber of Commerce, Chinese American Association of Lexington, Indian Americans of Lexington, and Lexington Youth and Family Services for putting it together and sponsoring it. He brought everyone a souvenir Parent Academy stress ball.

Jessie Steigerwald: Steigerwald enjoyed the LEF Gala and noted the LHS a capella group *Pitchpipes* performed and were great. Steigerwald offered special thanks to Jennifer Wolfrum for her work on the Lexington Parents Academy. Steigerwald reached out to Mr. Himmel and Mr. Goddard regarding the time commitment and schedule for any school committee appointees for the upcoming capital projects through the Permanent Building Committee. She has not heard back yet but will provide an update when she learns the schedule. She suggested that she and Mr. Hurley could attend the first meeting on April 9th.

Margaret Coppe added that the School Committee's decision on appointees for the capital projects might be able to wait until after the April 9th meeting.

Steigerwald noted that Town Meeting on April 6th will include the Diversity Award at 7:15 p.m.. She would like to table the Consent Agenda and the Liaison Assignments tonight because the committee needs to go into Executive Session with the Board of Selectmen.

Agenda:

Discussion of Town Meeting Articles

Steigerwald asked if any members would like the School Committee to take a position on Article 11. Members decided they would speak as individuals. She gave an update on Article 49, Civic Use Districts, and members agreed they would be interested in hearing from the Planning Board if it was coming back for reconsideration.

Policy Manual Review Update: Tabled

School Committee Liaison Assignments, Updates: Tabled

Consent Agenda, Two sets of minutes: Tabled

At 6:45 p.m. Steigerwald said the committee would recess and relocate to join Selectmen who were presently meeting across the hall in room 148. The committee would reconvene in room 148 in Open Session and immediately go into Executive Session under exemption 3 for the purpose of discussing strategy with respect to Coalition Bargaining. She said that when the Executive Session was complete, the committee would return to Open Session and relocate to the auditorium for the purpose of participating in Town Meeting.

At 6:45 the committee recessed and relocated to join the Selectmen in room 148.

At 6:47, in Room 148, Steigerwald reconvened the meeting and moved to go into Executive Session under Exemption 3 for the purpose of discussing strategy with respect to Coalition Bargaining, and to then return to Open Session, and further declared that an Open Session would be detrimental to the bargaining position of the School Committee. Ms. Coppe seconded the motion. Steigerwald took a roll call vote (Coppe – Aye, Alessandrini – Aye, Steigerwald – Aye, Hurley – Aye, Crocker – Absent). The committee remained in Executive Session until 7:09 p.m., when they took a roll call vote, all voted AYE and returned to Open Session. (The formal Executive Session minutes are in a separate document.)

At 7:09 the committee recessed to relocate to the auditorium for the purpose of participating in Town Meeting.

The committee reconvened at 7:15 p.m. and remained in session. When recognized by the Moderator, Steigerwald spoke on behalf of the committee to thank Tom Plati, Mary Ellen Dunn and Dr. Paul Ash as each are leaving the system this year. Town Meeting expressed appreciation to each person. Dr. Ash received a standing ovation. Dr. Ash presented the FY16 Operating Budget (part of Article 4). Article 4 passed at 8:50 p.m. with 162 members voting in the affirmative, 1 member voting in the negative, and 3 members abstaining.

At 10:20 p.m. Mr. Alessandrini moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Ms. Coppe. The vote was 4:0 and the meeting adjourned.

Meeting Materials: Agenda; School Committee Liaison Assignments 2014-2015; 2/25/2015 Minutes; 3/10/15 Minutes; Student Discipline Policy handout

LSC Meeting Minutes 3/30/2015

