

MOUNT GREYLOCK REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
LANESBOROUGH - WILLIAMSTOWN, MASSACHUSETTS

Mount Greylock Regional School Committee
Wednesday, February 16, 2005
7:00 P.M.

The One Thousand Second meeting of the Mount Greylock Regional School Committee was held on Wednesday, February 16, 2005 in the Bruce R. Carlson Library of Mount Greylock Regional High School, 1781 Cold Spring Road, Williamstown, MA.

Those in attendance were:

Mr. Archibald	Dr. Piechota	Mr. Caraco
Mr. Kapiloff	Ms. Mellor	Mr. Ostheimer
Mr. Langston	Ms. Gigliotti	Ms. Fernandez, ME Rep
Mr. O'Brien		Mr. Payne
Mr. Petricca		Ms. Kaiser
Mr. Tinkham		Parents
Ms. White		Students
		Press
		Mr. Dushaney, TV Cameraman

- I. The Meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Chairman Petricca.
- II. Approval of Warrants
- III. Approval of Minutes

It was moved by Mr. Tinkham and seconded Ms. White to approve the Minutes of January 11, 2005 with the following additions:

Page 2, Section B, English Department Program Concerns – add
. Additional Team in Middle School requested at a cost of \$200,000

Page 4, Section E, Senior Project - add
. Committee requested hearing an outcome assessment in two years
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

It was moved by Mr. Tinkham and seconded by Ms. White to approve the Minutes of January 14, 2005 as written. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

It was moved by Mr. Tinkham and seconded by Mr. Langston to approve the Minutes of January 15, 2005 with the following correction:

. To rearrange the order of interviews: Dr. Wesley Knapp was the first candidate interviewed, Dr. Genevieve Coale was the second, and Dr. William Travis the third candidate interviewed
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

It was moved by Mr. Tinkham and seconded by Ms. White to approve the Minutes of January 19, 2005 as written.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

It was moved by Mr. Tinkham and seconded by Ms. White to approve the Minutes of January 20, 2005 as written.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

It was moved by Mr. Tinkham and seconded by Mr. Langston to approve the Minutes of January 21, 2005 and the Executive Session Minutes of January 21, 2005 as written.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

IV. Agenda Requests from Attendees - None

V. Agenda Requests from Student Advisory Council – None

VI. Public Comments – None

VII. Questions & Suggestions – None

VIII. Financial Report

- . Hancock and New Ashford Tuition payments have not yet been received
- . Sent the requests to Mr. Ballen, Superintendent of the Mt. Greylock School Union who forwarded requests of payment to the Selectmen
- . If paid on time, we would have to borrow less in anticipation of revenue
- . Revise policy to apply finance charges for late payments
- . Formula used to compute tuition
- . Put this item on the April Agenda

IX. Reports

A. Superintendent Piechota read list of accolades:

HATS OFF TO:

- . Tom Ostheimer and participants in the Martin Luther King Assembly
- . Six students who gave speeches on the themes from Dr. King's life at the Martin Luther King Assembly
- . MG High School musical groups – January 26th Concert was snowed out but they gave a wonderful concert on the morning of January 28th.
- . Seventh grade students and teachers who staged a fabulous Greek Festival evening on February 15th.

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- B. Enrollment Projections – put on Parking Lot List
 - C. Chairman Petricca urged School Committee members to attend classes as was done during “Community Days”; to shadow a student to classes and have lunch at school. He would ask members to call and make an appointment to do this in the near future before the end of the budget cycle.
- X. Discussion Items
- A. Senior Project as a Graduation Requirement
 - Discussion included:
 - . Last year 35 students completed a senior project in a pilot program
 - . This year all seniors must complete a senior project in order to graduate
 - . Calendar of project
 - . Project requirements and papers
 - . Some seniors are not meeting their deadlines
 - . Some seniors are lacking a mentor
 - . Seniors charge a lack of group meetings with the teachers, check points along the way
 - . Fine tuning project – a work in progress
 - . Directed Study teachers
 - . Special Education teachers working with their students on project
 - . Some seniors not working on their project during directed study
 - . Stressful year for seniors, with college applications and essays
 - . Idea to start preparing students for their Senior Project in grade 9
 - . A dynamic – individualized program – every senior can do it
 - . Most parents and teachers in favor of Senior Project
 - . Senior Project will remain a graduation requirement for the Class of 2005
 - . Project helps welcome students into the adult world
 - . Mr. Caraco and Mr. Ostheimer would welcome feedback on the Senior Project.
 - B. Participation Fee Allocations – Ms. Goodman and Ms. Jolin
 - . Some sports have high rates of student participation, and can raise more than sufficient funding through participation fees alone
 - . Other sports have high costs but field smaller squads or draw lower number of participants and need extra funding
 - . By the nature of the reallocation, some families would be financially supporting programs their children are not participating in
 - . GAP uses this form of allocation of funds
 - . This allocation of funds seems the fairest to all

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- . Propose the participation fees will be allocated by a percentage of the cost of running the activity or sport, instead of by the number of students participating in the sport.

- . The goal is to make sure all sports survive, and this would help obtain that goal

It was moved by Mr. Langston and seconded by Mr. Archibald to adopt the new way of allocating participation fees to all sports as was presented.

Mr. Archibald, Mr. Kapiloff, Mr. Langston, Mr. O'Brien, Mr. Petricca and Mr. Tinkham voted in the affirmative.

Ms. White had left the meeting before the vote.

MOTION CARRIED 6-0-0

C. MASC Activities

- . Writing letters to state senators and representatives
- . April 28th, a Day on the Hill
- . If needed, a bus load of parents will go to support the School Committee

D. Building Renovation Committee

- . Chairman Petricca announced he had appointed the following people to the Committee:

Gregory Shine – Businessman
Elisabeth Goodman – Lawyer
Andrew Hogeland – Environmental Engineer *Temporary Chair
Thomas Bartels – Architect
Nathaniel Karns – Plant Engineer
John Hickey – Civil Engineer
Ann McCallum – Architect
TBA – One person from William's College B&G

- . Draft of the "Charge to the Committee"
- . Why no faculty representation on the committee
- . Why not people who were on the elementary schools building committee
- . Report back to School Committee in May 2006
- . Overlap with the Regional Study Committee

E. FY 2005 Budget to Actual

- . Voted this revised budget on June 8, 2004
- . Budget figures as of February 4, 2005
- . Staffing changes
- . Not alter the intent of allocation
- . Shifting funds to different accounts
- . Excess & Deficiency Account
- . Committee approval needed to spend E&D funds
- . School Choice funds

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- . Tuition money
- . Costs of utilities
- . Going out to borrow in anticipation of revenue
- . Yearly audit
- . Contracts
- . Budget of what we need
- . What communities can afford
- . Highlighting of various line items
- . Budget history
- . Demonstrate “sacrifice” in budget
- . Options

XI. Action Items

It was moved by Mr. Tinkham and seconded by Mr. Langston to adopt Policy #1210, Mission and Expectations for Students as recommended.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

XI. Other Business – None

XII. Administrative Reports – None

XIII. School Committee Comments and Observations

XIV. Date, Time, Place of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Mount Greylock Regional School Committee will be held Tuesday, March 1, 2005 at 7:00 p.m. in the Bruce R. Carlson Library of Mount Greylock Regional High School, 1781 Cold Spring Road, Williamstown, MA

The School Committee has scheduled meetings every Tuesday evening in March, the March 8, 2005 meeting to be held in the Lower Level Meeting Room in the Lanesborough Town Hall, Lanesborough, MA

XVI. Executive Session

It was moved by Mr. Tinkham and seconded by Mr. Langston to enter Executive Session at 10:35 p.m. for the purpose of discussing matters pertaining to collective bargaining.

Mr. Archibald, Mr. Kapiloff, Mr. Langston, Mr. O’Brien, Mr. Petricca, Mr. Tinkham voted in the affirmative.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The School Committee returned to open session at 11:50 p.m., no action being taken.

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XV. Adjournment

It was moved by Mr. Tinkham and seconded by Mr. O'Brien to adjourn the meeting
at 11:50 p.m. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Respectfully submitted:

Mark M. Piechota
District Secretary

Joan U. Manners
District Recorder