

MOUNT GREYLOCK REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
LANESBOROUGH - WILLIAMSTOWN, MASSACHUSETTS

Mount Greylock Regional School Committee
Tuesday, October 5, 2004
7:00 P.M.

The nine hundredth eighty eighth meeting of the Mount Greylock Regional School Committee was held on Tuesday, October 5, 2004 in the Bruce R. Carlson Library of Mount Greylock Regional High School, 1781 Cold Spring Road, Williamstown, MA.

Those in attendance were:

Mr. Malloy	Dr. Piechota	Ms. Capozzi, MGEA Rep
Mr. O'Brien	Ms. Mellor	Mr. White, Council Rep
Mr. Petricca	Ms. Manners	Faculty
Mr. Tinkham	Ms. Kaiser	Students
Ms. White		Parents
		Press
		Hazard, Young, Attea, & Associates – Ms. Raizes
		Goens/Esparo, Mr. Goens and Mr. Esparo
		Mr. Elder, TV Cameraman

School Committee members Bradburd and McHugh were absent.

- I. The Meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by Chairman Petricca.
- II. Approval of Warrants
- III. Approval of Minutes

It was moved by Mr. Tinkham and seconded by Ms. White to approve the Minutes and Executive Session Minutes of August 10, 2004 as written
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

It was moved by Mr. Tinkham and seconded by Ms. White to approve the Minutes and Executive Session Minutes of August 17, 2004 with the following correction to the Minutes:
Page 3 – Action Items - \$21,565 – to “create” not restore four one-semester courses
Page 3 - Executive Session -seconded by “Mr. McHugh,” not Mr. Malloy
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- IV. Agenda Requests from Attendees - None
- V. Agenda Requests from Student Advisory Council
- VI. Public Comments

October 5, 2004

Page 2

VII. Questions & Suggestions

- . Update the website
- . Superintendent Piechota's Accolades
 - Hats off to:
 - Parent Anne Hogeland and Business Manager Marti Mellor for organizing another very successful Community Day on October 2, 2004, with 180 people working at various projects
 - Five parent volunteers to write news articles about MG happenings
 - Parents who are seeking grant money to support teacher initiatives.
 - \$15,500 from the Carlisle Group to support the Senior Project Program
 - Parents overseeing the College and Career Center
 - Ms. St.Claire and son Paul St. Claire who came to the school every week during the summer to weed and water the various flower beds on campus
 - Many contributors to the Orchestra fundraising – a total of \$24,000 so far
 - Math department's excellent scores on various standardized tests
 - Marti Mellor for facilitating the HeartVentures program for staff
 - Art teacher Jane-Ellen DeSomma for procured grants of \$1,000 from the SEE Fund, and \$4,700 from Berkshire Life Charitable Foundation and the support of the Clark Art to train teachers in ways to liberate the creative expression of multi handicapped youngsters
 - To students Emily Cohane-Mann, Sarah Hirsch, David Their and Emily Windover who have been named Commended Students in the 2005 National Merit Scholarship Program
 - 12 Students who recently scored at the top on their SAT I and SAT II exams
 - . Accolades – Post in the Building
 - . Thank you notes from the School Committee to people so recognized in the Accolades

VIII. Financial Report – None

IX. Reports

- A. Presentation by Deborah Raizes for Hazard, Young, Attea Associates, Ltd.
 - . Largest search company in the country
 - . Tremendous network
 - . Find candidates from across the country
 - . You would hire our firm to recruit a superintendent
 - . Run advertisement in newspapers such as "Education Week"
 - . Planning – focus groups
 - . Seminar on how to interview candidates
 - . Interview process
 - . Reference checks
 - . Unique area setting
 - . Keep going till we find a person you are very happy about
 - . Normal tenure of a superintendent is five years
 - . Superintendent's job is now more political and more demanding

October 5, 2004

Page 3

- B. Presentation by Mr. George Goens and Louis Esparo, of Goens/Esparo, LLC
 - . Brochure about their company
 - . Our values and services
 - . Working in New England and New York – strong network
 - . Both retired from active superintendencies in Wisconsin, Connecticut and Pennsylvania
 - . Search process and procedures
 - . Finding a candidate that “is a good fit for you”
 - . Accountability – costs – no surprises
 - . Prototype of meetings and interviews
 - . Modify search according to your needs
 - . Contract for search is for 24 months, with a guarantee
 - . Salary range – Know your package
 - . Narrow search down to three-five candidates
 - . Family and spouse involvement in process
 - . Regional vs. National Search

Further discussion:

- . Presentation by NESDEC and MASC last week, and two firms this evening
- . School Committee decision
- . Pick a firm for qualities they can help us with to pick the best candidate
- . Williams College to help us with the funding
- . Take a straw vote
- . Need a meeting to discuss this issue

X. Discussion Items

- A. Bids for Fuel Oil were rejected, and will re-advertise. Hopefully will get a better price on #4 oil
- B. Audit in 2005 will not happen. The state is doing 8-12 regional schools only
- C. Water line – discussion
 - . Selectmen’s meeting in Williamstown
 - . Community involvement
 - . State Money – Pot Hole \$ - a long shot
 - . Continued testing of our two wells, perchlorate readings are lessening, do not know why
 - . Special Meeting in Lanesborough November 9th
- D. SEE Fund and the John T. Allen Fund update.
- E. BArt School working well with us – their schedule dovetails with ours
- F. School Committee Communications
 - . Sharing information
 - . Tone set at School Committee Meetings
 - . School Committee to set positive attitude
 - . Healthy to disagree
 - . Role of School Committee responsibilities
 - . Election on November 2nd – possibility of two or three new members
 - . Documents presented to School Committee
 - . Policy Manual

- . Strategic Planning
- . Evaluate and oversee administration
- . Applying for grants – School Committee should know about it
- . Quarterly reports – see how that works

XI. Action Items

A. Professional Development Plan for 2004/2005

It was moved by Mr. Tinkham and seconded by Ms. White to approve the Plan as presented by Superintendent Piechota.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

B. Home Schooling Approvals

It was moved by Mr. Tinkham and seconded by Ms. White to approve the Home Schooling Plans of two parents for the 2004/2005 school year to Home School their children, as presented by Superintendent Piechota.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

B. Master's Degree Program

It was moved by Mr. Tinkham and seconded by Ms. White to approve Kathy Rinehart's Plan for obtaining a MA degree in Science Education. She is enrolled in a Masters Program at UMASS/Amherst.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

C. Acceptance of Grants

It was moved by Mr. Tinkham and seconded by Ms. White to accept a grant of \$4,700 from the Berkshire Life Charitable Foundation.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

It was moved by Mr. Tinkham and seconded by Mr. Malloy to accept a grant of \$15,500 from the Carlisle Group.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

D. Library Policy #5516 – Second Reading

It was moved by Mr. Tinkham and seconded by Ms. White to approve the revised Library Policy as presented. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

E. School Committee Goals for 2004/2005

It was moved by Mr. Tinkham and seconded by Ms. White to approve the Goals as presented.

October 5, 2004

Page 5

Discussion:

- . #6 – Ms. White’s wording for a more detailed budget. What the Committee would like to see
- . Vote on School Committee Goals at next meeting

There was no vote taken.

XII. Other Business – None

XIII. Administrative Reports – None

XIV. School Committee Comments and Observations

- A. The water issue – continue to use Sand Springs bottled water
- B. The proposed water line
- C. The Clark Art – Northern Berkshire Healthcare, Inc.

XV. Date, Time, Place of Next Meetings

The next meeting of the Mount Greylock Regional School Committee will be on Sunday, October 10, 2004 at 8:00 a.m. in the Lower Level Meeting Room of the Lanesborough Town Hall, North Main Street, Lanesborough, MA

XVI. Executive Session

It was moved by Mr. Malloy and seconded by Mr. Petricca to enter Executive Session at 10:30 p.m. for the purpose of discussing matters pertaining to collective bargaining.

Mr. Bradburd, Mr. McHugh, Mr. Malloy, Mr. O’Brien, Mr. Petricca, Mr. Tinkham and Ms. White voted in the affirmative.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The School Committee returned to open session at 10:38 p.m., no action being taken.

XVI. Adjournment

It was moved by Mr. Malloy and seconded by Mr. Bradburd to adjourn the meeting at 10:38 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Respectfully submitted:

Mark M. Piechota
District Secretary

Joan U. Manners
District Recorder