

GREATER LOWELL TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

April 9, 2009 – 7:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Tully called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Superintendent Cassin asked for a moment of silence for a GLTHS student who recently passed away.

ROLL CALL

Members

Present: Mr. Deeb, Mr. Desrosiers, Mr. Hayden, Mr. Laferriere, Mr. Lenzi, Mr. O'Hare, Mr. Olson, Mr. Tully

Also

Present: James Cassin, Superintendent-Director
Mary Jo Santoro, Assistant Superintendent/Principal
John Lavoie, Assistant Superintendent/Curriculum
Attorney Michael Long
George Garabedian, School Business Administrator
David Bradley, District Treasurer
Robert Lussier, Director of Technical Studies
David MacLaughlan, Athlete Director
Cheryl Stephens-Burke, Melanson & Heath
Mark Sheehan, MTA Representative
Robert Sullivan, President, GLRTO
Michael McGovern, Coordinator of School Information
Cheryl Gosselin, Recording Secretary

PUBLIC APPEARANCE

Mr. Brian Martin signed up for public appearance to discuss the budget during the public hearing.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE COMMUNICATIONS

There were no School Committee communications.

REPORT OF STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

Student representative Alicia Janowicz gave an update of upcoming and recently held activities.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: by Mr. Hayden, seconded by Mr. Deeb to approve the minutes from the meeting of March 12, 2009.

ROLL CALL VOTE: 8 Yes

REPORT OF DISTRICT TREASURER

District Treasurer David Bradley distributed the Warrants to the Committee for their approval and signature.

MOTION: by Mr. Hayden, seconded by Mr. Olson to approve expenditures for the sum of \$2,405,003.78 allocated as follows:

Warrant 1731-1	dated 03/27/09	Accounts Payable	145,909.98
Warrant 1731-2	dated 03/27/09	Accounts Payable	650.00
Warrant 1732	dated 03/27/09	February Meals Tax	502.51
Warrant 1733	dated 03/27/09	Bank of America	266.12
Warrant 1734	dated 03/27/09	Lowell Five Cent Operating	30.00
Warrant 1735	dated 04/10/09	Accounts Payable	652,682.68
Warrant 1731-B	dated 03/27/09	Payroll Warrant #165	822,105.60
Warrant 1735-A	dated 04/09/09	Payroll Warrant #167	782,856.89

ROLL CALL VOTE: 8 Yes

REPORT OF GENERAL COUNSEL

Attorney Long asked for Executive Session to discuss a grievance. Mr. O'Hare asked for Executive Session for a personnel matter.

Superintendent Cassin asked that the Report of the Business Manager take place prior to his report.

REPORT OF BUSINESS MANAGER

Mr. Garabedian introduced Ms. Cheryl Stephens-Burke from Melanson & Heath who reviewed the FY08 audit report. Ms. Stephens-Burke informed the Board that there were no new management letter recommendations for this year. The management letter recommendation from the prior year has been resolved. Ms. Stephens-Burke reported that GLTHS has a clean unqualified opinion – there are no exceptions.

The Chairman returned to the agenda.

REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT-DIRECTOR

The Superintendent introduced David MacLaughlan who gave an update on the Athletic Wall of Fame.

MOTION: by Mr. Hayden, seconded by Mr. O'Hare to recess the regular meeting to open the Public Hearing.

ROLL CALL VOTE: 8 Yes

MOTION: by Mr. Hayden, seconded by Mr. Lenzi to open the Public Hearing at 7:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL VOTE: 8 Yes

Chairman Tully asked if there was anyone from the public who would like to speak on the FY10 budget. Mr. Brian Martin of Tyngsboro, MA spoke. He thanked the Board for passing his motion from the February meeting to reduce the FY09 transportation assessment for the communities by \$100,000. He voiced his concern about the transportation assessment for FY10 and asked that the assessment be reduced sooner rather than later.

MOTION: by Mr. Hayden, seconded by Mr. O'Hare to close the Public Hearing at 7:34 p.m.

ROLL CALL VOTE: 8 Yes

The regular meeting was reconvened.

Chairman Tully asked Mr. Garabedian to present the FY10 budget. Mr. Garabedian informed the Board that the proposed FY10 budget is \$32,449,186 which is level funded. \$1,142,150 will be used from E&D. Mr. Garabedian informed the Board that while the FY10 budget is lean it meets the instructional and support needs of the students and staff in providing a quality technical education and improving the student achievement in their academic and technical studies. Assessments for FY10 including transportation are:

Dracut	\$2,575,398
Dunstable	\$ 159,987
Lowell	\$5,406,281
Tyngsboro	<u>\$ 940,703</u>
Total Assessment	\$9,082,369

Next the Chairman asked Mr. Hayden to take the Finance Sub-Committee report out of order.

MOTION: by Mr. Hayden, seconded by Mr. Deeb to accept the report of the March 12, 2009 Finance Sub-Committee.

Approved: 8 Yes

Mr. Hayden gave a report from the April 1, 2009 Finance Sub-Committee meeting. He informed the Board that the Finance Sub-Committee is recommending approving the proposed FY10 budget of 32,449,186.

MOTION: by Mr. Hayden, seconded by Mr. Laferriere to accept the report of the April 1, 2009 Finance Sub-Committee.

ROLL CALL VOTE: 8 Yes

MOTION: by Mr. Lenzi, seconded by Mr. Hayden to adopt the FY10 budget for a total of \$32,449,186 as presented.

ROLL CALL VOTE: 8 Yes

The Chairman returned to the agenda.

Superintendent Cassin gave an update on the upcoming golf tournament which will be honoring Bob Caruso of Lowell Five Cent Savings Bank.

Superintendent Cassin reviewed upcoming school events.

Superintendent Cassin asked for approval for SkillsUSA students and advisors to attend the National SkillsUSA conference in Kansas City June 22 – 27.

MOTION: by Mr. Hayden, seconded by Mr. Desrosiers to approve SkillsUSA students and advisors to attend the National SkillsUSA conference in Kansas City June 22 – 27.

ROLL CALL VOTE: 8 Yes

Superintendent Cassin asked for approval for Cosmetology to attend the annual International Beauty Show in New York on April 28.

MOTION: by Mr. Desrosiers, seconded by Mr. Olson to approve Cosmetology to attend the annual International Beauty Show in New York on April 28.

ROLL CALL VOTE: 7 Yes, 1 Present (Mr. Hayden)

Next Superintendent Cassin asked for approval for the Graphic Communications Department to attend a field trip to the Museum of Modern Art in New York on May 8.

MOTION: by Mr. Hayden, seconded by Mr. Laferriere to approve the Graphic Communications Department to attend a field trip to the Museum of Modern Art in New York on May 8.

ROLL CALL VOTE: 8 Yes

Superintendent Cassin gave the Board an update on the Collaborative Partnership for Student Success grant. Mr. Lavoie gave a brief explanation on the grant.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS

MOTION: by Mr. Hayden, seconded by Mr. Deeb to have the administration investigate the possibility of starting a rally band.

ROLL CALL VOTE: 8 Yes

Chairman Tully presented Mr. O'Hare with an appreciation plaque for his past year as Chairman.

Superintendent Cassin presented Mr. Deeb and Mr. Desrosiers with university chairs in appreciation of the time they spent on the Greater Lowell Technical School Committee.

MOTION: by Mr. Desrosiers, seconded by Mr. Lenzi to go into Executive Session to discuss grievances.

ROLL CALL VOTE: 5 Yes, 3 No (Mr. Deeb, Mr. Hayden, Mr. Laferriere)

MOTION: by Mr. O'Hare, seconded by Mr. Desrosiers to go into Executive Session to discuss a personnel concern.

ROLL CALL VOTE: 6 Yes, 2 No (Mr. Deeb, Mr. Hayden)

The meeting will reconvene for adjournment purposes only, there will be no votes taken.

ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 9:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

James M. Cassin
Superintendent-Director