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ORLEANS SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Meeting of Monday, December 21, 2009
Held at the Orleans Elementary School

APPROVED

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Jordan called the meeting to order at 3:36 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

For the Committee: Mary Lyttle, Josh Stewart, Fred Walters, Gwynne Guzzeau, and
Pam Jordan

Administration: Richard Hoffmann, Han Baumhauer, and Diane Carreiro

CITIZENS SPEAK – None

AGENDA CHANGES – Discuss ideas relative to class size and make-up and Jt. School
Committee Meeting of December 3rd.

RECOGNITION

Dr. Hoffmann recognized Irene DeBoer of the Orleans Historical Society for her dedicated work in organizing and promoting collaborative, multi-generational education at OES through the "Orleans, Our Children's Heritage" project. Ann Tefft, former principal's secretary at Orleans Elementary School was recognized for her many years of service and dedication to the OES community.

PRIORITY BUSINESS

- Administrators' Reports

Diane Carreiro reported that the MCAS Action Plan developed on the Professional Development days will go out to staff shortly which is a summary of what they accomplished during the MCAS analysis days. Some key events that happened at OES over the past few weeks include; Earth View, presentation by Bridgewater State College, Orleans Concert Chorus, Orleans Our Childrens' Heritage, planning recognition of the Orleans Historical Society at OES, Art Visions, Cape Cod Museum of Art, and Orleans Sentinel (newspaper created for children by children under the supervision of Paul Gregg, Title I teacher). Other items of interest: "O" sticker on sale by PTC. A Reading Incentive Program is being set up where children spend a ½ day at Willy's if they meet their goal, Read Across America, as well as Literacy Nights for Math and English Language Arts. The PTC Winter Enrichment Program is coming up in January which gives students a chance to participate in a variety of after school activities that they might not otherwise be exposed to, for a small fee. "Music Works Everyday" program is being heard every morning and the composer is highlighted on a poster by Mr. Hollander-Essig.

The Spanish teacher, Paloma McLardy, is taking an extended Leave of Absence from now until April due to a medical condition. The position will be posted and advertised in hopes of getting a viable substitute. She teaches 60%, each grade level, one hour per week. Wednesday through Friday.

There is a non-verbal student who will greatly benefit from music therapy and the principal is working with Ann Caretti to see if this is feasible for approximately 1 hour per week.

Principal Carreiro asked the School Committee members to begin looking at the budget for ways to save money. Look at consumable workbooks \$2,500-\$4,000 per grade level depending on cost. (\$16,000 for consumables) Mr. Walters indicated he would check periodically with Kathy Schrock regarding textbooks on line.

Dr. Hoffmann reported on the MASC conference in November.

December 3rd introduced Superintendent's Entry Plan – "Priorities and Goals."

Focus was on the topics of Health and Wellness as well as the Academically Gifted and Talented Program offered to students. Attended the Cape Cod Museum of Art Show where students' work was very impressively displayed in the main gallery. Will be holding a seminar with Principals and Administrators regarding teacher support, supervision, and evaluations. Questions raised: How do you support a growth model? What are best practices?

- FY 10 Budget Update

Hans Baumhauer reported to the committee regarding the budget balances with the additional kindergarten teacher and the food service manager salary being of concern.

Fifth grade student who was at Collaborative now back at OES. \$40,000 was encumbered to hold the slot. Looking to sell slot to another school system and then the funding will come back to Orleans. However, a child specific educational assistant had to be hired which will offset savings.

- FY 11 Budget Update

Dr. Hoffmann distributed enrollment chart and class size figures at Orleans Elementary School. Discussion was held regarding ways to make up different classes at various grade levels. Preliminary budget is for level funding and maintaining all staffing. Mrs. Carreiro did a fine job bringing the budget in at 3.5% which includes steps and raises. Most everything else is level funded. Dr. Hoffmann distributed a tool to help with prioritizing, if reductions need to be made. Fees for building use were discussed but the goal is to keep the school as a community center and forgo charging fees at this time.

REPORTS AND INFORMATION

- Transportation Subcommittee Update

Mr. Walters reported that December 23rd is the deadline for big decision centered around a two-tier bus system which could have grades 6-12 riding the buses together. Negotiating with Cape Cod Collaborative to have them replace First Student Bus. "First Student operates buses for a profit, whereas the Collaborative is not interested in profits." Cape Cod Collaborative has been very helpful. Mr. Gradone is now consultant for the Collaborative to assist in the development of a strategic plan. Mr. Walters will copy Articles of Agreement with Collaborative if other members want them. Articles tell how Collaborative developed, changed, and what may change in the foreseeable future.

- Discussion – Joint School Committee Meeting

Members of the committee discussed the NEA presentation at the Joint School Committee meeting of December 3rd and the role of School Committee Members. Dr. Hoffmann made it very clear that he takes all allegations very seriously. Chairman Jordan suggested that Committee Members remind people to follow protocol, Principal, Superintendent, and then School Committee for responses.

State Ethic Commission requirement was discussed. Dr. Hoffmann finalized what School Committee Members need to do in a memo that just went out.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

-On a motion by Gwynne Guzneau, seconded by Mary Lyttle, it was voted to approve the minutes of the November 16, 2009 meeting. Not voting: Josh Stewart and Fred Walters

-On a motion by Mary Lyttle, seconded by Josh Stewart, it was voted to approve the minutes of the October 19th meeting. Not voting: Gwynne Guzneau and Pam Jordan

Surplus of Equipment – On a motion by Gwynne Guzneau, seconded by Mary Lyttle, it was voted unanimously to accept the declaration of surplus material as submitted.

Gifts and Donations: On a motion by Mary Lyttle, seconded by Fred Walters, it was voted unanimously to accept the gifts of \$1,000, the grant of \$375.00 and the cart from Cuffy's.

ADJOURNMENT

-On a motion by Gwynne Guzneau, seconded by Fred Walters, it was voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 5:05 p.m., subject to payment of bills.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann M. Tefft, recording secretary