

Kittery School Committee Meeting
December 1, 2009 - Town Hall Chambers - 6:30 p.m.
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING

I. ASSEMBLY OF SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

- A. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Supt. Littlefield.
- B. Supt. Littlefield, Kim Bedard, Glennis Wright, Patti Ayer, Lisa D'Angelo, Ken Lemont, David Batchelder and Bill Furbush were present. Student Board Member, Lauren Kennision was excused absent. Jess Foye, Alternate Student Board Member, was present. Also present were school administrators, staff, press, and members of the public.
- C. Superintendent Littlefield opened the floor for nominations for Chairperson for the 2009-2010 year.

It was MOVED by Kim Bedard, SECONDED by David Batchelder and VOTED 7-0-0 with Student Board Member, Jess Foye, in favor to elect Ken Lemont as Chairperson for the 2009-2010 year.

- D. Adjustments to the Agenda:
Adjustment to the Agenda was an Addendum VI.G., New Business.
- E. Minutes:
The Minutes of November 17, 2009 were approved as amended.
- F. Student Advisory Member Report:
Mitchell Grade 3 will be taking a field trip to the Music Hall on Friday, December 11th to see the Nutcracker. The Kittery PTA is having a fundraiser at Robert's Restaurant on Tuesday December 1st and December 8th. When you have a meal 5% of the bill benefits our PTA.

Shapleigh playground concerns are being resolved. Grade 6 will be going to the Observatory on Wednesday, December 2nd. Grades 3-5 will hold their Christmas Concert on Wednesday, December 9th at 7:00 p.m. Grades 6-8 will hold their Christmas Concert on Thursday, December 17th at 7:00 p.m.

Traip Christmas Concert will be held on Wednesday, December 16th at 7:00 p.m. The Winter Ball will be held on Saturday, December 12th at 7:00 p.m. The Student Council has begun their annual food drive to collect canned items for local food pantries. There will be Kittery School Book Fair at Barnes & Nobles in Newington on Wednesday, December 2nd at 5 - 8 p.m. Music will be performed by Kittery students and staff from 5-6 p.m. The Traip Community Bonfire will be held on Friday, December 4th from 4-7 p.m. Progress reports for the 2nd quarter will be going home on Friday, December 11th. Alumni Basketball games took place on Saturday, November 28th and went very well. Parent/Teacher conferences were held before Thanksgiving break. Traip craft fair will take

place on Saturday, December 5th and the Kittery Holiday Parade will take place starting at 3:00 p.m. Ross Greene will meet with staff, students and parent on Monday, December 7th.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Tim Philbrick, parent, has 3 children that currently attend Traip. He has listened to both sides regarding tuitioning Traip students to Marshwood. He has heard a lot regarding our students being shunned from sports should they attend Marshwood and he feels they will not be shunned. They will have more opportunities to play different sports, have more social contacts, and favors sending his children to Marshwood. He feels this is a great opportunity for our students.

O'Neil Roy, former Traip teacher, had 3 daughters graduate from Traip and they have all done quite well. Students at Traip receive a great education and a lot of them have attended great colleges. He asked parents to think about 3 major questions that would face our children should they attend Marshwood. 1: How would children with learning difficulties adjust to the larger classroom sizes and the curriculum? 2: How much say would we really have regarding our children's education? 3: What about transportation for our children to attend after school sports? He strongly feels that we need to keep our students at Traip.

Gil Robert, parent, is totally dissatisfied with the Board to elect not to consider tuitioning our Traip students. He feels the Board has given some wrong financial information to the public. The Board is dealing with Kittery taxpayer's money and they can not keep penalizing them with more tax increases. He would like to see the Board rethink their decision and take the right course.

Chris Andrews, parent, feels that the issue is again all about money. Should our Traip students attend Marshwood, how much actual money will the taxpayers actually save? In reality not a dollar. No money will be returned to the taxpayers, it will help fund other departments that have a deficit. Our taxes will not decrease, in actuality it could cost us more money. Our children will have longer days traveling, our taxes will pay more for tuition costs and our local control for education is gone. We lose a lot of our say to another community. As a taxpayer, he prefers to have his children stay in our town, attend a small school, receive a better education, and have a say in his children's education. He also noted that a lot of the Kittery community feels the same way he does and have expressed their sediments by signing the petition. He thanked the Board for their work on this matter and he and many other residents will support them to keep Traip open.

III. CORRESPONDENCE:

Correspondence was included in the FYI packet.

IV. STAFF REPORTS:

A. Coordinated School Health Program Presentation - Becky Bridges.

Becky Bridges, Health Coordinator, presented an overview of the Coordinated School Health Program.

The two top priorities are #1: Nutrition and # 2: Staff Wellness. A lot of changes in nutrition have happened within our district. She has worked closely with Doris Demers, Food Services Director, and students now have more healthy choices. A lot of different things have also been done to promote healthy living amongst our staff. We have implemented monthly newsletters, yoga classes, weight watchers, walking programs, CPR training, flu clinic, and a pamphlet wall for each school. She continues to work with the kitchen staff and Boosters Club to promote healthy eating habits for our students. Students are adjusting well. At the school level, the 5210 program has been implemented and is going well.

This year has been extremely busy for our staff as well. Not only did we make adjustments with in our school with Mitchell and Shapleigh, we also had to deal with flu vaccines for our students. Our clinics involved a lot of extra paperwork for the state but overall everything went very well.

Becky is grateful for the support she receives from the staff, students, and parents. It has been exciting and busy at times. With the state and district budget cuts, it becomes challenging to provide some things that are needed for our program. We do the best we can to assure the needs of our students are met to the fullest. She thanked the Board for the work they do and for allowing her to be part of a great team.

Chair Lemont thanked Becky for her presentation.

B. School Food Service Program Presentation - Doris Demers.

Doris Demers, Food Service Director, presented an overview of Food Services. Currently we have 12 staff members, most are part time, which have enabled us to be more creative. A lot of changes have taken place in our program. We now serve breakfast for our students. Currently on a daily basis, 123 students are served breakfast. She reviewed the nutritional requirements for our lunches set under the state guidelines. We are self supporting with our meal revenues. We receive 4 ½ cents per meal from the state and the balance from our revenues. We are currently offering some a la carte items and this seems to be going very well. We also are fortunate to participate in the Farm to School Program which allows our students to receive local farm fresh vegetables with our meals. This a great way to introduce children to new vegetables. This program has been very successful. Our students receive a great nutritional meal daily and she thanks our staff who makes this happen every day. They are a great team.

Chair Lemont thanked Doris for her presentation.

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

VI. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Action to review and appoint committee assignments for the 2009-10 school year.

Chair Lemont appointed the following:

Kim Bedard to serve on the Advisory Committee for Information Literacy, Design Team, Payroll warrant (Alternate #1), SAD#35/Kittery Joint Committee, and Superintendent's Liaison.

Bill Furbush to serve on CIP Committee, Negotiations Committee, and Shared Services Committee.

Glennis Wright to serve on Finance Committee, Health Coordinating Team, and Payroll Warrant (Alternate #2).

Patti Ayer to serve on Finance Committee, Policy Committee, Shared Services Committee, SAD#35/Kittery Joint Committee as an Alternate, and Student Dropout Committee.

David Batchelder to serve on Building Committee, Negotiations Committee, and Shared Services Committee.

Lisa D'Angelo to serve on Finance Committee as an Alternate and Policy Committee.

Ken Lemont to serve on Negotiations Committee, SAD#35/Kittery Joint Committee, Legislative Contact person, and payroll warrant.

B. Action to review FY11 DRAFT Budget Calendar.

Consensus of the Board for the FY09 Budget Calendar are as follows:

January 13, 2010 - School Committee Budget Workshop - 6:30 p.m.

January 19, 2010 - School Committee Meeting - budget discussions with Town Council
6:30 p.m.

January 27, 2010 - School Committee Budget Workshop - 6:30 p.m.

February 2, 2010 - School Committee Meeting - budget discussions - 6:30 p.m.

February 10, 2010 - School committee Budget Workshop - 6:30 p.m.

February 23, 2010 - School Committee Meeting - budget discussions - 6:30 p.m.

March 2, 2010 - School Committee Meeting - Vote on FY11 Budget - 6:30 p.m.

March 3, 2010 - School Department FY11 Budget to Town Manager

C. Action on concept approval for an overnight trip to Kieve Leadership Program, Nobleboro, ME (May 10-14, 2010) Shapleigh Seventh Grade Team.

It was MOVED by Kim Bedard, SECONDED by David Batchelder and VOTED 7-0-0 with Student Board Member, Jess Foye, in favor to grant concept approval for an overnight trip to Kieve Leadership Program, Nobleboro, ME (May 10-14, 2010) Shapleigh Seventh Grade Team.

- D. Action to discuss the November 17, 2009 Citizen's Petition regarding the Traip Academy tuitioning issues.
Supt. Littlefield reviewed the Citizen's Petition regarding the Traip Academy tuitioning issues. He noted that the petition is considered an advisory piece for the Board and does not have official legal standing,

It was MOVED by Kim Bedard, SECONDED by Glennis Wright and VOTED 7-0-0 with Student Board Member, Jess Foye, in favor to accept the Citizen's Petition, take it into consideration in future discussions regarding Traip Academy tuitioning issues, and express appreciation to the Kittery citizens for their opinion.

- E. Action to determine the need for a feasibility study to examine high school options for Kittery students.

It was MOVED by David Batchelder, SECONDED by Patti Ayer and VOTED 7-0-0 with Student Board Member, Jess Foye, in favor to create a sub-committee consisting of 7 members composed of 2 Board Members, Curriculum Coordinator, 2 Traip staff and 2 community members to look at a feasibility study with a charge to determine what secondary education is needed for Kittery and how do we achieve this goal.

- F. Action to authorize the Superintendent to fill the vacant Shapleigh Middle School Principal for 2010-11 school year.

It was MOVED by Kim Bedard, SECONDED by Glennis Wright and VOTED 7-0-0 with Student Board Member, Jess Foye, in favor to authorize Supt. Littlefield to fill the Vacant position of Shapleigh Middle School Principal

- G. Action to approve the following co-curricular position:

It was MOVED by Glennis Wright, SECONDED by Kim Bedard and VOTED 7-0-0 with Student Board Member, Jess Foye, in favor to approve the following co-curricular position:

1. Kendra Kuehl, Traip Girls Basketball Volunteer Assistant Coach for the 2009-10 school year.

VII. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

- A. Resignation/Retirement.

1. Judi Sama, Mitchell School Teacher.

It was MOVED by Kim Bedard, SECONDED by Glennis Wright and VOTED 7-0-0 with Student Board Member, Jess Foye, in favor to acknowledge with appreciation for her many years of service the retirement of Judi Sama, Mitchell School Teacher.

- B. Financial Report:
Sheri Rockburn, Business Manager, reviewed the School Department's budget.
- C. Supt. Littlefield reported that the Professional Learning Support System Plan in in the FYI packet for the Board to review before formal approval at the next meeting.
- D. Supt. Littlefield reported that the state recently notified us that our subsidy will be cut this fiscal year by \$212,600. He noted that now that we know the actual state cutback for Kittery, we will need to make \$70,000-75,000 more in cuts. He is currently working with Sheri Rockburn to identify areas where we can reduce the budget without having to cut staff. He will keep the Board updated.

VIII. COMMITTEES AND REPORTS:

- A. Design Team: The Design Team is scheduled to meet on December 16, 2009.
- B. Town Council Information Report: No report was given.
- C. Health Coordinating Team: The Health Coordinating Team has been rescheduled to meet on Wednesday, December 9, 2010.
- D. Policy Committee: The Policy Committee is scheduled to meet on Tuesday, December 8, 2010.
- E. MSBA Executive Committee: The MSBA Executive Committee is scheduled to meet on January 6, 2010.
- F. Advisory Committee for Information Literacy: The Advisory Committee for Information Literacy has not met. Blue Sky is scheduled to meet on Wednesday, December 2, 2009 at Shapleigh.
- G. Legislative Committee: The Legislative Committee has not met.
- H. Finance Committee: The Finance Committee met today and the Minutes are included in the FYI packet.
- I. Energy Committee: The Energy Committee has not met.
- J. Shared Services Committee: The Shared Services Committee has not met.
- K. Building Committee (Mitchell/Shapleigh) - The Building Committee (Mitchell/Shapleigh) met and are moving forward with the designs and are reviewing options.

- L. Kittery/SAD#35 Joint Board Committee: The Kittery/SAD#35 Joint Board Committee has not met.
- M. Superintendent's Search Committee: The Superintendent's Search Committee is scheduled to meet on Wednesday, December 2, 2009 at 4:30 p.m.
- N. Capital Improvement Project Committee: The Capital Improvement Project Committee is scheduled to meet on Wednesday, December 16, 2009.
- O. Dropout Prevention Committee: The Dropout Prevention Committee is scheduled to meet on Wednesday, December 2 at Traip @ 1:00 p.m.

IX. QUESTIONS/COMMENTS/CONCERNS:

David Batchelder congratulated Ken Lemont on being elected as Chair. On December 7th there will be a meeting to review our School Mission Statement and everyone is welcomed to attend.

Glennis Wright commented that she received an email from Lee Silsby Perkins asking who was responsible for paying for the trash cans on the Shapleigh playground? She also informed her that the picnic tables have been delivered to Shapleigh. Thank you to Patty for the copy of the article (Across the River) in the Portsmouth Herald regarding Traip Academy.

Bill Furbush commented that he would like the Board to discuss consideration of an Assistant Principal at Shapleigh now that the Principal position will be reinstated. Currently Shapleigh has 370 students and we should strongly consider this.

Patti Ayer would like to review the grades of our students and see how they have done this past quarter.

- X. EXECUTIVE SESSION:
There was no Executive Session.

- XI. ACTION ON EXECUTIVE SESSION: None.

- XII. ADJOURMENT:
It was MOVED by Kim Bedard, SECONDED by Glennis Wright and VOTED 7-0-0 unanimously on a VOICE VOTE with Student Board Member, Jess Foye, in favor to adjourn at 9:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Janis Marshall-Colby - Date: December 1, 2009

Larry Littlefield, Superintendent of Schools

Date: December 1, 2009

APPROVED BY SCHOOL COMMITTEE: December 15, 2009