

**KITTERY SCHOOL COMMITTEE
SPECIAL MEETING**

SHAPLEIGH MIDDLE SCHOOL CAFETERIA

TUESDAY, MARCH 31, 2009

6:00 p.m. Regular Meeting

I. ASSEMBLY OF SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

A. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Pelletier at 6:30 pm.

B. Roll Call

Present were School Committee members David Batchelder, Bill Furbush, Patti Ayer, Kim Bedard, Ken Lemont, and Glennis Wright. Also present were Student Representative Laura Kennison, Superintendent Larry Littlefield, Business Manager Sheri Rockburn, administrators, members of the public and the press.

C. Adjustments to the agenda

Item C under New Business was added as an Adjustment to the Agenda: Executive Session to discuss a Legal Matter.

II. NEW BUSINESS

- A.** Take action to request that Town Council place a question on the June 9, 2009 ballot to authorize a construction bond not to exceed \$7M for the Mitchell Primary School and Shapleigh Middle School.

It was **MOVED** by Chairman Pelletier, **SECONDED** by Bill Furbush and **VOTED 7-0-0**, with Student Member Lauren Kennison in favor, to request that Town Council place a question on the June 9, 2009 ballot to authorize a construction bond not to exceed \$7 million for the Mitchell Primary School and Shapleigh Middle School.

- B.** Take action to authorize the lease and placement of portable classrooms at Mitchell Primary School and Shapleigh Middle School starting in the fall of 2009.

It was **MOVED** by Ken Lemont to place portable classrooms at Mitchell and Shapleigh for the fall of 2009. The motion died for lack of a second.

It was the consensus of the School Committee to review the issue of placing portable classrooms at Mitchell and Shapleigh after the start of school next fall 2009.

- C. PUBLIC FORUM TO DISCUSS TRANSITION PLANS TO IMPLEMENT THE 3 SCHOOL PLAN.**

Chairman Pelletier requested that Superintendent Littlefield review current plans to transition grade 3-5 Frisbee students and staff into Mitchell and Shapleigh schools for the fall of 2009. Mr. Littlefield briefly reviewed the planning process to accomplish this transition. This included an overview of planning for changes to the bus transportation system, installation of playground equipment at Shapleigh, plans for student breakfast and lunch scheduling, and the process for notification to staff regarding the elimination of positions and termination of contracts as a result of closing Frisbee School.

Chairman Pelletier then invited the public to address the School Committee with any questions or comments they may have regarding the transition.

Gavin Barbour, Kittery resident, had several questions regarding costs resulting from closing Frisbee, the need for a \$7 million construction bond, student enrollment projections, location of portable classrooms, ownership of the schools, and responsibilities for implementing the transition plans.

Karen Pelkey, Kittery resident, had several questions regarding the rationale for not moving grade 8 students to Traip Academy, parking issues, and placement of portable classrooms at Shapleigh.

Gil Roberts, Kittery resident, had several comments and questions regarding the transition of students pending completion of construction at Shapleigh and Mitchell, the administration's list of needed repairs at Frisbee, determining a date for placement of portable classrooms, re-locating at Frisbee once the school is closed, code issues regarding this re-location, turning Frisbee over to the town, and the amount of money needed for the construction bond.

Lee Silsby-Perkins, Kittery resident, had comments and questions regarding the use of portable classrooms to relieve crowding at Shapleigh, and safety issues with students in cases such as emergency evacuations.

Determining that there were no more public comment/questions, Chairman Pelletier declared the Public Comment closed.

III. EXECUTIVE SESSION

It was MOVED by Chairman Pelletier, SECONDED by Glennis Wright and VOTED 7-0-0, with Student Member Lauren Kennison in favor, to enter into Executive Session in accordance with 1 MRSA §§ 405(6)(D) to discuss a legal matter at 8:53.

It was MOVED by Chairman Pelletier, SECONDED by David Batchelder and VOTED 7-0-0 to come out of Executive Session at 9:38.

There was no action taken following Executive Session.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

It was MOVED by David Batchelder, SECONDED by Patti Ayer and VOTED unanimously on a VOICE VOTE to adjourn at 9:40.