

**LEXINGTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Tuesday, May 6, 2008**

**Cary Hall**

**1605 Massachusetts Avenue**

**Present: Superintendent Paul Ash, School Committee Chair Tom Diaz, School Committee Members Helen Cohen, Rod Cole, Margaret Coppe and Ravi Sakhuja. The minutes were taken by Leora Tec.**

**I. Call to Order (Ellen Stone Room)**

**II. Executive Session (Ellen Stone Room)**

**III. Return to Public Session and Welcome (Cary Hall Auditorium)**

**IV. Superintendent's Announcements:**

1. Essential School Health Services Grant Award: We received an 11 year commitment for this grant, as long as Congress continues to fund this after the first five years.
2. Thank you to Anne Frymer for purchasing a book, *Take a Kiss to School*, for every elementary school.
3. The accreditation process for Lexington High School has begun. In the fall, we will receive a report from the New England Association of Schools and Colleges on the strengths and weaknesses of our high school. Thanks to all staff and students who put the time in to help prepare for this process.
4. I have decided to add an additional teacher to the Bowman 4<sup>th</sup> grade because of an increase in enrollment.

**V. Members' Reports / Members' Concerns**

**Rod Cole:** I had a favorable meeting with ILP parents.

**Tom Diaz:** There are still employees that are buying things without purchase orders. I urge the administration to encourage all staff to follow the proper procedures as outlined by the Assistant Superintendent for Business and Finance.

## VI. Discussion Items

1. FY08 Third Quarter Financial Report: Presented by Paul Ash and discussed by the Committee. Dr. Ash also discussed encumbering funds for potential SPED settlement costs.
2. Recommended 2009-2010 School Calendar: Two calendars were presented by Paul Ash, one starting before Labor Day and one after Labor Day. The vote will take place at the next meeting.
3. Update on Full-Day and Half-Day Kindergarten: Presented by Carol Pilarski. There were questions and discussion by the Committee. Mary Yardley, kindergarten teacher at Harrington, spoke as well.

## VII. Action Items:

1. Vote to Approve June School Committee Meeting Dates – June 3 and June 17.  
**The Committee agreed to these dates.**  
**Tom Diaz announced he would step down as chair in mid-June but would remain on the School Committee.**
2. Vote to Accept \$1,510 in Playground Donations to Lexington Children's Place  
**Motion to accept nine playground donations totaling \$1,510 from Lexington Children's Place families and staff to Lexington Children's Place.** (Cohen, Coppe).  
**The motion passed 5-0.**

**VIII. Motion to Adjourn (Sakhuja, Coppe). The motion passed 5-0.**