

**LEXINGTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**Tuesday, December 1, 2009**  
**Lexington Town Office Building, Selectmen's Meeting Room**  
**1625 Massachusetts Avenue**

**Present: Superintendent Paul Ash, School Committee Chair Margaret Coppe, School Committee Members Rod Cole, Tom Diaz, Jessie Steigerwald, Mary Ann Stewart and student representative Liam Gandelsman. The minutes were taken by Leora Tec.**

**The meeting was convened at 7:30 p.m.**

**I. Call to Order and Welcome (Margaret Coppe)**

**II. Superintendent's Announcements**

1. Dr. Ash read a statement regarding his relationship with Ribas Associates. He has terminated his consulting relationship with them, though he does not believe there was a conflict of interest. In addition, at the suggestion of his attorney, he has requested that his attorney contact the State Ethics Commission to review the matter. He pledges full cooperation as they review the matter.
2. I want to announce a change in the agenda for the December 15<sup>th</sup> meeting. We will have a discussion regarding the potential Bridge and Bowman project, in particular the money for the design funds that we may be requesting from Town Meeting. We will inform the PTA presidents so that parents may be notified so that they can attend the meeting as well.

**III. Members' Reports / Members' Concerns**

**Tom Diaz:** I have decided not to run for re-election to the School Committee.

**Margaret Coppe:** We will miss your guidance, wisdom and experience.

Other members also expressed gratitude to Mr. Diaz for his service.

**Jessie Steigerwald:** Lexington Community Education is a fantastic resource.

I attended the state-wide conference (MASC/MASS 45<sup>th</sup> Annual Joint Conference). I learned a tremendous amount.

**Mary Ann Stewart:** The Massachusetts Association of School Committees will hold a meeting for School Committee members on pending education reform legislation on Dec. 12<sup>th</sup>. I plan to attend.

**Jessie Steigerwald:** Mary Ann and I both attended a session on site-based councils. Should we have an agenda item to discuss this or just set up a training session?

It was decided that an agenda item on site-based council member training was unnecessary.

**Margaret Coppe:** I also attended the conference. There are some changes to the open meeting law that will affect how we conduct business; for example, Monday meetings must be posted on Thursdays now.

**IV. Discussion Item:**

1. Educational Technology – Status Report and Future Plans. Introduced by Paul Ash. Presented by Thomas Plati, Director of Educational Technology and Assessment.

Dr. Ash stated that this is both a report and a foreshadowing of what significant investments in instructional technology could lead to if these innovations were to be implemented on a larger scale.

There were comments and questions from the Committee.

**V. Action Items:**

1. Vote to Accept Donation of Dictionaries from the Lexington Chapter of the Elks Organization.

**Motion to accept with gratitude the donation of dictionaries from the Lexington Chapter of the Elks Organization (Diaz, Cole). The motion passed 5-0.**

2. Vote to Approve Lexington High School Field Trip to Golfito, Costa Rica.

**Motion to approve Lexington High School field trip to Golfito, Costa Rica (Diaz, Cole). The motion passed 5-0.**

3. Vote to Accept \$410 Donation to the Bridge School Gift Account from the Intel Volunteer Grant Program.

**Motion to accept with gratitude a \$410 donation to the Bridge School Gift Account from the Intel Volunteer Grant Program (Cole, Stewart). The motion passed 5-0.**

4. Vote to Approve School Committee Minutes of November 2.

5. Vote to Approve School Committee Minutes of November 3.

**Motion to approve School Committee minutes of November 2 and 3, 2009 (Diaz, Steigerwald). The motion passed 5-0.**

**VI. Motion to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing negotiations, not to return to public session (Cole, Diaz). Cole-aye; Diaz-aye; Steigerwald-aye; Stewart-aye; Coppe-aye.**

**The meeting went into Executive Session at 9:25 p.m.**