

**Lexington Public Schools
School Committee Meeting
School Administration Building
Central Office Conference Room
1557 Massachusetts Avenue
Monday, April 4, 2005**

Members present were Tom Griffiths, Olga Gutttag, Helen Cohen, Scott Burson, Janette Ekanem and Interim Superintendent William Hurley.

Tom Griffiths called the meeting to order at 6:07 PM. A motion was made by Scott Burson and seconded by Helen Cohen to include participation by Tom Diaz by phone. It was passed 4-0.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Superintendent's Report

None given.

Members' Reports/Members Concerns

Tom Griffiths announced that he would be resigning as Chair of the School Committee at the end of FY05 Town Meeting. A motion was made to defer discussion and the vote to reorganize the School Committee, until Wednesday, April 6, 2005. (Burson—Cohen; 5-0)

Discussion Items

Agreement between SC and CEC on Articles 30 and 31

Attached is a copy of a worksheet from the School Committee (SC) summarizing the current standing of the SC and Capital Expenditures Committee (CEC) on Articles 30 (School Capital Projects and Equipment) and Article 31 (Maintain and Upgrade School Technology). SC and CEC still have not come to a complete agreement on these articles. There was discussion between members of the SC and CEC members in the audience around several items, but primarily 30b, Heating, Cooling, Energy Saving at Clarke and Diamond.

CEC feels the need for further information in order to come to a decision on 30b. Some of the questions raised included: Is it wise? What is the payback and is there a complete explanation of the payback details? What are the minimum and maximum paybacks available? Olga confirmed that this information will be forthcoming.

There was a discussion initiated by Tom Diaz about the CEC philosophy on its bottom line figure of \$2.76 million for the capital articles. CEC explained that this is based on the current Town reserves and Moody's ratings and a desire to not increase the Town's debt. The Cash Capital Policy Goal is to reduce the tax levy debt so as to be able to pay capital expenditures in

cash. To do this they must borrow less than is being paid off in a given year. The \$2.76 million dollar figure is based on this policy goal.

Roofs at Estabrook and Hastings Schools

Facts:

1. There is an emergency situation requiring further major repairs to the Estabrook School roof. Repairs are estimated at \$185,000.
2. After going out for bid 3 times we finally have a viable bid for the Hastings School roof. Money appropriated by Town Meeting in 2004.

Both of these projects are covered by the Appropriation for School Capital Improvements approved by Town Meeting in 2004, but additional money will be needed. The SC felt that it is necessary at this time to go ahead with both of these projects. Since there was a savings of \$50,000 on the Harrington Gym floor that money will be applied to the repair of the Estabrook roof. That will leave a shortfall of \$135,000 that the SC and CEC will request as part of Article 29 Supplementary Appropriations for Authorized Capital Improvement Projects at this year's Town Meeting. The SC has authorized Dana Ham to begin the bidding process on the Estabrook repairs contingent on Town Meeting's appropriation of these funds.

Scheduling of Regular School Committee Meetings

Attached is a copy of the approved and Posted (**in bold**) and Tentative Meetings (*) through June 21, 2005 as discussed.

Action Items

A motion was made to oppose Article 11a (Diaz—Burson; 5-0) and Article 11b (Cohen—Guttag; 5-0) which would Amend Selectmen-Town Manager Act Regarding Town Manager Appointment.

A motion was made to oppose Article 12 which would Amend Selectmen-Town Manager Act to Allow Recall of Townwide Elected Officials. (Diaz-Burson; 5-0)

It was decided to postpone the scheduled executive session until Wednesday, April 6, 2005

At 7:20 PM a motion was made to adjourn. (Guttag-Cohen; 5-0)

Submitted by:

Sheryl T. Mason

Cc: William Hurley
Tom Griffiths
Scott Burson
Olga Guttag
Tom Diaz
Helen Cohen

