

Draft  
**OAK BLUFFS SCHOOL DISTRICT OF MARTHA'S VINEYARD**  
**Tuesday, January 12, 2010, 8:30 AM**  
**Oak Bluffs School Conference Room**

**Present:** Chair - Priscilla Sylvia, Melanie Marchand, Lisa Reagan;  
**Others:** Principal's Office - Laury Binney,  
Superintendent's Office - Laurie Halt, Amy Tierney,  
Public - Donald Billings  
Recorder - Marni Lipke

\*Late arrivals

or early departures

The meeting was called to order at 4:40 PM.

**Minutes: December 15, 2009 & Public Hearing Minutes (Agenda Item #1)**  
The minutes were in backlog.

**Public Comment (Agenda Item #2)**

Donald Billings raised the issue of the poorly swept walks around the Oak Bluffs School (OBS) which were a hazard and often forced pedestrians to the walk in the street. The OBSC discussed snow plowing in terms of the Highway Dept. and its sub-contractors, private contractors, and custodial shoveling/snow blowing duties. School equipment was old and outmoded and with the current tight budget there was no money. The Oak Bluffs School Committee (OBSC) and Administration agreed to explore the matter.

**Financial Report (Agenda Item #3)**

Town Accountant Karen Gomez was retiring and would be sorely missed.

**School Lunch Fund (See documents on file.)**

A triple pay period and the low participation due to holidays, put the fund in deficit. Food costs remained low.

**Expenditure Report (See documents on file.)**

The Fiscal Year 2010 (FY10) budget had been updated with School Choice funds to keep the bottom line more balanced.

• The Special Education (SpEd) department was in serious deficit due to loss of Title One moneys and the hiring of an off-island paraprofessional - which could be on the Town Warrant Article for residential placement. There was a brief discussion on the configuration of other SpEd paraprofessionals and teachers.

**School Choice Fund (See documents on file.)**

52 (rising shortly to 55) students had chosen the OBS, while only 22 Oak Bluffs students had chosen to go to other districts; this made OBS the school of choice on the Island and brought extra revenue to the Town. School Choice bills were reviewed.

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- Timers had been installed on the exhaust fans to keep them from sending all the heat out of the building
- The field trip to Alton Jones was reserved in advance and then reimbursed from the Student Activity fund by Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) fundraising.
- Since cleaning supplies had been severely reduced in budget cuts they were now being taken out of School Choice moneys.
- A discussion on other maintenance supplies centered on cheaper bulk buying, storage capability, good service and convenience.
- *MELANIE MARCHAND MOVED TO AUTHORIZE THE WITHDRAWAL OF \$10,060.46 FROM THE SCHOOL CHOICE FUND TO PAY THE INVOICES AS SUBMITTED (see documents on file); LISA REAGAN SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.*
- IT WAS THE CONSENSUS OF THE OBSC TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF A NEW COMPUTER PROJECTOR (\$699).
- The construction of the School building made wireless technology installation difficult.

**FY'11 Budget (Action to be Taken)**

Minor corrections had been made to the final draft of the FY11 Budget. The OBSC again considered the 2.17% rise over FY10 and the Town-wide budget deficit of \$1,800,000 but were not comfortable with any further cuts.

- *MELANIE MARCHAND MOVED TO APPROVE THE OAK BLUFFS SCHOOL DISTRICT FISCAL YEAR 2011 BUDGET AT \$5,967,360.55; LISA REAGAN SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.*

**Policy**

(Agenda Item #5)

**Building Use**

The OBSC again struggled with the results of their decision to close the building to outside use on weekends.

- The building use policy had to be consistent (i.e. few or no exceptions) or the OBS would be vulnerable to legal challenges for discrimination.
- Money to support public use had been cut from the budget including utilities, cleaning, extra custodial duties, gym floor coating, etc. Consequently all public users would have to take excellent care of the building during use and would have to leave it in the same condition it was found, no propping open of doors, no outdoor shoes in the gym, floors swept, bathrooms cleaned, lights off, etc.
- Any violation of this would result in the immediate and permanent revocation of permission to use the building – with no second chances.

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- The OBSC was divided as to the definition of "authorized personnel" whether the individual would have to be a school employee or otherwise closely connected, or if this was too restrictive a requirement. As custodial staff was already stretched thin, custodians were not likely to agree regularly to extra duties. The use and training of possible substitute custodians to be hired by each group was suggested. Before and after walk-throughs would be required by administration or custodians.
- The new policy placed a burden on the Principal of accepting and training the authorized personnel as well as enforcing the "one strike only" policy.
- IT WAS THE CONSENSUS OF THE OBSC THAT THE PUBLIC USE POLICY BE AMENDED TO READ: "ONLY AUTHORIZED SCHOOL PERSONNEL OR THOSE APPROVED AT THE DISCRETION OF THE BUILDING ADMINISTRATOR".
- Authorized personnel would be given instructions and a building tour, and would have to sign that they had understood their duties.
- LISA REAGAN MOVED THE FIRST READING OF THE AMENDED PUBLIC USE POLICY; MELANIE MARCHAND SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.

**Principal's Report**

(Agenda Item #6)

**Maintenance & Facility Issues: Painting Quotes:**

Two estimates were received for exterior painting (see documents on file) and solicitation for the third could be documented.

- PENDING REFERENCE CHECKS MELANIE MARCHAND MOVED TO ACCEPT THE LOW BID FOR EXTERIOR EMERGENCY PAINTING OF THE OAK BLUFFS SCHOOL; LISA REAGAN SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.

The ESS secretary (and OBS parent) assured Prin. Binney that service would continue to be prompt and excellent at their normal rates whether the OBS was under contract or not.

**Enrollment -401/ School Choice -55** continued to be stable around 402 to 404.

**Personnel**

(Agenda Item #7)

**Hiring: Jessica Johns** would work one-on-one with a special needs student.

A SpEd consultant for the Edge program was visiting some Island schools to support staff on special needs students.

- Larissa Bernat had resigned to fill a teaching position (see 12/15/09 Minutes p. 3 #7).
- Kenny Poiré returned to the School.

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**School Advisory Council (SAC) (Agenda Item #8)**

The SAC was scheduled to meet 4:00PM, Thursday, January 14th to consider contingency plans in case of a failed override.

**Old /New Business (Agenda Item #9)**

- As there was no money in the budget to hire a private contractor the OBSC discussed better snow clearing:
- weekend overtime pay for custodians
- aging equipment
- a possible donation of a snowblower,
- approaching the OB Highway Dept.
- The walks would be sanded and/or salted.
- The OBSC complimented Asst. Supt. Laurie Halt for the excellent packet on the upcoming Professional Development Day.

**Parent Groups (PTO) (Agenda Item #11)**

The Oakwalk was a very successful fundraiser and one of the parents took photographs which were on view in the School Office.

Next OBSC meeting: 8:30AM, Tuesday, February 16, 2010 at the Oak Bluffs School Conference Room.

**Adjourn**

• *MELANIE MARCHAND AND LISA REGAN MOVED TO ADJOURN AT 10:09AM;  
LISA REGAN AND MELANIE MARCHAND SECONDED; MOTION PASSED  
UNANIMOUSLY; 3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.*

**Documents on file:**

Agenda 1/12/10

Fund Balances: 2009-2010 1/11/10

OBS General Fund Expenditure Report (8 p.) 1/11/10

OBS FY'11 Budget Analysis Draft #3 1/11/10

OBS Proposed 2010-2011 Budget Draft #3 (7 p.) 1/11/10

**continued >**

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**Documents on file (cont.):**

School Committee Meeting 1/12/10 Cover Sheet

Fund Balances 2009-2010 1/6/10

OBS General Fund Expenditure Report (8 p.) 1/6/10

Revolving Lunch 2009-2010 1/5/10

Revolving Lunch 2008-2009 9/11/09

*Tally Slip*

Associated Elevator Co. Inc. invoice 12/31/09

BTU Control invoice (2 p.) 12/13/09

BTU Control invoice 12/26/09

Electronic Security Systems, invoice 1/1/10

Electronic Security Systems, invoice 12/11/09

MVRHS Transportation invoice 12/3/09

Perry Electric, invoice 12/26/09

Phillips Hardware, invoice 12/16/09

Vineyard Bottled Waters, invoice 12/18/09

Vineyard Bottled Waters, invoice 12/11/09

Vineyard Bottled Waters, invoice 12/15/09

Vineyard Bottled Waters, invoice 11/30/09

Vineyard Bottled Waters, invoice 12/18/09

School Choice Expenses 2009-2010 12/16/09

YTD Sub Expenses 2009-2010 1/6/10

SAC Meeting Minutes (2 p.) 12/7/09

MV Color and Finish, Inc. Painting Quote

W.E. Adams Painting and Restoration Painting Quote

Public Use Policy (3 p.)