

**OAK BLUFFS SCHOOL DISTRICT OF MARTHA'S VINEYARD**  
**Tuesday, February 16, 2010 10:00AM**  
**Oak Bluffs School Conference Room**

Present: Chair: Chair - Priscilla Sylvia, Melanie Marchand  
Others: Principal's Office - Laury Binney, Jen Arnold  
Superintendent's Office – Supt. Jim Weiss, Laury Halt  
Amy Tierney,  
Narcotics Anonymous – Nancy MacMullen  
Recorder - Marni Lipke

\*Late arrivals  
or early departures

The meeting was called to order.

**Minutes December 8,15,17, 2009 & January 12, 2010** (Agenda Item #1)  
*MELANIE MARCHAND MOVED TO ACCEPT THE DECEMBER 8, 2009,  
DECEMBER 15, 2009, DECEMBER 17, 2009, AND JANUARY 12, 2010 MINUTES AS  
AMENDED; PRISCILLA SYLVIA SECONDED; MOTION PASSED: 2 AYES, 0 NAYS,  
ABSTENTIONS AS ABSENT.*

**Public Comment** (Agenda Item #2)  
**Narcotics Anonymous Bldg. Use Application** (Principal's Report: Agenda Item #6)

The request was for use of the Oak Bluffs School (OBS) facility for the annual convention from Friday evening May 7, through Sunday morning May 9, 2010. The group would be especially careful to leave the building in excellent condition, and understood they would have to hire a custodian for the duration of the use (see also below: #6).

• *MELANIE MARCHAND MOVED TO MAKE AN EXCEPTION TO THE BUILDING USE POLICY FOR THE NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS ANNUAL CONVENTION MAY 7-9, 2010; PRISCILLA SYLVIA SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 2 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.*

**Financial Report** (Agenda Item #3)  
**School lunch revolving account**  
The Oak Bluffs School Committee (OBSC) was happy to see participation up and the fund still in the black.

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**FY 10 Expenditure Report** (See documents on file.)

The bottom line continued to show a very narrow margin.

- Residential Placement continued in deficit awaiting reimbursement from the Town Warrant.
- Similarly the Student Activity account should be reimbursed by PTO fundraising.
- Special Education (SpEd) Expenses was expected to finish in serious deficit and Circuit Breaker reimbursement was doubtful.

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

The OBSC expressed concern about the continued heating/ventilation costs (BTU, Inc.).

- *MELANIE MARCHAND MOVED TO AUTHORIZE THE WITHDRAWAL OF \$5,760.09 FROM THE SCHOOL CHOICE FUND TO PAY THE INVOICES AS SUBMITTED (see documents on file); PRISCILLA SYLVIA SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 2 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.*

**Maintenance & Facility Issues:** The heating fluid was at a third of the recommended glycol/water ratio; however the building was not at any immediate risk, having good heating system and a back up generator as well as being on the down-slope of winter. The OBSC requested the opinion of an independent expert before authorizing work (see documents on file).

**Superintendent's Report** (Agenda Item #4)

**Projected Enrollment** (See documents on file.)

Although down from peak enrollment of 460 in 2000 the OBS had seen steady slow growth over the last three years and was expected to continue on the trend for the next three years.

**Policy** (Agenda Item #5)

**Building Use: 2nd Reading**

- *MELANIE MARCHAND MOVED THE SECOND READING OF THE AMENDED PUBLIC USE POLICY; PRISCILLA SYLVIA SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 2 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.*

**BMI: 2nd Reading** (See documents on file.)

- *MELANIE MARCHAND MOVED THE SECOND READING OF THE BODY MASS INDEX (BMI) POLICY; PRISCILLA SYLVIA SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 2 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.*

**Principal's Report** (Agenda Item #6)

**Enrollment - 406/ School Choice –60:** Several families had moved out of town and requested that their children remain OBS students through School Choice. Unfortunately some of the relevant class sections were well over the choice cut-off limit and so would have to be turned down.

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**MV Road Race 2.13.10** – From OBS building use standpoint the event went extremely well, the showers worked, the kitchen was left in clean and excellent shape.

**High School Car Wash Application** – It was deemed more appropriate that this fundraising event take place at the High School itself.

**Talent Show**

Despite a \$2 ticket price this entertaining event raised around \$1,800 and went very well. Formal letters of commendation and thanks would be sent to Brian Weiland, Ray Whitaker, and John McCormack. The Middle School audience was again reprimanded (see 4/15/08 Minutes p. 3 #5).

- The bracelets for Haiti fundraiser had sold out.
- Boys and Girls Basketball finals would be tomorrow, Wednesday, February 17th.

**Personnel**

(Agenda Item #7)

**Retirement: J. Kitchin**

*MELANIE MARCHAND MOVED TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE RESIGNATION OF JUDY KITCHIN AS OF AUGUST 6, 2010 WITH GREAT REGRET; PRISCILLA SYLVIA SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 2 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.*

**School Advisory Council (SAC)**

(Agenda Item #8)

**Meeting: 2.11.10**

(See below: p. 4 #3 & documents on file.)

- Pam Melrose was expected to join as a community member but more community members were still needed.
- The members were interested in expanding and updating the five goals of the School Improvement Plan (SIP).

**Old /New Business**

(Agenda Item #9)

**Accept Donations from Jim's Package Store, Dukes County**

- *MELANIE MARCHAND MOVED TO ACCEPT WITH GRATITUDE A DONATION OF \$470 FROM THE JIM'S PACKAGE STORE PUMPKIN SALE FOR THE KJ AND DAVID FORINO SCHOLARSHIP FUND; PRISCILLA SYLVIA SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 2 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.*
- *MELANIE MARCHAND MOVED TO ACCEPT THE DUKES COUNTY SUBPEONA WITNESS FEE OF \$10; PRISCILLA SYLVIA SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 2 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.*

**Parent Groups (PTO)**

(Agenda Item #11)

A workshop on dealing with cyber-bullying was well attended. Parental awareness and education continued to be the best defense.

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**FY 11 Budget**

(Financial Report: Agenda Item #3)

Town Administrator Michael Dutton had agreed to credit the OBS Fiscal Year 2011 (FY11) Budget with any reductions in benefits due to cuts. The OBSC discussed these possible savings and benefit configuration for shared staff. SAC suggestions (see documents on file) for cuts in case of an override failure were reviewed.

- Union contracts prohibited outsourcing custodial work.
- Using parent volunteers as substitutes was strongly discouraged because of liability issues.
- Sports user fees needed further analysis.
- Fees for school buses should be an MV Public Schools matter and was not unilaterally feasible.
- After further discussion the OBSC ranked the priority of other cuts that might have to be phased in to fill the \$126,926 gap (depending on the amount of benefit savings).
  1. Reduce the office secretarial pool to two people.
  2. Cutting classroom supplies could be done in conjunction with teachers putting out a wish list to parents.
  3. The Technology teacher could be reduced to 60% (3 days).
  4. Eliminating the Instrumental Music Program was considered in terms of shifting both the schedule and some of the funding to an after school activity - with some OBS support.
  5. It was hoped that the Library Paraprofessional could be saved.

In response to a Finance Committee request it was agreed that Chair Priscilla Sylvia would send a letter requesting the FY11 OBS Budget be included in the Town Budget (and not on an override).

- The OBSC would be ready to justify the OBS FY11 Budget (and give specific cuts) at the March 4th Public Hearing.
- The \$200,000 cut last year had not been restored in the FY11 Budget.
- The \$127,000 rise from a 0% Budget was not new expenses, staff or programs but was only a reduced maintenance or reduced level funded budget.
- The OBS was absorbing a portion of its FY11 contractual raises.
- The OBS was also absorbing Circuit Breaker shortfall for SpEd. expenses (see above p. 2).
- The OBS was on a successful override only 2 years ago, which contributed to raising the levy limit of the entire town.
- Enrollment was increasing steadily and was projected to continue to do so.
- Over the last 3 years with steadily increasing enrollment the OBS cut 7 full time and 5 part time positions.
- State and Federal regulations prohibited reductions in hours.

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- The OBS budget maintained a municipal building (not included in other municipal department budgets) and also paid all utilities - light, power, heat, wastewater, water, etc.
- In addition the OBS used School Choice funds for building upkeep and repairs totaling \$xxx,000 in FY09.
- School Choice funds contributions to the OBS budget had also risen to \$185,000.

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

**Adjourn**

• *MELANIE MARCHAND MOVED TO ADJOURN AT 10:09AM; PRISCILLA SYLVIA SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 2 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.*

**Documents on file:**

Agenda 2/16/10

School Committee Meeting 2/16/10 Cover Sheet

Fund Balances 2009-2010 2/9/10

Revolving Lunch 2009-2010 2/9/10

Revolving Lunch 2008-2009 9/11/09

*Tally Slip*

BTU Control invoice 1/9/10

BTU Control invoice (3 p.) 1/24/10

BTU Control invoice 1/31/10

BTU Control invoice 2/1/10

M Water Chemicals, Inc, letter re: heating system fluid analysis 1/11/10

Certificate of Analysis: Water Analysis 1/5/10

Central Restaurant Products invoice 1/18/10

Crossland Landscape invoice 1/23/10

Perry Electric, invoice 1/18/10

Valley Communications Systems invoice 1/27/10

School Choice Expenses 2009-2010 (2 p.) 1/22/10

YTD Sub Expenses 2009-2010 2/3/10

Weiss Memo re: NESDEC Enrollment Projections 1/15/10

NESDEC 2009-10 Enrollment Projections (14 p.) 1/5/10

SAC Meeting Minutes 1/21/10

Body Mass Index (BMI) Policy

**Approved as written April 29, 2010.**