

OAK BLUFFS SCHOOL DISTRICT OF MARTHA'S VINEYARD
Tuesday, March 16, 2010, 8:30 AM
Oak Bluffs School Conference Room

Present: Chair - Priscilla Sylvia, Melanie Marchand, Lisa Reagan;
Others: Principal's Office – Laury Binney, Jennifer Arnold;
Superintendent's Office – Jim Weiss,
Recorder - Marni Lipke

*Late arrivals
or early departures

The meeting was called to order at 8:30AM.

Minutes: February 16, 2010 (Agenda Item #1)
The Minutes were delayed.

Financial Report (Agenda Item #3)
School Lunch Fund (See documents on file.)

Lunch revenue was down but food costs were also down. Participation remained at a strong average of 200.

Expenditure Report (See documents on file.)

There was only \$60,000 in the general fund for the remainder of Fiscal Year 2010 (FY10) and a number of outstanding bills, including \$51,000 for transportation and \$23,000 in Special Education (SpEd) expenses.

- All discretionary funds had been frozen and the usual reserves were not available – as the faculty had remained stable and the salary increment line was minimal.
- Measures to be instituted for the duration of the school year:
 - substitutes for paraprofessionals would be discontinued
 - professional development reimbursement had been frozen ,
 - mileage and extra custodial overages would be researched,
 - grants would be spent down.

School Choice Fund (See documents on file.)

The Oak Bluffs School Committee (OBSC) reviewed the bills to be paid out of the School Choice Fund.

- The generator had been checked and cleaned (see 2/16/10 Minutes p.) and a contract for annual servicing was now in place. As this was mandated for the Oak Bluffs School (OBS) status as a Town emergency shelter the OBSC asked if the cost could be billed to the Oak Bluffs Emergency Management Department.
- *LISA REAGAN MOVED TO AUTHORIZE THE WITHDRAWAL OF \$4,159 FROM THE SCHOOL CHOICE FUND TO PAY THE INVOICES AS SUBMITTED (see documents on file); MELANIE MARCHAND SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.*

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FY 11 Budget: FinCom Presentation & Discussion (See documents on file.)

School personnel had attended both Finance Committee Public Hearings to present the OBS FY11 Budget. It was felt that Town / School relations were improving. Chair Priscilla Sylvia was commended for her advocacy that helped put the \$90,000 in salary steps and lane changes into the budget rather than on override. In light of this the OBSC reconsidered proposed cuts in case the \$37,000 override failed:

- The Instrumental Program at \$36,20 was restored;
- otherwise an office secretary and/or part of a Technology teacher would have to be reduced at some risk;
- further possibilities were: supplies at \$15,000, and a library media aid at \$23,400.
- The OBSC then planned for the April 13th Town Meeting and the ensuing override ballot. The education community was encouraged to re-post lawn signs for quality education.

Superintendent's Report (Agenda Item #4)

The Mass. State Legislature was likely to amend the FY11 Governor's Budget including a 1-4% cut to Chapter 70 reimbursement – holding harmless all foundation aid. This would likely mean a mid-year Special Town Meeting to reduce the FY11 Budget similar to the one in October 2009. The OBS assessment share of the Superintendent's Shared Services Office costs were noted as proportionally weighted due to decreased enrollment of other Island elementary schools.

Pres. Obama's approach to the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act emphasized the positive with a goal of having all students graduating high school either college or career ready by 2020.

The OBSC noted with dismay the current textbook controversy in Texas.

Policy (Agenda Item #5)

Building Use: 3rd Reading

- *LISA REAGAN MOVED THE THIRD AND FINAL READING OF THE AMENDED PUBLIC USE POLICY; MELANIE MARCHAND SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.*
- *LISA REAGAN MOVED TO WAIVE THE BUILDING USE FEE FOR THE NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS CONFERENCE IN LIEU OF A DONATION TO THE SCHOLARSHIP FUND AND THAT THE CUSTODIAN BE PAID THROUGH THE TOWN; MELANIE MARCHAND SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.*
- Safe Haven requested use of the building for two evenings during April vacation. In keeping with the Building Use Policy, the OBSC reluctantly denied the request—although the school fields were always available.

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• MELANIE MARCHAND MOVED TO RENEW THE LETTER OF AGREEMENT WITH YOUTH LACROSSE AND WAIVE THE BUILDING USE FEE IN LIEU OF FIELD MAINTENANCE AND LANDSCAPING; LISA REAGAN SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNIMOUSLY: 3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.

Principal's Report (Agenda Item #6)

Maintenance & Facility Issues: Glycol

A consultation with the an ex-Facilities Manager of Falmouth Hospital confirmed that the OBS was unlikely to experience a system failure before the next cold season; that the price quote was unusually high; and that glycol helped control acidic build up and wear on the heating system. The matter would be further researched and Administration would report back to the OBSC.

Enrollment-410 / School Choice-60

Car Washes

Water table pollution problems at MV Regional High School (MVRHS) were cited for the request to use the OBS for their car wash fundraiser. As there would be the same problems at the OBS the request was refused and the matter was referred back to the MVRHS.

Parent Conferences

Scheduling was again an issue, as the conferences often conflicted with Professional Development days, Passover, MCAS, and winter or spring vacations. End of year conferences were suggested.

- Participation was very high for K through 5th grade and about 50% for the Middle School.

Spring Play - 4/8, 9,10

The Show of Shows was a review of Broadway Musical tunes – unfortunately scheduled for the same weekend as the West Tisbury School play.

Professional Day 3/17

Workshops would be broken down by subject, grade levels, and specials, with other out-of-the-box responsive classroom skill sessions.

Personnel (Agenda Item #7)

Resignation – MJ Aldrich-Moodie

A 4th grade paraprofessional was hired for a competitive teaching position at the Charter School. The OBSC and Administration congratulated her and wished her luck.

• LISA REAGAN MOVED TO ACCEPT WITH REGRET THE RESIGNATION OF MJ ALDRICH-MOODIE EFFECTIVE APRIL 2, 2010; MELANIE MARCHAND SECONDED; MOITON PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.

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

There were now three community, three parents and two teacher members. The OBSC requested a copy of the SAC minutes.

School Improvement Plan (SIP)

The new goal was to increase 21st Century skills. Administrative conferences showed the MV Public Schools (MVPS) lagging in Information Technology (IT) as well as familiarity with the virtual communities and websites now common among the younger generations. The Island propensity for cutting technical budgets was noted.

- Technical/software/internet decisions should be made by administrators and faculty, and then implemented by MVPS technicians. For example the OBS Power School software had wide capabilities currently unused due to lack of training/knowledge.
- Islandwide coordination of software would save time, money and salaries (see 3/11/10 AISC Minutes p. 2-3 #III).
- Open meeting law forbade committee members the use of the internet/email to discuss committee or school business, votes, etc.

The next OBSC meeting will be **Thursday**, 8:30AM **April 29**, 2010 at the Oak Bluffs School Conference Room.

Adjourn

- *LISA REAGAN MOVED TO ADJOURN AT 10:02AM; MELANIE MARCHAND SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.*

Documents on file:

Agenda 3/16/10

School Committee Meeting 9/16/10 Cover Sheet

OBS General Fund Expenditure Report (8 p.) 3/10/10

Fund Balances 2009-2010 3/4/10

Revolving Lunch 2009-2010 3/1/10

Revolving Lunch 2008-2009 9/11/09

Tally Slip

BTU Control invoice 2/21/10

BTU Control invoice 2/28/10

Physic-Control invoice 2/5/10

Vineyard Bottled Waters, invoice 1/15/10

Vineyard Bottled Waters, invoice 1/15/10

Vineyard Bottled Waters, invoice 1/22/10

Vineyard Bottled Waters, invoice 1/22/10

continued

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Documents on file (cont.):

Vineyard Bottled Waters, invoice 2/16/10
Vineyard Bottled Waters, invoice 2/19/10
Vineyard Generator LLC. invoice 3/6/10
School Choice Expenses 2009-2010 (2 p.) 2/17/10
YTD Sub Expenses 2009-2010 3/4/10
Public Use Policy (3 p.) 2/16/10

Approved as amended April 29, 2010.