

**NEWBURYPORT SCHOOL COMMITTEE
BUSINESS MEETING
Monday, June 1, 2015**

**Newburyport High School
Meeting Convened at 6:35 PM**

**Room 118
Cheryl Sweeney Presided**

Present: Nick deKanter, Steve Cole, Cheryl Sweeney, Mayor Donna Holaday (arrived at 7:15 PM, Jay Iannini, Audrey McCarthy, Bruce Menin

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Vice Chairman Cheryl Sweeney called the meeting to order at 6:35 PM. Roll call found one member absent, Mayor Donna Holaday, who arrived at 7:15 PM. All those present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Lise Reid, Parks Director, 204 High Street **CONCERN: She spoke in favor of naming the new Ball Field Diamond in favor of Ritchie Eaton. She spoke of the cost of the field, \$1.7 million and the fact that they needed more funding.**

CONSENT AGENDA:

Warrants:

Motion:

On a motion by Bruce Menin and seconded by Audrey McCarthy it was

VOTED:

\$42,871.81

Motion Passed Unanimously

On a motion by Bruce Menin and seconded by Audrey McCarthy it was

VOTED:

\$353,107.14

Motion Passed Unanimously

Motion:

On a motion by Nick deKanter and seconded by Bruce Menin it was

VOTED: To approve, receive and file the School Committee, Business Meeting minutes of Monday, May 18, 2015 as amended

Motion Passed

NAMING OF THE STEHLIN FIELD AT WORLD WAR MEMORIAL STADIUM:

DISCUSSION ON NAMING OF THE NEW BASEBALL DIAMOND< EATON FIELD:

Cheryl Sweeney inquired from Lise Reid who approached her re: the Eaton Field. Ms. Reid responded.

Cheryl Sweeney inquired of the School Committee members how have we handled this in the past. Bruce Menin and Steve Cole spoke of past practices. The community was asked for suggestions. A group was formed and from this a recommendation came forward.

Mary Anne Clancy gave the background of RESTORE, *Restore our Port Pride*, The Institution for Savings was given the naming rights, but have said they will relinquish the naming rights.

Bruce Menin stated he cannot fully remember the details of this, and suggested checking the old recorded minutes.

Nick deKanter said he agreed we need to check back. He inquired if this needs to be done today. Mary Ann Clancy responded.

Cheryl Sweeney asked Ms. Clancy what was the athletic input. Mary Ann Clancy explained how the group of alumni came together and their approval of Jim Stehlin's name for the field.

Jay Iannini suggested going forward now, especially with the background information.

Nick deKanter suggested taking a vote and deciding tonight.

Motion:

On a motion by Steve Cole and seconded by Jay Iannini it was

VOTED: To name the World War II field as the James T. Stehlin Field.

Motion Passed Unanimously

Eaton Field:

Cheryl Sweeney asked Lise Reid for her recommendation. Ms. Reid stated she was in favor of naming the field for Ritchie Eaton, a great man.

Motion:

On a motion by Audrey McCarthy and seconded by Jay Iannini it was

VOTED: To name the new field behind the Middle School as the Eaton Field.

Amendment to Motion:

It was agreed by Audrey McCarthy and Jay Iannini who made the original motion to amend the motion to read:

To name the new field behind the Middle School as the Richard Eaton field.

Motion Passed Unanimously

LATER SCHOOL START TIME FOR TEENS FORUM UPDATE:

Superintendent Susan Viccaro explained forming the Forum..

Cheryl Sweeney suggested a full blown investigation and having a task force. It is too late for this September.

Bruce Menin said he was interested in this task force and said he would volunteer.

Nick deKanter said he would support the task force. It should be done sooner than later.

Bruce Menin said we need to do due diligence - it should be built into the bus contract - a possible later start.

Superintendent Viccaro said the impact on staff is another aspect.

Nick deKanter said we need to identify all aspects.

Jay Iannini said all health officials say we need to do this.

Superintendent Viccaro inquired as to how a task force would operate.

Nick deKanter explained that each task force is charged individually with objectives/goals.

Audrey McCarthy stated the Committee would submit recommendations, but the School Committee would have the final say.

Motion:

On a motion by Bruce Menin and seconded by Audrey McCarthy it was

VOTED: To encourage the Superintendent to set up a task force for the issue of starting school later.

Nick deKanter suggested an amendment to the motion to have the task force set a time frame to have this in place by September, 2016. The motion now reads:

To encourage the Superintendent to set up a task force for the issue of starting school later and set a time frame to have this in place by September, 2016.

(Mayor Holaday arrived at 7:15 PM).

Cheryl Sweeney suggested putting this in the newspaper and do a survey.

Bruce Menin said doing a survey will give them direction.

Motion Passed Unanimously

WHITTIER REGIONAL VO-TECH DISCUSSION:

Audrey McCarthy spoke regarding their admissions policy/process.

Jay Iannini volunteered to be on a community forum. He stated he did research. It comes down to admissions policy vs. assessments that we pay. He cannot find this group's mission statement.

Cheryl Sweeney inquired where did the invitation go to. Audrey McCarthy went to the Mayor/City Council.

Jay Iannini said the City Council sent it to the School Committee.

Superintendent Viccaro said she is concerned as to how students are selected and School Choice.

Jay Iannini said this is a City Council mission not a School Committee mission.

Mayor Holaday explained why the School Committee was asked to be involved.

Audrey McCarthy said we should bring our representative in more frequently to keep us up to date.

Cheryl Sweeney, Audrey McCarthy, Jay Iannini all stated their recommendation was to not be involved. The Mayor will inform the City Council.

Steve Cole said we should look at the trends. He would like to see some hard numbers. In the 70's we had 120 students go there. We need to see what we are getting for our money.

Mayor Holaday said we are required to be part of a technical school. One student goes to Essex Agricultural.

Cheryl Sweeney said we will invite Brett Murphy and Nelson Burns to come twice a year. We will bow out of this discussion group for now - get hard numbers as to what enrollment has been.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE SCHEDULE FOR SUMMER:

Cheryl Sweeney stated the Committee usually takes July off. The summer retreat needs to be scheduled.

Discussion:

Cheryl Sweeney discussed the next three meetings August 3, August 17 and September 8. **Superintendent Viccaro** asked Committee members to send Cathy Manning their vacation times.

EXECUTIVE SESSION REPORT:

Superintendent Viccaro explained the last four executive sessions: 1 possible litigation, 1 pending litigation, 1 Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent contract session, 1 bargaining session.

MID-YEAR CYCLE EVALUATION SPECIAL EDUCATION REPORT:

Superintendent Viccaro explained that the May 20th report found Newburyport to be in compliance. We were very pleased with the results.

Discussion:

Bruce Menin inquired when this review was being done did they talk to parents. Superintendent Viccaro said for this cycle, they did not. She explained that she would double-check.

Mayor Holaday asked what the rating scale was. Superintendent Viccaro said she would double-check.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Superintendent Viccaro reported on the following:

- Kudos to School Nurse Leader Cathy Riccio - she has set up flu clinics for next year for staff.
- She met with Rev. Martha Hubbard and 4 others who are concerned and wanted to know how they could help - she will keep them informed
- Presenting the budget to City Council on June 10th.
- Passed out books to first graders from the Molin Foundation - there was an individual book for each child.
- The Mayor and Superintendent toured the Senior Center recently - it is a beautiful facility. Mayor Holaday said the target date is September 22.
- She has received two applications for Kindergarten Choice.
- PARCC Forums - June 10 at Bridgewater State, June 22, and July 7 at Springfield.
- OP-out testing - documents published

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:

Joint Ed

They have not met

Finance

Next meeting June 11

Policy

Next meeting June 15

Curriculum, Instruction, Assessment & Accountability

Next meeting June 16 at 5:30

Superintendent's Evaluation

Superintendent Viccaro will have her evidence gathering by the end of the month.

Jay Iannini questioned budget tier. Discussion ensued regarding the Budget with the City Council.

Bruce Menin gave an update on the Brown School.

10th June - 10:30 - Team meeting/Brown School - structural meeting

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Motion

On a motion by Jay Iannini and seconded by Audrey McCarthy it was

VOTED: To adjourn the School Committee Business Meeting at 8:17 PM for the purpose of contract negotiation. We will not return to open session.

Roll Call Vote:

Bruce Menin	- Yes
Cheryl Sweeney	- Yes
Steve Cole	- Yes
Nick deKanter	- Yes
Mayor Holaday	- Yes
Jay Iannini	- Yes
Audrey McCarthy	- Yes