

Rowe School Committee
Meeting Minutes
Monday, May 9, 2011

The Massachusetts Open Meeting Law requires minutes for all school committee and subcommittee meetings. The recorded minutes are open to the public for inspection within 10 days of the meeting. Minutes are recorded to provide a brief overview that reflects the subject matter discussed and any decisions made. Motions made are to clearly indicate who made the motion and who seconded the motion. Record who was in favor, who opposed, or who abstained. The names of any person(s) appearing before the committee are to be indicated.

Documents:

Amended Rowe School Committee Meeting Minutes for April 12, 2011
April 27, 2011 letter from Superintendent Michael A. Buoniconti to Dr. Mitchell Dan Chester, Commissioner of Education re: requesting permission to tuition Rowe middle and high school children (grades 7-12) to Mohawk Trail Regional High School
Annual Town Meeting Sheet
April 30, 2011 - FY2011 Operating Statement
FY2012 Local Aid Estimates House Ways and Means Budget Proposal
May 3, 2011 Principal Report
May 2, 2011 email from Laurie Laffond to Judy Willis re: \$1,250.00 check from the PTP for Ski Program donation.
\$2,246.74 Budget Transfer Sheet
May 2011 Rowe Surplus
March 30, 2011 Three-District Joint Transportation Committee
April 29, 2011 email from Bill Loomis to Michael Buoniconti re: questioned the contract for the new principal whether it will be a one-year interim position or 3-year contract.

1. Call to Order:

Maggie Rice called the meeting to order at 6:03pm.
Roll Call: Maggie Rice, Bill Loomis, Bob Clancy, Lisa Danek Burke, Michael Buoniconti, Joanne Blier, Judy Willis and Laurie Laffond were present.

2. Audience of Citizens:

Claudine Poplawski, Lisa Miller, Noel Abbott, Barbara Griffin, Jenn Morse, Paul McLatchy III, Gail May, Cindy Laffond, Laurie Pike, Lenny Laffond and Elizabeth Buck were present.
**Lenny Laffond asked how much money was raised in the bottles/cans donation account by students for field trips.
** Noel Abbott asked what the status is for the hiring process for the new principal. This will be discussed during Report of the Superintendent

3. Approval of Minutes:

A. The minutes for the April 12, 2011 meeting were tabled until the June 14, 2011 School Committee Meeting for amended items.

4. Correspondence:

A. April 27, 2011 letter from Superintendent Michael Buoniconti to Dr. Mitchell Chester re: requesting permission to tuition Rowe middle and high school children (grades 7-12) to Mohawk Trail Regional High School. – See Appendix A

5. Unfinished Business:

A. Washington, DC Trip – Joanne Blier will put together a spreadsheet with all information from the FY06-07; FY08-09 and FY10-11 Washington DC trips including fundraising, donations, parent fees and money used from the actual budget and present at the June 14, 2011 School Committee Meeting.

6. Report of the Chairperson:

- A. None

7. Report of the Superintendent:

- A. Annual Town Meeting – The projected enrollment that was previously on the brochure was based on capacity not actual. Therefore changes were made in Prek, K and 1st grade. All other information remains the same. - See Appendix B
- B. Teacher Contract Negotiations – An agreement has not been made at this time.
- C. Rowe Principal Position – The search committee went through 12 applicants, 6 were interviewed and 2 were recommended. The two finalists who were recommended became finalists and have been interviewed. Mr. Buoniconti is in the process of talking with the candidate of choice to work out contract negotiations.

**Bill Loomis stated that the Education Reform Act offers good practices that they would prefer to see the last portion of the selection be done at an open meeting so the community can become aware of the selections and ask questions. Will this be done? Superintendent Mr. Buoniconti asked who made this recommendation. The recommendation was made by Robert F. Antonucci. Superintendent Mr. Buoniconti stated it is standard practice in the commonwealth to have representation on the committee from the community, staff and parents this is an advisory committee to the superintendent.

Bill Loomis spoke regarding his email that was sent to Mr. Buoniconti regarding the position of the principal being a 3-year position or 1-year interim position and Mr. Buoniconti stating it would be a 3-year contract.

A motion was made by Bill Loomis to have the school committee consider making a policy that the new principal be hired as an interim principal of 1 year. The motion was not seconded. - See Appendix C

8. Financial Information:

- A. FY2011 Operating Statement – See Appendix D
- B. FY2012 Local Aid Estimates House Ways and Means Budget Proposal – See Appendix E

9. Report of the Principal:

- A. Principal Report – As read – See Appendix F

10. Action Items:

- A. Vote to accept \$1,250.00 donation from the Rowe PTP for the Berkshire East Ski Program – **A motion was made by Lisa Danek Burke and seconded by Bill Loomis to vote to accept \$1,250.00 donation from the Rowe PTP for the Berkshire East Ski Program.** Unanimous yes vote. - See Appendix G
- B. Vote to accept \$814.55 received to date from bottles and cans returned for donations account – **A motion was made by Bill Loomis and seconded by Lisa Danek Burke to vote to accept \$814.55 received to date from bottles and cans returned for donations account for use of the Washington, DC trip.** Unanimous yes vote. - See Appendix H
- C. **A motion was made by Lisa Danek Burke and seconded by Bill Loomis to vote to approve the Mohawk Trail Regional System 2011-2012 school year calendar as read dated April 6, 2011.** Unanimous yes vote.
- D. Budget Transfer – Vote to transfer \$6,443.00 from Contracted Speech Pathologist to Salaried Speech Pathologist due to change in employee status from contracted services to salaried employee effective 1/19/2011.
A motion did not have to be made. - See Appendix I

- E. Budget Transfer – Vote to transfer \$2,246.74 from Custodial Salaries to \$2,047.50 Custodial Summer help and \$199.24 Custodial Supplies.
A motion did not have to be made. - See Appendix J
- F. Vote to approve sale and/or disposal of surplus items – Tabled until the June 14, 2011 meeting to discuss surplus items with Bob Clancy. - See Appendix K

11. Subcommittee Reports:

- A. Policy Subcommittee – None
- B. Transportation Subcommittee – March 30, 2011 Draft of Three-District Joint Transportation Committee Meeting - See Appendix L
- C. Negotiations Subcommittee – None

12. Handouts:

- A. None

13. Executive Session:

- A. None

14. Adjournment:

- A. **A motion was made by Bill Loomis and seconded by Lisa Danek Burke to adjourn the meeting at 6:58pm.** Unanimous yes vote.

Respectfully submitted,
Laurie Laffond

Approved:

Margaret Rice, Chairman

Lisa Danek Burke

William Loomis