

* Revised Wednesday, February 18, 2009

@ 6:15PM: Yearbook Pictures

AGENDA – LOWELL SCHOOL COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING

DATE: Wednesday, February 18, 2009

TIME: 7:00 PM

PLACE: City Hall, Council Chamber

SALUTE TO FLAG:

ROLL CALL:

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS:

1. **Spotlight on Excellence:** Lowell High School/ROTC Brick Initiative

MINUTES:

1. Regular School Committee Meeting of February 4, 2009

PERMISSION TO ENTER:

MEMORIALS:

(By the Committee as a Whole):

1. Beatrice T. Hoar, Retired Lowell High School Teacher and advocate for the children of Lowell Public Schools first grade students to be given their first reading book.
2. Mary “Betty” Crowley, Mother of Lt. Tim Crowley, former Supervisor of the School Resource Officers Program.

(By Regina M. Faticanti):

3. * Carol A. Moran, retired Butler School Paraprofessional and Mother of Beth Moran, Shaughnessy School Paraprofessional.
4. * Charlene Hodge, former Lowell High School clerk.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

MOTIONS:

1. (By David Conway): To request the Superintendent ask the City Solicitor to conduct legal research on the matter of non-contractual employee buyback and prepare a legal memorandum for the Committee outlining all applicable case law addressing this subject.

MOTIONS: (continued)

2. (By James Leary and John Leahy): Request the Superintendent provide the School Committee an updated organizational chart for both Central Office and Lowell High School. The report should include the funding source for each employment position within the chart, i.e., Title One, General Budget or other sources that may be applicable.
3. (By James Leary and John Leahy): Request the Superintendent provide the School Committee with a report outlining the amount of Title I monies allocated in the 2008/2009 budget for each elementary and middle school. The report should include the employment positions for which Title I is the source of funding.
4. * (By Jackie Doherty): Request permission for Lowell to host a Massachusetts Association of School Committees Urban Division meeting on **March 28**, topic to include "Sharing and Advocating for Cost Efficiencies During Difficult Financial Times."
5. (By Jackie Doherty): Request the Superintendent provide a report updating the Committee regarding progress being made on vertical articulation of the science curriculum across the district.
6. (By Connie Martin and Jackie Doherty): Requesting that the Administration develop recommendations for integrating Financial Education into our ongoing K-12 curriculum development and to investigate the potential of offering a series of parent focused Financial Education Information Nights across the district.
7. (By James Leary): Request the Superintendent provide the School Committee status on all computer related equipment at Lowell High School's Molloy Alternative School. The report should include the number of computer related equipment currently not working, and if applicable, the reason for the status with action plans to resolve the issue.

SUBCOMMITTEES:

1. Safety Subcommittee: Report and Approval of the Minutes of February 10,2009
(Regina Faticanti, Chair)
2. Joint Safety and Discipline Subcommittees: Report and Approval of the Minutes of February 10, 2009 (Regina Faticanti, Chair of Safety and David Conway, Chair of Discipline)
3. Joint School Building Programs Subcommittee: Report of February 17, 2009
(James Leary, Chair and Alan Kazanjian, Chair for City Council)

REPORTS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT:

1. Marketing the Lowell Program
2. Promising Practices for Reducing The Dropout Rate
3. Internet Safety Programs

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Agreement with Middlesex Community College (to provide Oral Health Services)

CONVENTION/CONFERENCE REQUESTS:

1. Lowell High School Student Council members and Student Advisor Thomas Thornton to attend the *MASC State Conference* on Wednesday, March 11th through Friday, March 13th, 2009 in Hyannis, MA. There is no cost to the School Department Budget. All cost will be paid by Student Activities Funds and Student Council Funds. No Substitute is needed.
2. Carolyn Demers, LHS Paraprofessional, to attend the *32nd Annual AFT Paraprofessionals and School-Related Personnel Conference* in Baltimore, MD from Friday, March 20th through Sunday, March 22nd, 2009. The UTL will pay for all costs. There is no cost to the School Department Budget and no substitute coverage is needed
3. Brenda Busta, Rogers School Teacher, to attend the *National Science Teachers Conference* held in New Orleans on March 19th to March 22nd, 2009. The Educational Development Center in Newton, MA will pay for the cost of travel and conference. No substitute is needed.
4. One LHS student, along with LHS staff member Patricia Fitzpatrick, to attend the *2009 MMEA All-State Festival* on Thursday, March 26 through Saturday, March 28, 2009 in Boston, MA. LHS Student Activity funds will cover the cost. A substitute will be needed for two days at a cost not to exceed \$200 and will be funded by Individual School funds.
5. Catherine Breen, Lincoln School teacher, to attend a conference in Nashua, NH entitled *Moving the Frontal Lobe to the Front of the Class*. The Conference fee to be paid by the participant. The cost for the Substitute [paraprofessional] will not exceed \$40 and will be paid by School Funds.
6. Dan Graham and the LHS Varsity Baseball team to travel to the *Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum* in Cooperstown, NY from Saturday, April 18th through Sunday, April 19th, 2009. The cost of \$3700 will be funded by the team, parents and donors. There is no cost to the School Department Budget. No school time will be missed.
7. Lowell High School staff member Michael Arwe, along with no more than 40 current or former Latin students and 6 chaperones, to travel to *Rome* during the February vacation of 2010 from Saturday, February 13th and returning Saturday, February 20th, 2010. Participants will be paying their own way. The cost will be approximately \$1800 per person. There is no cost to the School Department Budget and no substitute coverage is needed. No school time will be missed.
8. Stephen Gervais, LHS Chair of Foreign Language, along with four chaperones and 24 LHS students to travel to *France* during February Vacation of 2011, leaving on Saturday, February 19th and returning on Sunday, February 27, 2011. There is no cost to the School Department Budget. No Substitutes are needed. No school time will be missed.

COMMUNICATIONS:

PROFESSIONAL PERSONNEL:

1. United Teachers of Lowell hereby request to donate sick leave days to the following teachers:
Melissa Murphy, Lowell High School, 10 (ten) days
Cynthia Lewis, McAvinnue School, 58 (fifty-eight) days

CIVIL SERVICE:

ADJOURNMENT: