

GREATER LOWELL TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

January 14, 2010 – 7:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Tully called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Bahou asked for a moment of silence for the earthquake victims and their families in Haiti.

ROLL CALL

Members

Present: Mr. Bahou, Mr. Laferriere, Mr. Lenzi, Mr. Morin, Mr. O'Hare, Mr. Olson, Mr. O'Neill, Mr. Tully

Also

Present: James Cassin, Superintendent-Director
Mary Jo Santoro, Assistant Superintendent/Principal
John Lavoie, Assistant Superintendent/Curriculum
George Garabedian, School Business Administrator
David Bradley, District Treasurer
Attorney Rosann DiPietro, Legal Counsel
Michael McGovern, Coordinator of School Information
Cheryl Gosselin, Recording Secretary

PUBLIC APPEARANCE

Mr. Doug Anderson from the Hellenic American Academy signed up to speak on the outreach summer program. Mr. Anderson extended an invitation for GLTHS Outreach Program to use the facilities at the Hellenic American Academy again this year. He praised and thanked the School Committee, administrations, teachers and staff for all they have done for the community.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE COMMUNICATIONS

There were no School Committee communications.

REPORT OF STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

Student Representative Joshua Bradbury gave a report of upcoming and recently held events.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: by Mr. O'Hare, seconded by Mr. Olson to approve the minutes from the meeting of December 17, 2009.

ROLL CALL VOTE: 7 Yes, 1 Abstain (Mr. O'Neill)

MOTION: by Mr. O'Hare, seconded by Mr. Laferriere to approve the minutes from the November 10, 2009 MSBA School Building Meeting.

ROLL CALL VOTE: 8 Yes

REPORT OF DISTRICT TREASURER

District Treasurer David Bradley distributed the Warrants to the Committee for their approval and signature.

MOTION: by Mr. Lenzi, seconded by Mr. O'Neill to approve expenditures for the sum of \$2,578,713.52 allocated as follows:

Warrant 1767-2	dated 12/31/09	Accounts Payable	267,736.95
Warrant 1771	dated 01/15/10	Accounts Payable	663,077.03
Warrant 1767-C	dated 12/31/09	Payroll Warrant #205	846,487.15
Warrant 1767-M	dated 12/21/09	Payroll Warrant #203	557.98
Warrant 1771-A	dated 01/15/10	Payroll Warrant #207	799,838.85
Warrant 1772	dated 01/15/10	Lowell Five Cent Savings	40.00
Warrant 1773	dated 01/15/10	December Meals Tax	636.19
Warrant 1774	dated 01/15/10	Oct. – Dec. Sales Use Tax	339.37

ROLL CALL VOTE: 8 Yes

REPORT OF GENERAL COUNSEL

There was no report of general counsel.

REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT-DIRECTOR

Superintendent Cassin asked for approval for the varsity baseball team to go to the Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, NY. The proposed date for this trip is April 24, 2010.

MOTION: by Mr. O'Neill, seconded by Mr. Laferriere to approve the request for the varsity baseball team to go to the Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, NY on April 24, 2010.

ROLL CALL VOTE: 8 Yes

Superintendent Cassin informed the Board that there had been a request to move the February meeting to Wednesday, February 10. No one had any objections to moving the meeting to February 10.

Superintendent Cassin read a letter to the School Committee announcing his retirement at the end of his contract, June 30, 2010.

In an effort to find a replacement for Superintendent Cassin, Chairman Tully set up a Superintendent Search Sub-Committee. He named Mr. O'Hare the Chairman, with Mr. Lenzi, Mr. Olson and Mr. O'Neill to serve as members of the sub-committee. They will develop a process, timeframe, qualifications and bring back a report with a recommendation to the full committee. The sub-committee will meet on January 21, 2010 at 5:00 p.m.

REPORT OF BUSINESS MANAGER

Mr. Garabedian provided an update of ongoing Business Office projects.

Mr. Garabedian stated that KBA's contract is due to expire and asked for approval to extend KBA's contract for an additional 2 years.

MOTION: by Mr. Laferriere, seconded by Mr. Morin to extend KBA's contract for an additional 2 years.

ROLL CALL VOTE: 8 Yes

Mr. Garabedian informed the Board that the Governor restored the 9C cuts in transportation to the FY10 budget. He then gave a brief update on the FY11 budget process. After reconciling with the State, Mr. Garabedian noted that student enrollment has increased by 79 students which will increase the foundation budget. The increase in student enrollment will be a positive impact to the FY11 budget which will help offset the negative impacts such as cuts to Medicaid reimbursements. A Finance Sub-Committee meeting will be held prior to the February meeting to discuss the FY11 budget.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Bahou asked about teacher and administrator's licenses. He asked the Superintendent to clarify the hiring process to ensure that candidates are licensed to avoid having to get waivers. The Superintendent explained that if licensed applicants apply for an opening we have to hire them over a non-licensed person. There are times when candidates, especially from industry, are not licensed therefore they would need a waiver. The staff member on a waiver must be making adequate progress toward getting their license by DESE standards to obtain

subsequent waivers. Mr. Bahou asked for a report of other technical schools in the area to see how many of their teachers are on waivers.

ADJOURN

Motion by Mr. Lenzi, seconded by Mr. Morin to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL VOTE: 8 Yes

Respectfully submitted,

James M. Cassin
Superintendent-Director