



TOWN OF GRAFTON
GRAFTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
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MINUTES
SCHOOL COMMITTEE
June 28, 2016
30 Providence Road, Room F
7:00 p.m.

Members Present: Laura Often, Chairman
Maureen Cohen, Vice Chair
Peter Carlson, Secretary
Jennifer Connelly, Member
Teri Turgeon, Member

Also Present: Dr. James Cummings, Superintendent of Schools
Tracey Calo, Assistant Superintendent
Daniel Gale, Finance Director

Call to Order – Open Session

- a. Chairperson's Update: None
- b. Community Groups and Citizens - None
1. Educational Reports - None
2. General Business
 - a. School Committee Goals. Mrs. Often stated that this document was in draft form and comprised of goals discussed during earlier workshops. Once finalized the idea would be to revisit the goals in late August or September to see where the committee was relative to their goals. Mrs. Often read the goals aloud. Goal #1 Strengthen effective communication that continues to build confidence in a shared vision for Grafton Public Schools. The action items for this goal were to develop annual reports to the community about services, programming and vision. Explore alternative means to increase communication about the successes of Grafton Public Schools. Goal #2. Expand communication efforts on ongoing budget priorities. Action items for this goal were to develop long-term budget plan aligned to the district strategic plan. Participate in workshops on the financial state of the district for the long-term and continue budget subcommittee with the Finance Committee and the Board of Selectmen representatives. Goal #3 Evaluate the School Committee's own leadership, governance and teamwork. Action items for this goal were to establish benchmarks for reviewing goals and roles. Review procedures for new member

orientation. Mrs. Turgeon asked how the committee would define developing a long term budget (goal 2). Mrs. Often thought it would be done over the next several years as they reviewed the state of the district. Mr. Carlson felt it was good to start conversations now on long term budgeting instead of January. This would keep the community informed and aware of budget processes early on. Mrs. Cohen felt the alignment of the strategic plan and discussions with state leaders could lead to new ideas. Mrs. Often suggested adding to Goal #2 Start conversations with state leaders. Mrs. Cohen discussed ideas for training new members, possibly using some outside sources. She felt the charting the course training was very helpful but there could be more. To Goal #3, Mrs. Often suggested adding Professional Development for School Committee on an as needed basis.

3. School Committee Member Reports

- a. Mrs. Often stated she registered with MASC noting if others wished to register, there was a discount rate if done before July 15th.
- b. Mrs. Turgeon attended the final Lacrosse game. Though Grafton did not win it was a terrific game and they had a fantastic season.

4. Superintendent's Report

- a. District Update - The Grafton Middle School music field trip to Disney was a success. Students arrived back in Grafton this morning. He thanked Mr. Singley and staff for organizing the trip. Mrs. Connelly spoke with some chaperones that also enjoyed the trip.
- b. Upcoming Activities - No discussion

5. Future Agenda Planning:

- a. With light agenda's, Mrs. Often recommended not meeting during the month of July, unless something specific was needed. If that were the case, she felt the last Tuesday in July would be an option. Otherwise the next scheduled meeting would be set for August 9, 2016. Mr. Carlson's concerns were ongoing negotiations and the signing of the warrant. Mrs. Often said if negotiations warranted a meeting and it would be an executive session meeting, that too could be called and posted accordingly. Relative to the signing of the warrant, the members can come into the Administrative office to sign it as it is basically a ceremonial signing, noting checks and payments would not be held up.

6. Approval of Minutes - May 10, 2016

A motion was made by Mr. Carlson to approve the minutes of May 10, 2016 as submitted. Motion seconded by Mrs. Cohen. Motion carried 4-0-1, Mrs. Turgeon abstained. Mrs. Often noted a typo on the last page with the spelling of Rynning, this would be corrected.

7. Financial Report

- a. A motion was made by Mr. Carlson that the School Committee approve Warrant #53, dated June 30, 2016 in the amount of \$323,209.44. Motion seconded by Mrs. Turgeon. Motion Carried 5-0.

8. Policy: - None

9. Correspondence - None

10. Executive Session – At 7:15 p.m. a motion was made by Mrs. Turgeon, seconded by Mr. Carlson to enter into executive session for the purpose of non union negotiations under Chapter 30A, Paragraph 21, Section A, to conduct strategy sessions in preparation of discussions with non union personnel and to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with non union personnel. Motion seconded by. By Roll Call vote, Peter Carlson, Aye; Teri Turgeon, Aye; Jennifer Connelly, Aye, Maureen Cohen, Aye Laura Often, Aye; Motion carried 5-0 The Committee will return to open session to adjourn only.

At approximately 8:15 p.m. the Committee entered back into open session to adjourn. Motion made by Mr. Carlson to adjourn. Motion seconded by Ms. Turgeon. Motion carried 5-0.

Respectfully submitted



Cindy Ide
Recording Secretary