

**SCITUATE SCHOOL COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, AUGUST 4, 2009
TOWN CHAMBERS HALL**

CALL TO ORDER

52-1

The Regular School Committee Meeting was called to order by Chair Marcure at 7:03 PM.

Present were Ernie Marcure, Marylou Umbriano, Brian LaPlante and June Guglielmi. Also present were Paul Lescault, Superintendent of Schools, and Lawrence Filippelli, Assistant Superintendent.

Not present was Patricia Archambault.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

52-2

Led by Chair Marcure, the Committee and audience participated in a pledge of allegiance to the flag.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

52-3

Mrs. Umbriano moved, seconded by Mrs. Guglielmi, to approve the minutes of the School Committee Meeting of July 7, 2009. The Committee unanimously agreed.

CAPITAL RESERVE FUND

52-4

Mrs. Umbriano moved, seconded by Mrs. Guglielmi, to approve the Capital Reserve Funds for the month of August in the amount of \$96,168.38. The Committee unanimously agreed.

Mrs. Umbriano moved, seconded by Mrs. Guglielmi, to approve the Clayville Land Funds for the month of August in the amount of \$10,795.00. The Committee unanimously approved the motion.

MONTHLY PAYABLES NEW BUDGET

52-5

Mrs. Umbriano moved, seconded by Mr. LaPlante, that the Committee approve the Budget Bills 2009 for the month of August in the amount of \$539,747.13. The Committee unanimously approved the motion.

GRANT BILLS

52-6

Mrs. Umbriano moved, seconded by Mr. LaPlante, that the Committee approve the Grant Bills for the month of August – FY 2009 in the amount of \$12,328.53. The Committee unanimously approved the motion.

CORRESPONDENCE

52-7

1. The committee has continued its practice of postponing, until the August meeting, action on parent requests for their children to attend schools other than their school of record. Drs. Lescault, Filippelli, and Myers have reviewed those requests and are able to recommend the committee's approval or disapproval of them.
2. A letter to the Superintendent from Lisa A. St. Angelo, requesting that her daughter be allowed to attend first grade in Scituate schools as of September 2009 on a tuition basis while her family awaits a closing date (expected August 31, 2009) on the purchase of their new home at 46 Kent View Drive.
3. A letter to Dr. Lescault from Raymond and Dawn Albanese requesting permission for their son, Dante Picolino, to be enrolled in a fifth grade class at North Scituate School on a tuition basis while they complete building a new home in Scituate. The expected date of completion is December 2009.
4. A letter to Dr. Filippelli from Stephen and Ellen Hutchins informing the department of their intent to home school their four children for the 2009-2010 school year.

52-8

1. Recommendation: Approve or disapprove requests to attend schools other than their school of record as per

the attached list.

Dr. Lescault stated the list is being recommended for approval by the Committee on a conditional basis as Dr. Lescault believes the School Department will be able to accommodate all requests based on class sizes at this time.

Mr. LaPlante confirmed there would be two sessions in each school (Hope and North Scituate).

Dr. Lescault agreed.

Mr. LaPlante moved, seconded by Mrs. Umbriano, to approve the requests presented to the Committee including the conditionals identified in the spreadsheet submitted to the Committee. The Committee unanimously agreed.

Mrs. Guglielmi asked what the private school names represented (on spreadsheet submitted to committee members).

Dr. Lescault replied those students were in a private school during the last school year and so a request was not needed at that time. This is the reason this is an initial request this year.

Mr. LaPlante asked if conditionals were deemed such because the School Department was awaiting additional information.

Dr. Lescault replied certain classes are very close to maximum class size so should students move to Scituate and need to enroll; they might need to be accommodated first.

Mr. LaPlante asked if any of these students had siblings in the schools requested.

Dr. Lescault stated there could be but the school is reluctant to make that change because one such (conditional) example is student entering grade 5 which would put that grade 5 class at maximum class size.

2. Recommendation: Approve the request on a tuition basis.

Mrs. Umbriano moved, seconded by Mr. LaPlante, to approve the request on a tuition basis. The Committee unanimously approved the motion.

3. Recommendation: Approve the request on a tuition basis.

Mrs. Umbriano moved, seconded by Mr. LaPlante, to approve the request on a tuition basis. The Committee unanimously agreed.

Dr. Lescault clarified fact that the Committee would be basing this on a tuition basis where the homeowner would have check returned if the homeowner does occupy Scituate residence by December 2009.

Mr. LaPlante stated the proration always followed in these cases should be followed here as well.

Dr. Lescault stated it is the date agreed upon by the homeowner and the School Committee. Dr. Lescault stated as this specific request has generated some controversy in the district; Dr. Lescault wishes the Committee be clear in understanding the request.

Mr. LaPlante asked if that was because it is not close to the start of school in September.

Dr. Lescault replied it was.

Mrs. Umbriano stated if construction is not completed by December 2009, it is understood that the homeowner will pay tuition for the months of September, October, November, and December.

Mr. LaPlante stated this 5th grade class at North Scituate is close to maximum class size.

Mrs. Guglielmi stated the School Department will need to take the student in December anyway.

Dr. Lescault agreed; it does make sense for Scituate to allow child to enroll at start of school year for a smooth transition.

4. Recommendation: Approve the request based on terms and conditions established by RIDE and the Scituate School Department.

Mrs. Umbriano moved, seconded by Mrs. Guglielmi, to approve the request based on terms and conditions established by RIDE and the Scituate School Department. The Committee unanimously agreed.

52-9
REPORT OF COMMITTEE LIAISONS

BUDGET

Mrs. Archambault was not in attendance.

CURRICULUM

Chair Marcure stated nothing to report.

FOOD SERVICES

Mrs. Umbriano stated Commissioner Gist will be visiting each district. Dr. Lescault and Mrs. Umbriano will brief Commissioner Gist on the status of the school lunch program during her visit. It will be important to address how each district will be facing a deficit because of this program.

SPACE NEEDS

Chair Marcure stated nothing to report.

**HEALTH/
WELLNESS
NEGOTIATIONS**

Mrs. Guglielmi stated nothing to report.

Chair Marcure stated nothing to report.

POLICY

Mr. LaPlante stated articles have been in the newspapers recently regarding pay-to-play and Mr. LaPlante will continue to monitor the subject. Mr. LaPlante stated one of the bills passed was notion of earmarking a dedication of money for particular classes, instructors, etc. which provides some flexibility for schools if need be. Scituate is not facing this issue right now but is important to be aware of it should be. The law states grantors may earmark funds which are not put into general fund; it is a separate fund solely used by that special group.

RIASC

Mrs. Archambault was not in attendance.

**SAFETY AND
TRANSPORTATION**

Mrs. Umbriano stated the Scituate Traffic Safety Committee is currently addressing the traffic issues at Routes 115/116. The intersection is very wide and vehicles are making the turn at high speeds. There are 500-575 vehicles passing through this intersection in the early morning and early evening which causes a traffic jam twice per day. When the road is narrowed, it may be a concern for the school department as the buses will need to make a sharper turn.

Mrs. Umbriano stated that in front of Hope School (in front of the fence), parents park to drop off children and the buses should be pulling in to that space instead. As the parents try to back out, the buses are pulling in to unload the children which means the buses are now block traffic on Route 116. What The Scituate Traffic Safety Committee would like to do is to eliminate the blockage on Route 116. Mrs. Umbriano and Mr. Collins will review traffic pattern of school buses and parents and report back to Committee.

Mr. LaPlante asked how taking up more space (moving fence back) will allow buses and parents to navigate one another.

Mr. Gormley stated if gate is left open, the parents can pull into the parking area for drop off and then buses will use turnaround near fence so that two to three buses would fit.

Mr. LaPlante asked how parents would exit.

Mr. Gormley replied parents would exit same way they entered.

Mrs. Guglielmi asked if there was any available parking in the back of the school.

Mr. Gormley replied no.

Mr. LaPlante asked how moving the fence back will affect the children in the school yard.

Mr. Gormley stated there will be safety procedures taken but this is still a discussion. The whole area could be fenced off.

Mr. LaPlante stated the fence must provide separation as well as contain the kids and the parents.

Mrs. Umbriano stated some signage and yellow paint will help identify the area(s).

Mr. Gormley stated this is still conceptual; there is no state approval on this project.

Mrs. Umbriano believed the project has been approved and is expected to begin in September 2009 but will confirm with the Scituate Safety and Traffic Committee.

Dr. Lescault asked that caution be used when combining children and cars in the parking area/school yard.

Ms. Mandano stated in years past, if the weather was good, parents would drop off the children outside the fence because the gate would be closed and the children would be in the school yard. Now the children are kept inside in the morning even if the weather is good. The parents would drop off and the buses would drop off in the street and the children would enter via the walkway. It's never been a problem.

Mr. Gormley stated the problem is the buses unloading the children in the street and blocking traffic.

Chair Marcure stated for several years, the Chief and the Safety Committee tried to identify a solution to this problem.

Mrs. Umbriano asked if two big fences were added behind the walkway, if that would be an option.

Mr. Gormley stated there isn't enough parking in the front to handle drop off right now. A deeper cut would need to be made so that the buses can make the turn onto

Route 116.

Mrs. Umbriano asked if that was possible due to the septic system.

Mr. Gormley replied if it is asphalted over, it is not an issue. Mr. Gormley added if this can wait until October, it can be staked so that the Committee would see what it would look like.

**SCITUATE ADVOCATES
FOR EVERYONE (SAFE)
SPECIAL EDUCATION**

Mrs. Umbriano stated nothing to report.

Chair Marcure stated nothing to report.

BUDGET COMMITTEE

Chair Marcure stated nothing to report.

BUILDING COMMITTEE

Mr. Gormley stated the Middle School/High School renovation is on schedule. The electrical system is being completed, fire alarm wiring is complete, new drop ceiling grids has been installed, steel for rooftop is complete, and new duct work has been completed in Middle School. The Middle School also has been wired for new control system. A, B, D, and F corridors already have been commissioned on by installation vendor and there are no expected delays. The new building is fully powered (waiting on National Grid to cut blocks for conduit). The back of the property has been cleared and the cafeteria has been glazed, the three special education rooms are ready for heating element (no expected delay), and floors are being installed.

Chair Marcure stated the new rooms are expected to be used for early November.

Mr. Gormley stated the expected completion date is October 31st and then a few days will be needed for clean up and installing furniture, etc.

Chair Marcure stated the original completion date was September 1st but was changed to November 1st so students would be in new rooms for start of second quarter. Chair Marcure asked if the date should be moved to allow more time for completion and start after the second quarter.

Mr. Gormley expects everything to be completed on time, and believes students can be moved in for second quarter.

Mr. LaPlante suggested waiting to see how project progresses.

Chair Marcure stated last things to be completed are fields, parking, and storage building.

Mrs. Umbriano received a call asking the Committee to move the FFA tractor or cover it and asked Mr. Gormley status.

Mr. Gormley stated tractor will be moved and locked at DPW on Wednesday.

Regarding the Clayville evacuation site, Mr. Gormley stated the bids closed on Thursday. The low bid was \$165, 966. Providence Water district requested permeable pavement and DEM requested several items as well.

Mr. LaPlante inquired about the requested changes.

Mr. Gormley replied instead of 6 inches gravel, two feet of gravel is required, for example. It is the new eco-friendly method however it is more expensive. The backup was 50%.

Chair Marcure asked if Scituate would receive any assistance.

Mr. Gormley stated Mr. Provonsil has had conversations with Providence Water District in past and Providence Water District verbally committed to some assistance.

Mr. LaPlante asked why the Providence Water District would participate.

Mr. Gormley replied it is beneficial to their water shed.

Mr. LaPlante inquired about full scope of work.

Mr. Gormley replied scope of work includes gravel, underground piping, fabric, gravel, three inches of Class 1 binder, swales in back corner to slow any leaching heavy rain.

Dr. Lescault added parking lines, trees, etc. will be completed last. Dr. Lescault is recommending the Committee move forward with this project and to do otherwise would mean to start from scratch as DEM has already approved existing plan. It could take another year to bid, etc. There are other projects from which Scituate could reallocate funds if needed to complete project. Hopefully Scituate will receive some funds back from the Providence Water Board but Scituate is committed to the project.

Mr. LaPlante stated there are no additional savings to be had at this point.

Mr. Gormley replied no.

Dr. Lescault added it was not easy to receive approval from DEM.

Mr. LaPlante asked if the Committee could act on this project this evening.

Dr. Lescault stated the Committee only needs to provide consensus as the Committee has previously voted on this project. Dr. Lescault stated the Committee has always allowed him to move funds if need be so Dr. Lescault wanted to make Committee aware of project status.

Mrs. Guglielmi inquired about naming the site and asked if the topic could be placed on the agenda for September's meeting.

Dr. Lescault stated it would be very appropriate and has a name in mind.

STRATEGIC PLANNING

Mrs. Guglielmi stated nothing to report.

52-10 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There is no unfinished business for the month of August.

52-11 ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

NECAP TESTING STRATEGIES AT SCHOOL LEVEL

Dr. Filippelli has asked each of the building principals for a list of the NECAP testing strategies used in each of their buildings. Since Mr. Zajac is brand new, Dr. Filippelli filled out the strategies for the middle school. As Dr. Filippelli received this information from the principals, Dr. Filippelli created a matrix of strategies for each of the buildings and then color coded the strategies into the following categories: Building/Administrative Strategy; Curricular Strategy; Special Needs/504 Accommodation Strategy; Administrative Notification Strategy. Committee members received a copy of the strategies broken down by school.

Chair Marcure addressed this topic at the last school committee meeting as well as a few months ago and thanked Dr. Filippelli for preparing documents. It details specific problems and proposed action and is exactly what Chair Marcure requested. Chair Marcure believes this will help the children be more successful.

Dr. Filippelli added one option is to use the AlertNow system prior to the NECAP test as a reminder to parents. If a child is absent and continues to be absent, there is a chance of missing the testing window which affects reservation rate and scores.

Mr. LaPlante stated it is clear the administrators are trying to impress upon the students the importance of this testing but asked what are methods are being used to do so.

Dr. Filippelli stated there was a major jump in scores at the high school level last year. Many strategies used by Principal Sollitto were enticing strategies used such as providing breakfast boxes in the morning and also a raffle/lottery for an iPod, a gift certificate, etc. In the middle school, students were offered a few extra points on a specific grade/subject for example which motivated the middle school students.

ADMINISTRATIVE WIKI PAGE

Dr. Filippelli created a WIKI page for all of the administrators in the district. Administrators can log in and create a conversation thread based on certain administrative topics that come up. For example, in trying to assess NECAP testing strategies, Dr. Filippelli asked the administrators to sign into the WIKI and post their responses. By doing this, it makes the process of transferring information much faster than creating an email thread. Dr. Filippelli has set the site up so only Scituate administrators with a password can access the information that is shared. Dr. Filippelli was able to create this site on wikispaces.com, which is a free WIKI site.

RESPONSE TO INTERVENTION

On July 27, Dr. Filippelli met with district administrators to establish guidelines for us to create a Response to Intervention Guidebook for all teachers in the district. All met to create a framework to help establish Tier I and Tier II RTI intervention strategies. A larger district meeting will be held on August 6 with nine teachers from throughout the district to create the guidebook that will be distributed to teachers this year.

TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE RESULTS/ACTION

On July 9, Drs. Lescault and Filippelli co-chaired the technology committee meeting to discuss the district needs as they pertain to technology. After assessing the technology that exists in each of the schools, the following recommendations were made:

- Review and purchase some thin client hardware and software to install as a pilot in Hope Elementary School as it was determined that Hope Elementary was in the most need of technology updates at the present time.
- Investigate purchasing Netbooks on a cart in order to create a mini-lab that would have internet access and be available for teachers in the middle/high school to sign out for use in their classrooms.
- Utilize existing computers in Scituate Middle/High School media center to facilitate better use of the computers that currently exist there for more

students. A few (3-5) computers may need to be purchased to make this happen.

- Investigate room D2 in the high school as a possibility for creating a new/updated computer lab.
- Investigate, by way of survey, teachers' current use of technology in the classroom to determine if more professional development on implementing technology effectively in the classroom is needed. (A draft survey was submitted to committee members.) Dr. Filippelli also posted this survey on surveymonkey.com so respondents can fill it out electronically if they choose.

Mr. LaPlante asked how old the computers are now.

Dr. Filippelli stated the labs in the media lab are approximately two years old. Each year technology monies received from RIDE is used to add to or upgrade the inventory in the middle school.

Mrs. Umbriano stated there is discussion of starting a PTO at the high school this year. Mrs. Umbriano stated the middle school PTO helped contribute to the new computers in the library. Mrs. Umbriano added the DELL web site also promoted several grant opportunities several months ago which Mrs. Umbriano will revisit to determine if still available.

Mrs. Umbriano stated willingness to participate as a parent as well and urged the Committee to utilize the PTOs for such projects.

SEPTEMBER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Dr. Filippelli has begun the process of asking principals what professional development is being planned for their buildings for the 2009-2010 academic year. The following professional development will be given in each of the schools beginning in September:

- All Schools - Response to Intervention professional development – imbedded and ongoing in all schools throughout the year
- Hope and Clayville - Math Investigations and curriculum mapping for Math Investigations at the elementary level
- North Scituate - Columbia Reading Program professional development. Scituate has contracted for another 10 days to work on units of study
- High School - Graduation requirements, commissioner's review, personalization of instruction for all students.
- Middle School – Middle level strategies for response to intervention, continued professional development on student led advisory, looking at student work.

COMMISSIONER'S REVIEW

On July 14 Dr. Filippelli met with Principals Mike Sollitto and Mike Zajac to plan out the high school and middle school response to the Commissioner's Review visit that will be completed in December. Representatives from RIDE will conduct this visit. Their main focus will be on the level of implementation in regards to the approved diploma system. Key areas for this report will be the following: Access and Opportunity; Standard Setting; Literacy Support Personalization; Other areas of the report including content area information on Science, Social Studies, the Arts, and Technology.

The Middle School Review will focus on the following areas: Advisory Program; Individualized Learning Plans; Common Planning Time Schedule; Middle/High School Articulation Process; Plans to complete alignment of reading, writing, oral communication and Mathematics GLE's for the middle level.

Chair Marcure asked if this replaces the SALT survey.

Dr. Filippelli replied no; this is directly tied into the diploma system.

Mrs. Guglielmi asked what happens if Scituate fails.

Dr. Lescault stated Scituate School Department would not be able to issue a State of Rhode Island diploma, only a Scituate School Department diploma.

Chair Marcure asked if this reflects a grade system. A few years ago, many requirements were being added to the graduation requirements which would be reflected as percentages in final grades.

Dr. Filippelli stated it is not specifically tied to a grade system; it is more performance-based activities such as senior project, senior portfolio, etc. The electronic portfolio is an area where Dr. Filippelli believes Scituate may need a little additional help; however if that is stated upfront it will be taken into consideration.

Mrs. Guglielmi asked if these requirements are established by RIDE.

Dr. Filippelli replied yes.

52-12

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

SCHOOL VISITS

Assuming the committee would like to continue the tradition of holding one school committee meeting at each school every year, Dr. Lescault proposes the school committee meet at Clayville in September, the Middle/High School in October, Hope in November and North Scituate in December. The committee always meets at the home school of the Teacher of the Year in October to present the award. Therefore, the October meeting should definitely be at the Middle/High School. The other meetings can be rearranged however the committee wishes.

MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING PROJECT

Mr. Gormley reported on this earlier but Dr. Lescault added there is some bad news, as reported to the building committee on July 22, that unanticipated problems have added substantial new costs to the project, decimating the \$300,000 contingency fund for the project.

CLAYVILLE EVACUATION/PARKING LOT

As Mr. Gormley stated earlier, all of the required approvals from DEM for construction of the Clayville Evacuation/Parking Lot were finally received this month. Building Inspector David Provonsil, a registered PE, developed detailed bid specifications for the project. Copies of bids were distributed to the Committee members.

COMMISSIONER VISIT

Commissioner of Education Deborah Gist intends to visit every district by the end of October (Committee members received copies of July 20 letter to Superintendents). A member of Dr. Gist's team will contact Dr. Lescault during the week of August 3-7 to schedule the visit. Dr. Lescault will need to indicate a specific location for the visit and a preferred time of the day and will also need to know if anyone from the school committee would like to participate in the visit.

TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

Drs. Lescault and Filippelli co-chaired a meeting of the Technology Advisory Committee on July 9. Special thanks to George Kuzmowycz and Ken Abrams for participating and for offering their extraordinary expertise in this area. As a result of the meeting, Drs. Lescault and Filippelli have developed a concrete plan with Technology Director DiLuglio to improve technology throughout the district with the limited resources available. Among other things, Scituate will be utilizing thin client technology at Hope School to replace the obsolete computers in the lab, which are not currently usable. Scituate will increase access to technology at the Middle/High School by expanding a lab in the media center and creating at least one bank of 25 portable computers. Scituate also hopes to increase technology support in the district by taking equipment that is outdated and difficult to maintain and support out of service.

**CLAYVILLE
REDISTRICTING**

Dr. Lescault added one way to reduce cost of support required is to reduce the number of outdated equipment subject to repair and/or breaking down.

At the June 2 school committee meeting, Dr. Lescault informed the committee that due to over-enrollment Dr. Lescault redistricted six entering Clayville kindergarten students to either Hope or North Scituate. Two of those six families had children who already attend the Clayville School. Five of the six families appealed the decision. Drs. Lescault and Myers met with those families and indicated to them that they might be able to allow some of the children to return to the school if no new students had moved into the Clayville district. As the numbers have remained constant, Dr. Lescault is now comfortable allowing the two families with siblings to return to the Clayville School and have so notified them.

Chair Marcure stated on the list of voluntary requests, the requests are from all over the district. Chair Marcure is uncertain why parents/students are requesting schools outside their district but it's interesting that there is equal number of requests for each of the elementary schools.

Dr. Lescault stated Scituate does its best to accommodate those students regarding transportation.

Mr. LaPlante asked if there are two Kindergarten classes in Clayville and asked if there has always been only one class.

Dr. Lescault replied there is one class for this school year but historically there have sometimes been two classes. There are not enough students this year to run two classes.

Mr. LaPlante confirmed that is the ultimate reason for redistricting. Mr. LaPlante inquired if the numbers increased from Kindergarten to first.

Dr. Lescault replied no.

52-13
PUBLIC COMMENTS
Justin Gaffney

Mr. Gaffney stated the tractor discussed earlier in the meeting was given to the Agriculture Department ten years ago and FFA monies were used to repair and recondition the tractor. The students wish to keep the tractor versus having it sold. If it must be sold Mr. Gaffney asked the money from the sale be put into the FFA budget.

Mrs. Umbriano asked if it was going to be sold again.

Mr. Gaffney replied the tractor was being taken away from the Department.

If it's not possible to continue storing the tractor in the shed, Mr. Gaffney stated arrangements can be made for off-campus storage if the school department allows. The Department does not want to lose the tractor.

Mr. LaPlante asked if one of the members would store the tractor.

Mr. Gaffney replied yes.

Chair Marcure asked how the tractor would be utilized.

Mr. Gaffney stated it was used to move picnic tables for senior activities, was in the parade, etc. Mr. Gaffney added it is a safety issue as well. After checking the tractor

two weeks ago, Mr. Gaffney noticed the brakes weren't locked and the tractor was left sitting outside. It is a heavy piece of equipment and if it should roll, someone would be injured.

Mr. LaPlante stated Mr. Gormley will secure the tractor in the morning. The administration will discuss this and will get back to you.

Mrs. Guglielmi asked if the tractor was registered to drive on the road.

Mr. Gaffney replied no.

Mrs. Guglielmi asked how the tractor would be transported back and forth.

Mr. Gaffney replied a trailer would be used for transport.

Mrs. Umbriano stated it will be brought to DPW and be locked behind the fence in the morning.

Dr. Lescault stated this item may have been considered surplus and it's possible it may have already been brought before the Committee for disposal. Dr. Lescault will research list of surplus items but Dr. Lescault stated the school department will work with Mr. Gaffney.

George Kuzmowycz 37 Esek Hopkins Road

Mr. Kuzmowycz thanked Dr. Lescault for the kind words.

Mr. Kuzmowycz hopes the Committee is not just focusing on (computer) machines and the number of machines and understands finances are one of the administration's primary concerns. Mr. Kuzmowycz described himself as a technology-focused man and stated the key in the utilization of technology is buy-in from the faculty and getting teachers to use the tools that would most benefit the kids. Mr. Kuzmowycz added Mr. Ken Abrams was also invaluable (at the technology meeting) as he has many great ideas and has implemented many of those ideas. It is important the teachers are interested in the technology and could use it to interest the kids.

Chair Marcure asked if training should be required for teachers if need be.

Mr. Kuzmowycz is not certain how teachers who are not interested in the technology would be motivated but try to foster an atmosphere which would encourage teachers to take part. Teachers must understand what is possible in today's environment and how the teachers can use that to stimulate learning within the kids.

Mr. Kuzmowycz understands it is a spending concern and would rather see emphasis put on training and development than additional computers/equipment. Given some of the machines may be five years old and may need some adjustments, but more can be done with those machines if the teachers are on board with the technology.

Mr. LaPlante added Dr. Filippelli created a survey which will be distributed to faculty and teachers to identify what the teachers want in terms of technology and training.

Dr. Filippelli wished to identify the deficiencies, if any, but agrees with Mr. Kuzmowycz that it is important the technology is being used.

As a former PTO president in North Scituate, Mrs. Umbriano stated one of the

projects the PTO worked on was fundraising for additional computers in the North Scituate computer lab however many teachers did not bring their students to the lab and other teachers couldn't fit the lab time into their schedule so it wasn't used.

Dr. Filippelli stated it is an access problem. One of the major barriers is getting a class in there at a time when the lab is not already booked.

Ruth Trainor, Trim Town Road

Ms. Trainor stated there is an issue of reliability with the equipment as well. The worst thing that can happen being ready to teach and the technology doesn't work or doesn't work properly. Ms. Trainor stated the teachers do use the lab very much. It would be used even more often if teachers were confident in equipment.

Mrs. Umbriano asked if there was a technology slot in weekly schedule for students.

Dr. Filippelli stated in conversation with elementary principals, there are so many curricular facets jammed into one single day that sometimes technology may take somewhat of a backseat. Dr. Filippelli stated eight graders were required to take a technology assessment in which the district scored between 84-87% proficiency but there are no teeth behind it like there is for the NECAP test. There is not a big focus on making kids accountable in technology; however most kids who have access to computers or technology at home (over 85%) are very proficient. In many cases, the technology these students have at home is better than what the school systems can provide and so these students come in to the class ahead of the curve. Dr. Filippelli agreed with Mr. Kuzmowycz and stated it is key to ensure the software/hardware that is in place is working.

Ms. Trainor stated keyboarding has become as important as literacy to a degree and asked if there was a way of incorporating it into the literacy program.

Dr. Filippelli stated several years ago there was .25 technology staff in the middle school who would co-teach with the Grades 7 and 8 teachers to have children work on the technology curriculum. However due to budget constraints, etc. that was taken away so that was incorporated into the remainder of the curriculum. Dr. Filippelli stated that cannot replace having two middle school teachers and a technology teacher working with students specifically on technology especially when the importance is placed on the regular curriculum where students will be tested on NECAP.

Mrs. Umbriano asked if that part-time technology instructor is no longer part of the faculty.

Dr. Filippelli stated that part-time position (keyboarding) was eliminated approximately four years ago.

Mr. LaPlante stated implementing the technology into the curriculum so that it doesn't have to take a backseat is key.

Dr. Filippelli added experiencing technology failure during one of his own presentations. It's important to focus on upgrading and ensuring technology works.

Dr. Lescault stated \$130,000 is committed to technology support; it is not just one person rather a staff.

There is no new business for the month of August.

52-15
RESIGNATIONS/APPOINTMENTS/TRANSFERS

Dr. Lescault recommended approval of the following resignations:
Cristina Brothers, part-time (25%) Special Education teacher, Scituate Middle School, effective July 23, 2009; Eileen Prochet, Secretary to Assistant Superintendent, effective July 31, 2009

Mrs. Umbriano moved to approve resignations, seconded by Mrs. Guglielmi. The motion was unanimously approved.

Mrs. Umbriano asked how long Ms. Prochet had been a secretary with Scituate.

Dr. Lescault replied approximately fifteen years.

Mrs. Umbriano was saddened upon hearing of Ms. Prochet's resignation.

Drs. Lescault and Filippelli echoed Mrs. Umbriano's sentiments. Dr. Lescault stated it was a difficult decision for her but it was an amazing opportunity which included a substantial pay increase.

Dr. Lescault recommended approval of the following reappointments:
Jason J. Cotoia, full time Social Studies teacher, Scituate Middle School; Kristen Pontarelli, Grade 5, Hope School, One Year Only; Kristin Hill, part-time Kindergarten, Clayville School; Lita Motroni, part-time (25%) Special Education, Scituate Middle School

Mrs. Umbriano moved to approve reappointments, seconded by Mr. LaPlante. The motion was unanimously approved.

Dr. Lescault recommended approval of the following terminations:
Jennifer Briggs, part-time custodian, Hope School, effective July 15, 2009

Mrs. Guglielmi moved to approve terminations, seconded by Mrs. Umbriano. The motion was unanimously approved.

52-16
COMMITTEE REMARKS

CHAIR MARCURE	Chair Marcure stated nothing to report.
MRS. GUGLIELMI	Mrs. Guglielmi stated nothing to report.
MS. UMBRIANO	Mrs. Umbriano stated nothing to report.
MRS. ARCHAMBAULT	Mrs. Archambault was not present.
BRIAN LAPLANTE	Mr. LaPlante stated nothing to report.

52-17
DISCUSSION OF FUTURE BUSINESS

September 1 Regular School Committee Meeting held at Clayville
September 2 First Day of School
October 6 Regular School Committee Meeting held at Middle/High School
November 3 Regular School Committee Meeting held at Hope
December 1 Regular School Committee Meeting held at North Scituate

52-18

ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. Umbriano moved, seconded by Mr. LaPlante to adjourn meeting at 8:25 PM. The Committee unanimously approved the motion.

Respectfully submitted,

Mrs. Umbriano, Clerk