

**SCITUATE SCHOOL COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 1, 2011
TOWN HALL CHAMBERS**

CALL TO ORDER

79-1

The Regular School Committee Meeting was called to order by Chair Umbriano at 6:30PM.

Mr. LaPlante moved, seconded by Dr. Klimaj, to move into Executive Session RIGL 42-46-5(a)(2). The committee unanimously approved motion.

The regular school committee meeting reconvened at 7:15 PM.

Present were Marylou Umbriano, Brian LaPlante, June Guglielmi, Lillian Jean Delmonico, and Scott Klimaj. Also present were Paul Lescault, Superintendent, and Lawrence Filippelli, Assistant Superintendent.

Chair Umbriano stated the purpose of the Executive Session was concerning resolution of pending claim in the matter Donald DiTusa v. Town of Scituate, et al., Civil Action No.: PC08-3618.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

79-2

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

79-3

Mrs. Guglielmi moved, seconded by Mr. LaPlante, to approve the minutes of the Regular School Committee Meeting of February 1, 2011. The committee unanimously approved the motion.

CAPITAL RESERVE FUND

79-4

Mrs. Guglielmi moved, seconded by Dr. Klimaj, to approve the Capital Reserve Funds-Middle School/High School for the month of March in the amount of \$8,142.56. The Committee unanimously agreed.

NEW BUDGET BILLS

79-5

Mrs. Guglielmi moved, seconded by Mr. LaPlante, to approve the New Budget Bills for the month of March in the amount of \$202,535.02. The Committee unanimously approved the motion.

Mr. LaPlante inquired about the costly repair to vehicle.

Dr. Lescault replied there is corresponding revenue for expenditure (insurance reimbursement).

GRANT BILLS

79-6

Mrs. Guglielmi moved, seconded by Mr. LaPlante, to approve the Grant Bills for the month of March in the amount of \$159,560.11. The Committee unanimously approved the motion.

CORRESPONDENCE

79-7

1. A letter to the Superintendent and School Committee Chair from Ruth Trainor, STA President, acknowledging the incredible performance of Reiley Hayes at the Statewide Shakespeare Competition. While Mstr. Hayes did not win, he did receive a note from the Coordinator and a Certificate of Participation.
2. A form from the Home School Legal Defense Association, certifying that Lillian M. Travis will be home schooling her son, Jekub, effective February 4, 2011 for the balance of the 2010-2011 school year.
3. A letter to the Superintendent from Rhonda and Thomas Andrews informing him of their intent to home school their child, Richard, for the 2011-2012 school year.
4. A letter to the Superintendent from Ray and Mary Blackmore, confirming an earlier discussion that Blackmore Inc. will not be providing bus transportation for the Scituate schools, effective the end of the school year in June 2011.

79-8

1. Recommendation: Publicly acknowledge Reiley's participation in the competition.

Mrs. Guglielmi asked if something could be sent to acknowledge his participation.

Dr. Lescault agreed.

On behalf of the committee, Mr. LaPlante added it was wonderful he participated in this competition.

2. Recommendation for Correspondence #2 and #3: Approve the requests under the conditions and procedures established by the school department and the RI Department of Education.

Mr. LaPlante asked if there was a reason why these requests came in mid-year.

Dr. Lescault stated parents are allowed to make such requests at any time during the school year.

Dr. Filippelli added one of these parents also has home schooled her other children.

Mr. LaPlante moved, seconded by Dr. Klimaj, to approve the requests under the conditions and procedures established by the school department and RI Department of Education. The committee unanimously agreed.

3. Recommendation: Accept the resignation with regret.

Mr. LaPlante stated it is a sad situation that this bus company was not able to operate successfully.

Mr. LaPlante moved, seconded by Mrs. Guglielmi to accept the resignation with deep regret. The committee approved the motion.

79-9

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE LIAISONS

BUDGET

Mr. LaPlante stated nothing to report.

CURRICULUM

Dr. Klimaj stated nothing to report.

FOOD SERVICES AND
HEALTH/WELNNESS
NEGOTIATIONS

Chair Umbriano stated Dr. Lescault will report during the Superintendent's Report.

Chair Umbriano stated nothing to report.

POLICY

Dr. Klimaj stated there will be a second reading of the Breathalyzer Policy under New Business.

RIASC

Mr. LaPlante stated the annual RIASC meeting will be held on April 30 and plans to attend. Mr. LaPlante will also follow-up on the most recent budget meeting.

SAFETY AND
TRANSPORTATION
SPECIAL EDUCATION

Chair Umbriano stated nothing to report.

Mrs. Delmonico stated nothing to report.

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Mrs. Guglielmi attended last Scholarship Fund meeting and discussion included ways of making the money grow. The scholarship committee was happy to have school committee representation.

STRATEGIC PLANNING

Mrs. Guglielmi stated the next meeting will occur in April.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

79-10

There is no unfinished business for the month of March.

79-11

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

NECAP ANALYSIS

(Committee members received copies of the data analysis of achievement levels throughout the district by grade and the total overall proficiency throughout the grades with a percentage comparison from 2008-2010.)

Dr. Filippelli has compared the proficiency levels across three years. When doing a direct comparison of proficiency levels (for example Grade 11 Reading went up by 13% from 2009 in the proficient with distinction category), this is an indicator of how this year's cohort of students compared to last year's cohort of students with essentially the same teachers and instruction. As Dr. Filippelli mentioned previously, in the areas of below proficient and partially proficient, a decrease in percentage points in levels 1 and 2 is desired. This means that Scituate is moving kids into the proficient and proficient with distinction categories and shows that numbers are decreasing in the partially proficient and substantially below proficient categories.

Mrs. Guglielmi asked if these students were not same students last year.

Dr. Filippelli replied yes; they are different students each year.

Dr. Filippelli stated to truly get a representation of increases or decreases in proficiency by each grade, you would have to look at the percentage point increase or decrease from the year prior. For example, if you look at Grade 8 reading in the proficient with distinction category, you will see a 5% increase from last year's students to this year's students. Same teachers, but different students. However, the true representation is when looking at the difference in percentage from last year's (2009) 7th graders who were 32% in the proficient with distinction category and those same students who are now 8th graders this year and are 42% proficient with distinction. That means that the teachers were able to move those students 10 percentage points up from last year and not the 5% increase which is essentially the comparison of teaching from 2009 to 2010. The same data analysis method applies to all of the grades.

In Dr. Filippelli's opinion, the most important analysis comes from looking at the data page entitled Total Proficiency. This page gives a snapshot of each of the grades broken up by Reading, Mathematics, and Writing over a three year span. This page indicates the "big picture" of where the students are currently compared to prior year cohorts. While averages are much higher than the state averages, there are some areas Dr. Filippelli believes can improve. Dr. Filippelli will be meeting with the elementary principals to address the decreases in grades 3 and 4 and Dr. Filippelli has already contacted Principal Zajac about the scores in grades 6, 7, and 8. As a first step, Dr. Filippelli needs to spread out the professional development in mathematics that the elementary teachers are receiving this year to the middle school teachers for next year. Clearly there are some gaps in instruction as compared to what is being assessed on the NECAP in the middle school grades. Dr. Filippelli will also be meeting with the team leaders at the middle school to address academic rigor in each of those grades. Dr. Filippelli also believes there is a big difference in the achievement level in the cohorts of students as well. Last year there were many special education and RTI needs in the 6th grade class. That has proven to be true in the scores when Dr. Filippelli looks at the total proficiency of those students who are now this year's 7th graders.

In analyzing overall district data, this provides a big picture view of NECAP assessment results as compared with the state averages. In reading, the district is 83% proficient as compared to the state average of 71% proficiency. In math, the district is 70% proficient as compared to the state average which is at 55% proficiency.

This year, Scituate saw greatest gains at the high school level. There was an increase of 6% proficiency in math making Scituate High School one of the top 15 high schools in the state for math achievement. There was also a 5% increase in reading scores at the high school making it one of the top 5 high schools in the state for reading achievement.

Dr. Filippelli stated Scituate continues to be a district with high test scores that are much better than state averages. However, the goal is to always be doing better. One of the issues that loom

large is the change over to The Common Core curriculum that RIDE is mandating as part of RTTT. Beginning in 2014, there will be a new assessment for all students and a movement away from the NECAP assessment which has been around since 2005.

**FEBRUARY 18
PROFESSIONAL
DEVELOPMENT DAY**

While Dr. Filippelli was unable to attend the February 18 professional development day due to the birth of his daughter, he was informed by the principals at each of the schools that the day went exceptionally well. The preliminary survey results of the day indicate that the teachers were overwhelmingly positive about the professional development they received. (Committee members received copies of an indicator of the math gap analysis work that the Highlander Dunn Institute has been completing for Scituate this year.) This analysis is timely as Dr. Filippelli wants to further the work with Dunn next year to address my concerns over the NECAP scores in grades 2, 4, 6 and 7. Scituate is in the process this year of addressing the "Items Least in Place" chart analysis to put more consistent math instruction in front of all of the students.

**RACE TO THE TOP
BUDGET**

Dr. Filippelli has attended two webinars and one meeting on the RTTT budgetary process. The RTTT budgets were due today and RIDE is using the same process to apply for the grant as used with other federal monies. They are using Acelegrants which is the same platform Dr. Filippelli uses to write the consolidated resource plan. RIDE is planning on rolling out monies to the district based on the initiatives they feel are important on a specific timeline. For example, they have allocated only \$3000.00 for Scituate to complete the study of the standards and curriculum work. They have allocated only \$4000.00 for completing training on the educator evaluation model. They have then allocated \$52,225.00 for educator effectiveness and \$4500.00 for human capital development. The bulk of the money sits in educator effectiveness. One of RIDE's major initiatives in concert with The New Teacher Center is to completely revamp the teacher mentor model and the teacher evaluation process. RIDE is indicating to districts that they want each district to send one master teacher to training provided by The New Teacher Center. One of the major concerns Dr. Filippelli has with this is that RIDE will be using a process of reimbursement provided Scituate sends the teacher. The problem here is that a master teacher with salary and benefits is substantially more expensive than the \$52,225 that RIDE has set aside for Scituate. Dr. Filippelli suspects RIDE will want Scituate to partner up with a neighboring district to combine the funds. The next issue is what district will the teacher come from and how willing with the bargaining units of each of the districts be to have a master teacher not from their district mentoring teachers in the collective bargaining unit. Dr. Filippelli is in the process of trying to clarify this with RIDE to get more answers before Dr. Filippelli commits the funds.

Mrs. Guglielmi asked if it made a difference with secondary elementary.

Dr. Lescault stated Scituate was given a budget which was pre-populated with numbers not allowing us to reallocate funds.

Dr. Filippelli added 20 teachers are being asked to participate which is one eighth of Scituate's teachers; it will not be possible to recruit 20 substitute teachers. There are a lot of challenges.

Dr. Lescault stated there is a concern sending the best and brightest out of the district.

Dr. Filippelli stated Scituate and Foster-Glocester are willing to collaborate to send cohort but without a schedule in place it is difficult to plan. In addition, the teacher-mentor component in many districts is contractual and Scituate's contract does not expire until 2013.

Committee members received copies of activity report for February.

**MONTHLY
ACTIVITIES**

79-12

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

The school committee approved a first reading of a Breathalyzer Policy at the February 1 meeting. Dr. Lescault is recommending that the committee approve a second reading and adoption of the policy (committee members received copies of policy) under New Business.

**BREATHALYZER
POLICY**

SCHOOL CALENDAR

Dr. Lescault provided the committee with a proposed 2011-2012 School Year Calendar (committee members received copies of calendar) for review at the February meeting. Dr. Lescault is recommending approval of it under New Business.

Mrs. Guglielmi asked if there was any discussion about merging the February and April vacations into only one vacation in March.

Dr. Lescault stated only Exeter-West Greenwich is proposing that at this time. Dr. Lescault stated it was attempted years ago but was not received well; it is a very emotional topic for parents.

Mr. LaPlante stated it seems so sensible.

Mrs. Guglielmi stated the teacher contract runs September 1-August 31. There are some districts which open the last week of August and perhaps Scituate could consider look at starting before September 1st to accommodate some of the snow days.

Dr. Lescault stated it really needs to happen on a state-wide basis because some parents may have children in different districts which will make scheduling difficult.

Mrs. Guglielmi believes it should be put on table for discussion.

CORE AND BELIEF STATEMENT

Prior to the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) accreditation visit, Scituate High School must complete a very comprehensive self-study. The first step in that process is for the faculty to develop a core value and belief statement (committee members received copies). Principal Sollitto and Dr. Lescault recommend the committee also approve them.

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE

As noted in Principal Sollitto's monthly report, the 4-year graduation rate at Scituate High School rose by 5% to 90%, which is the 4th highest among all Rhode Island school districts. Dr. Lescault believes Mr. Sollitto's leadership with programs like "Credit Recovery" is largely responsible for the impressive gain.

Mrs. Guglielmi asked which districts are among top three.

Dr. Lescault replied Barrington, East Greenwich and New Shoreham.

BUDGET

Dr. Lescault stated Town Council would like the school department to reduce the budget to reflect level funding. Dr. Lescault explained why that might be dangerous and create major problems down the road. Dr. Lescault urged Town Council member to go back to Town Council and convince them that level funding would not serve either the school or the town well. Dr. Lescault stated the budget committee is scheduled to meet on Thursday.

Mrs. Guglielmi stated it is close to April at this point, things have to get moving.

Chair Umbriano stated someone on Town Council can't suggest the school department fire a principal to save money or make a deal with a teacher to retire early especially without someone from the school department present to defend such untrue statements.

Dr. Lescault stated Mr. Collins stated the Town Treasurer feels the school should be level funded but does feel the town should provide schools with some money to backfill the capital improvement fund. The budget is up \$420,000; of which \$237,000 are capital improvements. The budget didn't include funds for improvements last year so the number is really inflated. The real increase is \$173,000. Dr. Lescault stated capital improvements needs to be pushed each year.

Dr. Lescault added although the Town Treasurer is well known as a conservative, he is also a supporter of Scituate schools. The position of the school committee is to be an advocate of the schools.

Mrs. Guglielmi asked when the committee will be able to approve a budget prior to the annual

meeting.

Although Dr. Lescault will be away in the upcoming week, Dr. Lescault will be available via phone to the Budget committee as well as school committee. However, what has been done typically is the committee meets prior to the April Financial Town Meeting and adopts the changes. The committee also can schedule an emergency meeting prior to April 5.

Mrs. Guglielmi stated the committee has been reviewing the budget for several months so there will be some changes which need to be discussed. Mrs. Guglielmi asked the time of the meeting.

Dr. Lescault stated the April 5 school committee meeting will begin at 7 PM and the Financial Town Meeting will begin at 8 PM. Dr. Lescault stated there really isn't anything left to cut at this point. If the committee ultimately agrees to cut \$173,000, it will have to come out of teacher's salaries; perhaps there will be some retirements and lower step teachers can be brought in. We'll need to wait to see what the bottom line is. Items such as utilities, insurance, and oil cannot be cut.

As a former teacher and as a current school committee member, Mrs. Guglielmi has tried to maintain a balance of not only having good education with good teachers but also ensuring the townspeople can afford it. Mrs. Guglielmi also is concerned about nationwide feeling of teachers as well as here in RI and when this will end.

Dr. Lescault is not suggesting eliminating a program. Dr. Lescault stated once we see the final number, hopefully we can backfill with some grant money and be okay. However, cuts cannot be taken from another line item.

Mrs. Guglielmi added there are so many unknowns such as Kindergarten registrations and assigned sections in high school, etc. Mrs. Guglielmi stated in the past Scituate has been able to balance the budget and bring most, if not all, of the (dismissed) teachers back.

Mr. LaPlante asked about Town Council's non-school budgetary issues.

Dr. Lescault stated that portion of the budget was not shared.

Mrs. Guglielmi stated the school department makes up approximately 80% of the town's budget.

Mr. LaPlante asked if other departments were being treated similarly. There should be equitable amount of cuts across the board.

Maureen Kennedy, member of the audience, stated not every (town) department experienced pay freeze as was initially agreed upon.

Mr. LaPlante stated the Scituate teachers stepped up.

Mrs. Guglielmi stated there are areas where things happen such as the unexpected amount of snow fall this year which may have increased the highway department budget.

UNIFORM CHART OF ACCOUNTS (UCOA)

RIDE will roll out the new UCOA to the RI Legislature on March 7. The UCOA project has been in the works for several years and when complete will provide unprecedented transparency of school district expenditures. It will allow anyone to compare expenditures for specific line items among districts. Superintendents were provided with a preview on February 11 of how their districts compare across the various expenditure/functions/subjects/objects to the state minimum, and maximum.

Dr. Lescault stated Scituate's expenditures look very good. Although Scituate may spend more per pupil on instruction, Scituate spends less on average in most other areas especially in Central Office and building administration costs.

TRANSPORTATION

Ray Blackmore has notified Dr. Lescault that he intends to retire at the end of this school year. The state has recently decided not to pursue a statewide contract for regular in-district

transportation. As a result, Mrs. Umbriano, Drs. Myers and Lescault met with representatives of S & C Collins Bus Company, Inc. on February 16 to discuss their interest in taking over the Blackmore portion of the bus contract.

Chair Umbriano added it was great Mr. Collins agreed to take on the additional routes because it will allow us to review the full district and plan routes more efficiently.

Mrs. Guglielmi asked if there was a state law which required bus owners to purchase a new bus every eight years.

Dr. Lescault replied no.

Chair Umbriano stated the costs for parts and repairs are very expensive. This allows Scituate to continue to provide the service students and parents have received.

Dr. Lescault stated the bus owners do not get rich on these contracts. Dr. Lescault added one should not jump to conclusions when reviewing the UCOA data as transportation is one of the new categories where Scituate looks slightly out of kilter. For a better analysis, one should compare Scituate against similar districts versus the state average. Scituate buses may need to drive a mile or two to pick up one child whereas Providence may pick up 20 children at one stop.

Chair Umbriano stated Scituate also has a very limited number of walkers whereas cities like Providence have a high percentage of walkers.

FOOD SERVICE

Dr. Lescault and Mrs. Umbriano met with Aramark on February 16 to review the year to date performance of the food service program (committee members received copies). The program is doing very well compared to last year. Revenues are up and costs are down. The YTD deficit through January was \$7,151 compared to \$18,058 last year. Dr. Lescault stated Scituate fully expects to meet goal of a breakeven program by the end of this school year.

WEST BAY COLLABORATIVE

Dr. Lescault has represented the Scituate schools on the West Bay Collaborative Board of Directors for about 17 years. The Legislature passed a law in the last session that allows school committees to appoint a school committee member instead of the Superintendent to this board. If the committee wants to make that change, Dr. Lescault will notify the WBC executive director. In any case, Dr. Lescault wants to make the committee aware that Dr. Lescault has some concerns about the long-term future of the collaborative and Scituate's participation in it. Tuitions are the primary source of revenue for the WBC. As finances get tighter, school districts are less likely to send students to the collaborative on a tuition basis. This has resulted in a projected deficit for WBC for the current year. This is not an immediate problem as the Collaborative has a significant fund balance to offset the deficit, but in the long-term it could be a problem.

COMMISSIONER VISIT

Commissioner Gist plans to visit Scituate on Thursday March 24 from 2:00–8:00 PM. From 2:00–3:00 PM she will visit an elementary classroom at the Clayville School. From 3:30 – 4:30 PM she will meet at the high school with interested teachers from the entire district. From 4:30–6:30 PM she will meet with the school committee and school administrators. She will meet with members of the community from 6:30–8:00 PM. (Times and locations subject to change)

MONTHLY ACTIVITIES

Committee members received copies of monthly activities for the month of February.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

79-13
Ellen Kenner 222 William Henry Road

Referencing a previous meeting, Dr. Kenner stated disbelief in hearing teachers did not have the autonomy they desired due to the number of state mandates. If there are teachers are producing such great scores, can anyone challenge the premise of Race to the Top and say 'no thank you.' Scituate teachers may not need this RTTP training.

Mr. LaPlante stated Dr. Filippelli is handling this delicately and respectfully. Ultimately, Scituate will not sacrifice what it does well but the committee will continue to monitor and analyze.

Dr. Kenner stated Scituate should be followed as a role model. Dr. Kenner recalled having great teachers who were afforded a lot of autonomy as a child and Dr. Kenner received a wonderful education.

Dr. Lescault does not disagree; however Scituate is receiving state money for work which needs to be completed regardless of RTTP.

Dr. Kenner stated the money is ultimately coming from the pockets of our children. State money is taxpayer money and it's coming from the next generation.

Dr. Lescault stated if Scituate does not use this money, it gets redistributed to other districts.

Dr. Kenner stated school administration needs to challenge redistribution of funds.

Chair Umbriano stated Coventry did not wish to join RTTP but had to in the end.

Dr. Filippelli stated Chariho initially did not wish to join however did jump on board eventually. Initially when RTTP was announced for example, Drs. Lescault and Filippelli reviewed the document and were interested in some of the pieces; however, it was later indicated by RIDE that it was all or nothing (minus inner city components which were not applicable to some towns).

Dr. Kenner stated their premises needs to be questioned.

Dr. Filippelli stated Scituate will complete the RTTT work as far as the funds allocated by RIDE will allow.

Maureen Kennedy 10 North Doctors Way

Ms. Kennedy asked when PARCC (Assessment) will go into effect.

Dr. Filippelli replied 2014.

Ms. Kennedy stated that will align with the Common Core Standards for which a meeting has not been established and teachers need to be trained.

Dr. Kenner likes the idea of groups of children walking to a particular bus stop versus stopping at every house.

Chair Umbriano stated sometimes the routes start with groups of children at a bus stop. However, parents often complain about the safety of walking to a bus stop.

Mrs. Guglielmi stated Scituate has many areas where there are no sidewalks so it becomes a safety issue. It could be done on main streets.

Dr. Kenner stated as a child, most students walked to school and back. It seems now schools are coddling students.

Chair Umbriano stated this coming school year, there will be only one bus company which will allow us, along with Mr. Collins, to review bus routes for district.

Referring to RTTP and the new teacher-mentor model, Ms. Kennedy reviewed the document and based on the time limits, etc. set forth per teacher, it would take six full-time weeks of an administrator's time to evaluate at the middle school level. It will be impossible for administrators to adhere to these guidelines with the amount of paperwork and manpower required. A lot of these mandates are unrealistic and only \$4,000 has been allocated for evaluation. Money is needed to

support all of these mandates.

Dr. Filippelli stated the final version may become something different. Dr. Filippelli has discussed the evaluation piece with Ruth Trainor and also with RIDE. If a district is currently under a contract, the new evaluation piece would need to become part of contract. (Scituate's teachers' contracts do not expire until 2013.) Dr. Filippelli stated there are some really good pieces within the evaluation portion. One thought is to pilot the evaluation to determine success rather than implementing fully or falling behind.

Ms. Kennedy stated when budget time rolls around, it always comes down to the teachers' salaries which make up 80% of the school budget. Scituate is being burdened in other ways within the district. Ms. Kennedy does not believe the public understands the pressures put upon the system and those negative feelings always seem to be directed at teachers. Even with all of these added mandates and requirements, Scituate students continue to be successful and scores continue to increase. Ms. Kennedy added her children also have benefitted greatly from the Scituate school system. It's a shame everything else gets thrown at the teachers when the teachers here work so hard and so well together.

George Kuzmowycz Esek Hopkins Road

Referring to Ms. Kennedy's statements, Mr. Kuzmowycz stated uncertainty as to whether he was responding to Ms. Kennedy as taxpayer, parent, teacher or STA representative. Mr. Kuzmowycz was struck by 'crocodile tears' and burdens of teacher evaluations when the STA nearly unanimously rejected the evaluations for approximately two years.

Ms. Kennedy interjected stating it is the time, effort and money put into this that is ridiculous.

Mr. Kuzmowycz stated there was an opportunity to have input into the process and then STA unanimously rejected process.

Mr. Kuzmowycz asked for a copy of the NECAP analysis. Chair Umbriano provided a copy at the meeting.

Mr. Kuzmowycz stated the issue has been raised several times in past times but Mr. Kuzmowycz urged the school committee to schedule an open meeting prior to Town Financial Meeting to vote on the budget which will be presented. Mr. Kuzmowycz acknowledges the committee is unable to act on the budget tonight, but urged the committee to respect the public and the open meetings law.

Mr. LaPlante stated the meeting will be open to the public at 7 PM.

Mr. Kuzmowycz stated it is insufficient amount of time for the public to review and to provide comment on the budget before it is presented. Adequate time should be provided for public comment.

Referring to the second reading of the breathalyzer policy, Mr. Kuzmowycz stated he reviewed this proposed policy with his son who graduated from high school recently. Mstr. Kuzmowycz asked 'why a breathalyzer was needed; finding a drunken high school is the easiest thing in the world because they do not know how to drink.' Mr. Kuzmowycz wonders where the end of the intrusion is within the lives of the students. Mr. Kuzmowycz stated it is a school event and understands the committee believes a student (under the influence) could become a danger and the committee is trying to prevent an incident. However, the use of steroids is dangerous to students and to those around him/her and yet it is common in sports. Will the committee consider administering urine tests on the football team? The committee may have right to warrant searches in lockers and student property while on school property and there are policies which determine how students use modern means of communication. In some cases, administration has disciplined students for actions taken outside of school property and not during school hours. The school has some control over what students can read and write while in school. Mr. Kuzmowycz stated having a hard time distinguishing where the line is drawn. When is it enough?

Jimmy Scacco 19 Crestview Drive

Mstr. Scacco, a student member of SADD, understands Mr. Kuzmowycz concerns but explained the breathalyzers are for the school and it is not always recognizable when a student is under the influence. What if that student then drives away from dance and causes an accident? That is something which could have been prevented had the student been given a breathalyzer test.

Mr. LaPlante stated Mr. Kuzmowycz's comments were insightful and Mr. LaPlante understands his viewpoint but what comforts the committee is the reasonable suspicion. Students will not be lined up and asked to take a breathalyzer test prior to entering a dance. If a student is acting inappropriately, for example, it allows administrators to pull student aside and confirm if student is under the influence.

Chair Umbriano stated the SADD students are the ones who requested the breathalyzer policy. The students felt it provides all students the opportunity to use this as a means of saying no when being pressured to drink. Chair Umbriano explained there was a past incident where students filled water and Gatorade bottles with alcohol. With this policy, students can say they do not want to be pulled out of line and tested and then face ramifications such as missing prom or graduation, etc. Chair Umbriano understands Mr. Kuzmowycz's viewpoint but stated this is a safety issue as well.

Mrs. Guglielmi is comfortable with the language of the policy (Mrs. Guglielmi read from policy). Mrs. Guglielmi stated when students are on school property and if found under the influence, administrators need to react to that. The policy also stated the school 'reserves the right' to administer breathalyzer tests (while on school property) if there is reasonable suspicion. Mrs. Guglielmi also understands Mr. Kuzmowycz's viewpoint but with the way society is, Mrs. Guglielmi feels the school has an obligation to have protection in place if needed.

Mr. Kuzmowycz stated Exeter-West Greenwich has a policy where students line up and take a breathalyzer test. This (Scituate's) policy makes that next step much easier.

Chair Umbriano added the SPC donated the breathalyzer.

Mr. Kuzmowycz asked what happens if it breaks.

Chair Umbriano replied SPC will replace it.

Diane Scacco 19 Crestview Drive

Ms. Scacco understands Mr. Kuzmowycz viewpoint but as Vice Chair of SPC, a parent and teacher, Ms. Scacco stated the mission statement includes supporting the whole person, mentally, physically and socially. It is our responsibility to help guide these children and to help them make the right decisions. If a student tests positive, the school has the ability to get them help if needed to help them make better choices. Ms. Scacco supports this policy and added the worst thing that could happen is to have to attend a funeral for one of our students.

Chair Umbriano stated sometimes events are cancelled or shut down due to such activities. This is also a way to prevent that from happening.

Ms. Kennedy wished to state she found the comment about 'crocodile tears' made earlier by Mr. Kuzmowycz to be offensive. Ms. Kennedy stated she does not feel she is at this meeting representing anyone (STA, teacher, etc.); Ms. Kennedy is here as a member of the school community. Ms. Kennedy wished to clarify her statement regarding teacher evaluations; what has happened in the past does not matter. Currently, there is a new evaluation system being put into place which everyone will need to follow. Ms. Kennedy has no issue with the evaluation and welcomes the evaluation (as a teacher). What Ms. Kennedy disagrees with is the amount of time and money it is going to cost Scituate to adhere to these requirements. The evaluations are only

one of the many mandates coming down the pike. The amount of money allocated is not enough to cover the costs needed to implement these programs which are taxing on the whole community. Scituate is such a great community.

Harris Kenner 222 William Henry Road

Regarding senior projects, Mr. Kenner stated there is a US scholarship contest (up to \$10,000) run by Ayn Rand Institute which is the largest within the country both for number of entries as well as for monetary awards. Mr. Kenner does not recall anyone from Scituate entering the contest. Students can submit entries based on one of the three books: Anthem, The Fountainhead (high school level), or Atlas Shrugged (advanced high school level). Books are provided free to teachers. For additional information: www.aynrand.org.

NEW BUSINESS

79-14

1. **SECOND READING – BREATHALYZER POLICY**

See Superintendent's Report for detail on this item.

Recommendation: Accept the second reading and adopt the policy.

Mr. LaPlante moved, seconded by Dr. Klimaj to accept the second reading and adopt the policy. The committee unanimously approved motion.

2. **2011-2012 PUPIL SCHOOL CALENDAR**

See Superintendent's Report for detail on this item.

Recommendation: Adopt the calendar.

Mr. LaPlante moved, seconded by Mrs. Delmonico to adopt the policy. The committee unanimously approved motion.

**RESIGNATIONS/
APPOINTMENTS/
REAPPOINTMENTS/
TRANSFERS/NON-
RENEWALS/LAYOFFS**

79-15

Dr. Lescault recommended the following resignation for approval:

Sarah Duncan, School Psychologist, effective March 1, 2011; Lisa M. Leyden, Teacher Assistant, Scituate Middle/High School, effective February 17, 2011; Bill Lynch, Middle School Baseball Coach, at the conclusion of the 2010 season

Mr. LaPlante moved, seconded by Mrs. Guglielmi to approve the resignations. The committee unanimously agreed.

Dr. Lescault recommended the following appointments for approval:

Nancy Zito, Spring Session Extended Day Teacher, Hope School, for the 2010-2011 school year, effective February 28, 2011; Lisa Hughes, Spring Session Extended Day Teacher, Hope School, for the 2010-2011 school year, effective February 28, 2011; Marisa Gauvin, Spring Session Extended Day Teacher, Hope School, for the 2010-2011 school year, effective February 28, 2011; Nicholas Bousquet, Homework Club Advisor, Scituate High School; Kathleen McCarvill, part-time (19.5 hours/week) Teacher Assistant, North Scituate School (Monday, Tuesday, Friday – 8:15 AM-3:15 PM) for the balance of the current school year; Donna Lomastro, part-time (17 hours/week) Teacher Assistant, Scituate Middle School (Wednesday-10:30 AM-2:30 PM; Thursday and Friday – 7:30 AM-2:30 PM); Robin Quinn, part-time (17 hours/week) Teacher Assistant, Scituate Middle School (Wednesday-10:30 AM-2:30 PM, Thursday and Friday-7:30 AM-2:30PM)

Mr. LaPlante moved, seconded by Dr. Klimaj to approve the appointments. The committee unanimously agreed.

Dr. Lescault recommended the following termination for approval:

Dawn Hartman, Teacher Assistant, Scituate Middle/High School

Mr. LaPlante moved, seconded by Mrs. Delmonico to approve the termination. The committee unanimously agreed.

Dr. Lescault recommended the following rescission of non-renewals:
Kristen Archambault, Foreign Language Teacher, Scituate Middle/High School

Mr. LaPlante moved, seconded by Dr. Klimaj to approve the rescission of non-renewal. The committee unanimously agreed.

79-16
COMMITTEE REMARKS

MRS. DELMONICO

Mrs. Delmonico stated nothing to report.

MRS. GUGLIELMI

Mrs. Guglielmi stated senior projects will be judged on May 26 and anyone interested in becoming a judge should get in touch with Jill Morton for information. The senior projects are judged by community and always are wonderful.

Mrs. Guglielmi was asked by the Boosters Club to support a fundraiser being held on behalf of the cheerleaders. (Mrs. Guglielmi added teams are not allowed to fundraise on own; all fundraising is done via the Boosters Club.)

Ms. Scacco stated it is very difficult to obtain funding; often grant money is needed to help offset costs.

Chair Umbriano stated one parent wanted to purchase jackets for a team but was told they couldn't.

Ms. Kennedy stated each team must request funds from the Boosters Club which in turn distributes money among teams.

Ms. Scacco stated if a grant specifies a specific need, in that case, funds can go directly to one team.

DR. KLIMAJ

Dr. Klimaj stated nothing to report.

MR. LAPLANTE

Mr. LaPlante stated nothing to report.

CHAIR UMBRIANO

Chair Umbriano asked if something could be sent to Principal Sollitto for all of his hard work on the Credit Recovery Program.

Dr. Lescault will handle.

Chair Umbriano will try to get another grant for that program this year as well.

Dr. Filippelli added Principal Sollitto is doing his dissertation on the Credit Recovery Program.

DISCUSSION OF
FUTURE BUSINESS

79-17
April 5 Town Financial Meeting
May 3 School Committee Meeting
June 7 School Committee Meeting

ADJOURNMENT

79-18
Mr. LaPlante moved, seconded by Dr. Klimaj to adjourn meeting at 8:45 PM. The Committee unanimously approved the motion.
Respectfully submitted,

Mrs. Guglielmi, Clerk