

**SCITUATE SCHOOL COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, MAY 1, 2012
TOWN HALL CHAMBERS**

CALL TO ORDER

101-1

The School Committee Meeting was called to order by Chair Umbriano at 6:12 PM.

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 7:05 PM.

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

Not present was Lillian Jean Delmonico.

Chair Umbriano stated motion was made and approved to direct Steve Gormley, Director of Buildings and Grounds, to issue RFP on a schedule to be determined during Executive Session RIGL 42-46-5(a) 2.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

101-2

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

101-3

Mrs. Guglielmi moved, seconded by Dr. Klimaj, to approve the minutes of the Executive Session of March 13, 2012.

Mrs. Guglielmi moved, seconded by Dr. Klimaj, to approve the minutes of the Regular Session of March 13, 2012.

Mrs. Guglielmi moved, seconded by Dr. Klimaj, to approve the minutes of the Special Executive Session of March 27, 2012.

CAPITAL RESERVE FUND

101-4

Mrs. Guglielmi moved, seconded by Dr. Klimaj, to approve the Capital Reserve Funds – School Improvements for the month of April (2011-2012) in the amount of \$2,011.95. The Committee unanimously agreed.

Mrs. Guglielmi move, seconded by Dr. Klimaj, to approve the Capital Reserve Funds – School Improvements for the month of May (2011-2012) in the amount of \$770.00. The Committee unanimously agreed.

Mrs. Guglielmi moved, seconded by Dr. Klimaj, to approve the Capital Reserve Funds – School Improvements for the month of May (2012-2013) in the amount of \$64.95. The Committee unanimously agreed.

GENERAL FUND

101-5

Mrs. Guglielmi moved, seconded by Dr. Klimaj, to approve The General Fund for month of April (2011-2012) in the amount of \$230,377.99. The Committee unanimously approved motion.

Mrs. Guglielmi moved, seconded by Dr. Klimaj, to approve The General Fund for month of April (2012-2013) in the amount of \$375,591.31. The Committee unanimously approved motion.

Mrs. Guglielmi moved, seconded by Dr. Klimaj, to approve The General Fund for month of May (2011-2012) in the amount of \$290,148.61. The Committee unanimously approved motion.

Mrs. Guglielmi moved, seconded by Dr. Klimaj, to approve The General Fund for month of May (2012-2013) in the amount of \$399,553.39. The Committee unanimously approved motion.

GRANT BILLS

101-6

Mrs. Guglielmi moved, seconded by Dr. Klimaj, to approve Grant Bills for month of April in the amount of \$33,883.57. The Committee unanimously approved motion.

Mrs. Guglielmi moved, seconded by Dr. Klimaj, to approve Grant Bills for month of May in the amount of \$159,038.19. The Committee unanimously approved motion.

CORRESPONDENCE

101-7

1. A letter to Dr. Lescault from Deborah Ratcliffe announcing her retirement effective June 30, 2012.
2. A letter to the school committee from Ann Battey requesting her 10 days short term sick leave and her 3 day family leave be added to her long term sick leave total.

101-8

1. Recommendation: Accept resignation, with regret.

Dr. Klimaj moved, seconded by Mr. LaPlante to accept the resignation with regret. The committee unanimously approved the motion.

2. Recommendation: Approve the request.

Dr. Lescault stated Ms. Battey was involved in a car accident and has been out for most of the school year and consistent with what has been done with other members of the STA, is when they run out of sick leave time, they petition the school committee use of their 10 short-term sick days as well. Dr. Lescault stated Ms. Battey is also requesting family sick leave.

Mrs. Guglielmi asked if this has been done before.

Dr. Lescault stated short-term days have been approved by the committee but was uncertain if family leave was ever considered previously. Dr. Lescault stated it is possible for the committee to approve one and not the other.

Chair Umbriano believes that one cannot take family leave for oneself.

Mrs. Guglielmi also does not believe the leave was intended to be used for oneself.

Mrs. Guglielmi moved, seconded by Dr. Klimaj, to approve request for 10 short-term sick leave. The committee unanimously approved the request.

101-9

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE LIAISONS

BUDGET

Mr. LaPlante stated nothing to report.

CURRICULUM	Dr. Klimaj stated nothing to report.
FOOD SERVICES AND HEALTH/WELNNESS	<p>Chair Umbriano stated food services are doing well.</p> <p>Chair Umbriano stated a meeting for Health and Wellness will be scheduled for later this month.</p>
NEGOTIATIONS	<p>Mr. LaPlante stated negotiations are progressing with the education support personnel and negotiations with paraprofessionals will begin soon. As negotiations are confidential, there is not much to report at this time.</p> <p>A great effort has been expended by all involved (Ed Myers, Marylou Umbriano, June Guglielmi, and Brian LaPlante). Closure is expected by June (school committee) meeting.</p>
POLICY	Dr. Klimaj stated the first reading of the statewide bullying policy will be read under New Business.
RIASC	Dr. Klimaj stated nothing to report.
SAFETY AND TRANSPORTATION	Chair Umbriano stated there have been no complaints regarding the new buses; everything has been running smoothly.
SPECIAL EDUCATION	Mrs. Delmonico stated nothing to report.
SCHOLARSHIP FUND	Mrs. Guglielmi stated the committee will be awarding scholarships soon. There is one scholarship in the amount of \$5,000 and one scholarship committee member wants to make a provision that if this scholarship is awarded, the winning student would not be eligible for another scholarship. However, Mrs. Guglielmi points out that while this may be fine for a local community college, if the student attends a larger university with a much higher tuition rate, the student clearly would need additional funding. Mrs. Guglielmi stated the committee hopes to come to resolution soon.
STRATEGIC PLANNING	Mrs. Guglielmi stated at the last meeting, the strategic plan was brought up to date and the committee added the new state bullying policy. Mrs. Guglielmi stated it makes such a difference when the committee meets now simply to review the strategic plan when everything is fresh in one's mind rather than waiting two years to reconstruct.
SCITUATE PREVENTION PARTNERSHIP	<p>Chair Umbriano stated the Task Force Coordinator of SPP is Marie Walden; Chair Umbriano is President and Diane Scacco is Vice President. The committee has scheduled a mock crash at 6:30 PM in May at the high school. Two cars will be brought in for the crash and a drill was held last evening.</p> <p>Incentives will be offered to students such as 2 sets of prom tickets for the junior and senior proms, gas cards, etc.</p> <p>Chair Umbriano stated if the weather cooperates, Lifelight will come as well.</p> <p>Chair Umbriano hopes this will have an impact in preventing students from drinking and driving. Attendance will be mandatory for all students attending the prom. If a student has an emergency, those students will be able to view the mock crash on video at later date. Also, 6th grade students write letters to the high school students asking them not to drink and drive.</p> <p>Diane Scacco (Crestview Drive, Scituate), Vice President of SPP added that Scituate is the first community to produce a 'mocktail' booklet for students and that Scituate ranked</p>

number 2 among 25 towns which participated.

Chair Umbriano added Erica McCormack is a volunteer leader and does an outstanding job.

Chair Umbriano received several calls regarding scheduling and availability of practice field for middle school and high school baseball. Chair Umbriano explained that years ago, sometimes there would be more than 25 kids who would be on the varsity baseball team in the middle school and high school. Due to the high number of students, not every child would have the opportunity to play so a junior varsity was established. The junior varsity runs only if there is a demand and is run on a volunteer basis. This year, for instance, the junior varsity team is being run by Mr. Brown and an assistant and all games are held at Manning Field as there are no bussing costs.

When there are multiple games for middle school and high school and junior varsity, there is a scheduling issue. Chair Umbriano stated all teams need to work together to establish adequate time to practice on the field.

Chair Umbriano stated the committee suggested to one group to use the practice field (behind Caito Field). It was brought to the committee's attention glass and rocks need to be removed from field which Dr. Lescault is looking into currently. As Chair Umbriano stated to attendees, there always has been an issue with the playing fields in Scituate. This was the reason the original plan for the addition at the middle school and high school included new athletics fields. However, after being put to vote three times, taxpayers continued to vote against the fields. The revised plan which eliminated the fields was finally passed on the third try and because the plan was delayed three years, the cost for the abbreviated project at Year 3 totaled almost what the full Year 1 plan would have included as costs for materials including copper, steel, etc. increased so much.

After discussions with Mr. Ryan, Mr. Brown and Dr. Lescault, Chair Umbriano stated the only solution, if scheduling continues to be an issue, is to eliminate the junior varsity team. One suggestion was they could consider having two teams play together.

Mr. LaPlante also investigated the practice field and agreed the field is not safe; the field does have glass and rocks but also the field is utilized by many different groups so it is in very poor condition. Scituate always has had a field shortage issue but hopefully some solutions will come to light soon.

Chair Umbriano mentioned Doctor's Field but stated it is difficult to drive cars down the narrow path and it is also in poor condition. Teenagers also like to drive down and drive on the field leaving behind tire marks.

Mr. LaPlante also looked at Doctor's Field and wondered if it is a constant issue.

Ms. Kennedy (North Doctor's Way) stated it is a constant issue as she lives right there.

Mr. LaPlante stated the other issue is transportation regarding proximity to school. This may be a town-wide solution but not school-wide solution. Doctor's Field is now town owned as well.

Chair Umbriano stated there are no buses which bus hockey players (Grades 9-12) to games; it is the responsibility of the parents. Chair Umbriano stated if middle school continued to practice at Manning Field it should not be a problem. The bus drivers do not mind driving the students there and dropping them off at the end of the field. Parents have been driving their kids there for years.

Mr. LaPlante stated Caito Field abuts the high school and it is a complete underutilization of space and overused. This is an item which needs to be addressed long-term. The other targets for the school and for the town are the soccer fields. Tasca Field is a beautiful facility and well-maintained for its purpose.

Ms. Scacco stated there is a misconception that the town is responsible for cutting the grass and maintaining fields when in fact, the soccer association cuts grass and pays for upkeep through grants. The ultimate goal is to host tournaments, etc.

Chair Umbriano stated when Gorham Field was being used; no one was seeking grant funds like soccer association did. There are no sewers etc. because they simply did not plan for future years. It becomes a bigger issue once you see your own children growing up and using these fields.

Diane Scacco (Crestview Drive) stated one of the wonderful things she has found within the school is sharing. Ms. Scacco provided an example of the middle school cheerleaders who, due to gym space constraints, utilized space within the cafeteria to practice. Even without use of gym and the inconvenience of traveling back to the school for practices, the girls still secured cheerleading championship. Ms. Scacco rotated time schedule does work.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

101-10

There is no unfinished business for the month of May.

101-11

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

K-5 READING PROGRAM

The district reading committee met with the consultants from Dunn Highlander on 4/26. The purpose of this meeting was to look at district reading data to assess where Scituate is currently in regards to district reading program and where Scituate wants to be. There is no question that the current reading programs are working well in the district as evidenced by test scores district-wide. However, the focus for the last three years in regards to curriculum has centered around math, science and writing. It is time for that work to come full circle and take another look at the reading programs. The information from the meeting will help guide professional development activities for the 2012-2013 academic year.

Mr. LaPlante stated there has to be some spill over into other subjects like math and science when core reading skills are improved.

Dr. Filippelli stated the focus for so many years was reading as it needed to be but then other subjects fell behind so efforts transitioned to those areas. Dr. Filippelli stated reading is not fragmented but there should be one solid reading program across board and it needs to be done carefully.

DISTRICT STRATEGIC PLANNING PROCESS

The district strategic planning process was completed on 4/27. Members of the committee met to discuss planning goals for next year. Clearly the components of the commissioner's vision on Race to The Top were a large component of our planning process. Additionally, districts were asked to add in the new statewide bullying policy as part of their yearly strategic plan update. Copies of the district strategic plan are available by either hard copy or email.

Dr. Filippelli stated there was some discussion on whether strategic planning meetings should be held on bi-annual process instead.

Mrs. Guglielmi believes keeping the strategic plan current when information is fresh is much easier than waiting for two years to do so.

**RI MODEL TEACHER
EVALUATION
LANGUAGE**

For the last few months, the STA and district administration have been working on common language to address the RI Model of teacher evaluation. (Committee members received copies the language that administration and the STA have agreed to for the 2011-2012 year only.) Both the STA and administration agreed to meet next year to talk about any modifications that need to be made to the document as changes in the evaluation system are made by RIDE.

**CONSOLIDATED
RESOURCE PLANNING**

Dr. Filippelli will soon be undertaking the task of completing the district CRP plan. This plan incorporates the planning and dissemination of Title I and Title II federal grants. RIDE is rolling out the CRP training meeting this year differently than in the past. A webinar instead of a face to face meeting is being held. Dr. Filippelli will update the committee at the June meeting on the progress and planning of the CRP.

MONTHLY ACTIVITIES

Dr. Filippelli provided committee members with a copy of activities for March and April.

**101-12
SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

**RHODE ISLAND
STATEWIDE BULLYING
POLICY**

Dr. Lescault informed the committee in his April 18 email, each School Committee must adopt the "Rhode Island Statewide Bullying Policy" before it becomes effective on June 30, 2012. (Committee members received copies of the policy.) It is listed under New Business for a first reading.

**PRINCIPAL'S
EVALUATION**

Drs. Lescault and Filippelli are working together to evaluate the principals. As required by RIDE, they have recently met with each principal to review progress to date and to establish clear mutual expectations for the final review in June. At that point Drs. Lescault and Filippelli will once again meet with each principal to discuss the evidence submitted to substantiate their self assessment on each of the Professional Practice and Responsibility Domains and the Student Learning Objectives. Drs. Lescault and Filippelli will agree on a final summary score which must be submitted to RIDE. Possible scores are: 4- Exemplary, 3- Proficient, 2- Emerging, 1- Unsatisfactory.

Mr. LaPlante asked who would be evaluating which principals.

Dr. Lescault stated both Drs. Lescault and Filippelli are conducting evaluations together. The final process will be principals' providing documentation with Drs. Lescault and Filippelli agreeing or disagreeing.

Dr. Filippelli stated Drs. Lescault and Filippelli also will attend two-day training over the summer to include further instruction on SLOs.

Dr. Lescault stated process changes fairly quickly and it is a big process.

**2012-2013 SECONDARY
COURSES**

Drs. Lescault and Filippelli met with Principal Sollitto and Guidance Director Michelle Kelley to review student course sign-ups/requests for 2012-2013. All did best to balance student requests with available staff and implemented efficiencies wherever possible. Despite a projected increase of 50 students in the High School next year, all agreed on a program that will not require any increase in staff.

**KINDERGARTEN
SECTIONS FOR 2012-
2013**

Based on 95 students registering for kindergarten (up from 80 in 2011-2012), Scituate will need to run five kindergarten sessions next year, instead of the four currently in place. Eight additional students are eligible to attend kindergarten, but at this point plan to attend various private kindergartens. The breakdown of the 95 students is: Clayville 25 – 1 session, Hope 32 – 2 sessions, North Scituate 38 – 2 sessions. At Clayville the

committee needs to selectively redistrict four or five students to Hope. Letters to the parents of these students were sent out last week. As in the past, Drs. Lescault and Filippelli have been careful to avoid splitting siblings and to identify students who live in transportation “cross-over” areas. However, the committee can reasonably expect some push-back from parents.

MONTHLY ACTIVITIES

Dr. Lescault provided committee members with a copy of activities for March and April.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

101-13

Ms. Kennedy North Doctor’s Way

Ms. Kennedy stated Doctor’s Field will be a challenge for any school use because all of the residents on North Doctor’s Way own all of the rights to the right of ways along the road. There are also issues with fencing, etc. due to deeds. It is also difficult for buses to drive down. Ms. Kennedy stated the field is name Doctor’s Field because originally it was owned by several doctors and now that is owned by residents, everything is overlapping.

Mr. LaPlante asked how the town acquired rights.

Ms. Kennedy stated residents pay \$1 per year and the town is responsible for upkeep of the field and has the right to use the field.

Diane Scacco (Crestview Drive)

Ms. Scacco stated the town allowed the soccer association to use Doctor’s Field while Tasca Field was being renovated and it was a nightmare due to the issues Ms. Kennedy described. Ms. Scacco stated there was constantly mud, parking was limited and even then, it was difficult.

Ms. Kennedy stated parking often ends on someone’s property.

Chair Umbriano stated the varsity team cannot play on Gorham Field because it is a little league field.

There was brief discussion of various town groups that played recreational baseball/softball on the fields occasionally; very light use.

Chair Umbriano stated behind Gorham Field and the tennis courts is approximately 20+ acres of land which was to be donated to town for athletic fields. However, the land was land-locked and crossed Route 6 so a road was not able to be brought into facility.

Mr. LaPlante stated that is one area Mr. LaPlante was thinking of as his family owns that land. There is an access issue.

Ms. Kennedy stated there are walking paths surrounding the land (owned by Audubon Society).

Regarding SPP, Ms. Scacco stated there is a letter which is being submitted to parents of all juniors and seniors explaining dos and don’ts, etc. There also will be a nurse in attendance who will discuss alcohol poisoning and medical ramifications of drinking.

NEW BUSINESS

101-14

1. FIRST READING OF RIDE Safe School Act Statewide Bullying Policy

See Superintendent's Report for detail on this item.

Recommendation: Approve first reading of policy and schedule a second reading at the June School Committee meeting.

Dr. Klimaj moved, seconded by Mrs. Guglielmi, to approve first reading of the RIDE Safe School Act Statewide Bullying Policy. The committee unanimously approved motion.

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

101-15

Dr. Lescault recommended the following appointments for approval:

Marissa Gauvin; Extended Day Teacher, Hope Elementary School, effective March 19; Lisa Hughes; Extended Day Teacher, Hope Elementary School, effective March 19; Nancy Zito; Extended Day Teacher, Hope Elementary School, effective March 19; Jane Fish; High School Boys Assistant Volleyball Coach; Tim Heston; Volunteer Middle School Baseball Coach; Dennis Ballou; High School Drama Director

Mr. LaPlante moved, seconded by Dr. Klimaj to approve appointments as set forth on the appointment list. The committee unanimously agreed.

Dr. Lescault recommended the following resignations for approval:
Carlo Catucci; High School Drama Director; Brittany Emin; Middle School Girls Soccer Head Coach

Mr. LaPlante moved, seconded by Dr. Klimaj to approve resignations as set forth. The committee unanimously agreed.

101-16

COMMITTEE REMARKS

MRS. DELMONICO

Mrs. Delmonico stated nothing to report.

MRS. GUGLIELMI

Mrs. Guglielmi stated Mr. Sweet's report indicates that Spartan Leadership Academy will be held on May 22.

Chair Umbriano added SPP donated \$500 for the event to cover costs of meals.

Mrs. Guglielmi added both Honor Society recognition (May 15 from 6-8:30) and senior projects (May 24 from 3-5 and 6-8:30) are coming up soon as well.

Dr. Filippelli stated the middle school Honor Society recognition is being held on May 16.

Mrs. Guglielmi added the Top Ten Seniors Breakfast is being held on June 1.

Ms. Scacco stated she was impressed with the middle school honor awards; the certificates are beautiful and it is wonderful to see that their achievements are being celebrated.

Ms. Scacco stated Sparta has worked in conjunction with Mr. Zajac on something called SPARK awards (Safety - Personal Best - Achievement - Respect - Kindness). Principal Zajac will call up those students who have been nominated for an award by teachers and five students will receive an award for recognition of good behavior.

Ms. Kennedy added honors celebration is also used for reinforcement in classes.

DR. KLIMAJ

Dr. Klimaj participated as chaperone on the Grade 4 field trip at the state house where

Rep. Marcello met with the class as well.

Dr. Klimaj added this past weekend some of the students and teachers from Clayville participated in The Autism Walk at Goddard Park.

MR. LAPLANTE

Mr. LaPlante asked if there was going to be any recognition for the Clayville students who performed so well on NECAP testing.

Mr. LaPlante stated the students were pushed pre-test and now the students should be rewarded post-test. If the other students are aware these students are going to a party, it may have impact there as well.

Dr. Filippelli will look into doing something.

CHAIR UMBRIANO

Chair Umbriano stated both she and Mrs. Guglielmi participated as guest readers during Reading Week.

**DISCUSSION OF
FUTURE BUSINESS**

101-17

June 5 School Committee Meeting
July 17 School Committee Meeting
August 7 School Committee Meeting
September 4 School Committee Meeting
October 2 School Committee Meeting
November 13 School Committee Meeting
December 4 School Committee Meeting

ADJOURNMENT

101-18

Mr. LaPlante moved, seconded by Dr. Klimaj to adjourn meeting at 8:05 PM. The Committee unanimously approved the motion.

Respectfully submitted,

Mrs. Guglielmi, Clerk