

Reading Public Schools
Reading, Massachusetts

Regular Meeting of the School Committee
Executive Session

Date: September 26, 2011

Place: Superintendent's Conference Room

School Committee Members Present

Chuck Robinson
Lisa Gibbs
Karen Janowski
Hal Croft
David Michaud

Staff Members Present

John Doherty, Superintendent
Mary DeLai, Director of Finance and Operations
Patty deGaravilla, Assistant Superintendent

Guests

Ellen Doucette	Town Counsel	Corey Santasky, School Resource Officer
Jim Cormier	Police Chief	Detective Mark Segalla, Reading Police Department

I. Executive Session 7:34 p.m.

A. Call to Order

Chairperson Robinson called the Executive Session to order.

Litigation Update

Town Counsel Ellen Doucette was at the meeting to update the School Committee on the status of the RMHS Building Project litigation. She reviewed the Harleysville case and recommended that we explore settling with them. Mrs. Doucette feels that the Town should focus on the TLT case.

Mrs. Janowski moved, seconded by Mrs. Gibbs, to authorize up to \$100,000 for Bracket & Lucas to propose settling with Harleysville for amounts tied to specific items in question. The motion carried on a roll call vote 5-0. Mrs. Gibbs, Mrs. Janowski, Mr. Robinson, Mr. Michaud and Mr. Croft.

Mr. Michaud moved, seconded by Mrs. Gibbs to authorize up to \$20,000 for Brackett & Lucas to explore the related costs of going through the master process in settling the Harleysville case. This will only occur if a settlement cannot be reached. The motion carried on a roll call vote 5-0. Mrs. Gibbs, Mrs. Janowski, Mr. Robinson, Mr. Michaud and Mr. Croft.

Mrs. Doucette left the meeting at 8:12 p.m.

School Security and Safety

Chief Jim Cormier, SRO Santasky and Detective Segalla joined the meeting at 8:17 p.m.

Superintendent Doherty notified the School Committee of an evacuation drill of the Birch Meadow complex. SRO Santasky described the procedure for the evacuation to Camp Curtis Guild.

Dr. Doherty indicated that at the next RMHS lockdown drill, in accordance with the Search and Seizure Policy the School Committee approved last year, the police department will bring dogs in to do a sweep of public areas in the building. There will be no prior notice of the drill and parking lots may also be swept.

Chief Cormier outlined the procedure if the dogs discover illegal substances on campus.

Mrs. Janowski asked how many lockdowns were held per year. The answer was one.

Chief Cormier, SRO Santasky and Detective Segalla left the meeting at 8:31 p.m.

Random Drug Testing

This is a subject of executive session.

Approval of Minutes

Mrs. Janowski moved, seconded by Mrs. Gibbs, to approve the executive session minutes dated July 6, 2011. The motion carried on a roll call vote 5-0. Mrs. Gibbs, Mrs. Janowski, Mr. Robinson, Mr. Michaud and Mr. Croft.

II. Adjournment

Mr. Michaud moved, seconded by Mr. Croft, to adjourn. The motion carried on a roll call vote 5-0. Mrs. Gibbs, Mrs. Janowski, Mr. Robinson, Mr. Michaud and Mr. Croft.

Meeting adjourned at 8.36 p.m.

Approved 12.19.11

Released w/redactions 8.2.12

Released 01.05.17