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School Committee Minutes 10/27/2009

Approved by the Arlington School Committee November 24, 2009

**THE ARLINGTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2009
7:30 P.M.**

Present:
Joe Curran, Chair Denise Burns, Vice Chair
Joe Curro, Secretary Leba Heigham
Ronald Spangler Cindy Starks
Jeff Thielman

Interim Superintendent: Kathleen Bodie
Chief Financial Officer: Diane Johnson
Special Education Director: Mark Ryder
Student Representatives: Lindsay Diranian and Tori Hegarty

Excused Absence: Wallis Raemer, Interim Assistant Superintendent

Mark Ryder exited the meeting at 8:27 p.m. and returned at 8:30 p.m.
Mr. Ryder exited the meeting at 8:56 p.m.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr. Todd Sundstrom, 2nd Vice President AEA urged the School Committee members to move on and accept the decision of the arbiter in Mr. Chuck Coughlin's recently concluded arbitration.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

Mr. Mark Ryder, Director of Special Education, introduced Ms. Lori Villani and Mr. Michael Thurm from the Early Childhood Design Team, Ms. Jill Parkin from the Spectrum Design Team, Ms. Pat Mahoney, Ms. Deb D'Amico, Ms. Ethel Doyle and Ms. Mary Valdex for the Language-Based Design Team and Mr. Steven Orloff for the Therapeutic Design Team. Each design team articulated the team's plans and their end-of-year reports.

This was followed by discussion around professional development; how curriculum and standardized assessments will help measure the progress of each of the new programs; and other topics.

GROWTH MODEL PRESENTATION

Mr. Curro moved to table item three on the agenda: the Growth Model Presentation by Kathleen Bodie seconded by Mr. Thielman
Voted 7 - 0

BUDGET FIVE-YEAR PLANNING PRESENTATION

Ms. Diane Johnson, Chief Financial Officer, presented a multivariate five-year cost growth analysis. Committee members expressed their appreciation to Ms. Johnson and discussed her analysis and the ongoing budgeting process.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Curran requested to move agenda items for the purpose of entering into Executive Session to discuss recent and ongoing arbitrations, negotiations, and litigation.

Mr. Curro moved to table: agenda items 3 Growth Model Presentation, item 5 Presentation of District Goals 3 & 4, item 6 Consent Agenda, item 7 Superintendent's Report, item 8 Secretary's Report, item 9 Roundtable and agenda item 10 Vote for Approval, for the purpose of entering into Executive Session agenda item 11, at 8:56 p.m. to discuss negotiations and to strategize with respect to collective bargaining or litigation, noting that collective bargaining may be conducted. The motion was seconded Dr. Spangler.

Voted 6 - 1

Roll Call: Ms. Starks - Yes, Ms. Heigham - Yes, Dr. Spangler - Yes, Mr. Thielman - Yes, Mr. Curro - Yes, Ms. Burns - No, and Mr. Curran - Yes

Prior to the vote, Ms. Burns excused herself, in accordance with her previous statement that she will not go into Executive Sessions, due to trust issues with other committee members.

ITEMS TABLED

*Growth Model Presentation
Presentation of District Goals 3 & 4,
Consent Agenda
Superintendent's Report
Secretary's Report
Roundtable
Vote for Approval of meetings*

Returned to open session at 10:53 p.m.

Mr. Curro moved to remove all agenda items except items 6 Consent Agenda and 10 Vote for Approval from table, seconded by Dr. Spangler.

Voted 7 - 0

CONSENT AGENDA

***Approval of Warrant #10052 dated October 13, 2009 in the amount of \$ 290,406.80**

***Approval of Warrant # 10049 dated October 6, 2009 in the amount of \$331,436.85**

***Approval of Minutes: June 9, 2009, June 23, 2009, July 2, 2009 July 27, 2009 September 8, 2009 and September 22, 2009**

Second Reading and approval of the following policies:

IKB: HOMEWORK delete policy and replace

IKB: HOMEWORK - replace entire policy

IKE: PROMOTION AND RETENTION OF STUDENTS delete policy and replace

IKE: PROMOTION AND RETENTION OF STUDENTS replace entire policy

IKB-E: HOMEWORK PURPOSE, RESPONSIBILITIES AND GUIDELINES delete policy do not replace

IKF: GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS delete policy and replace

IKF: GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS replace entire policy

CHC/CHCA: ADMINISTRATIVE RULES DISSEMINATION/APPROVAL OF HANDBOOKS AND DIRECTIVES delete policy and replace

IHBAA: OBSERVATIONS OF SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS

KCBA: RESPONSE TO TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND ENERGY GENERATION PROPOSALS

Mr. Curro moved to approve Consent Agenda as read, seconded by Mr. Thielman.

Dr. Spangler moved to amend to pull Regular minutes from June 9, 2009, Ms. Burns moved to amend to pull Regular June 23, 2009 minutes and policy CHC/CHCA Administrative rules

Mr. Curro withdrew his motion.

Dr. Spangler moved the 11 o'clock rule to 11:10 p.m., seconded by Ms. Heigham.

Voted 7 - 0

Ms. Heigham moved to approve the consent agenda warrants and second readings except policy CHC/CHCA that is to be pulled, seconded by Mr. Thielman.

Voted 7 - 0

Mr. Curro moved to approve the Regular minutes of June 9, 2009, seconded by Ms. Starks.

Voted 6 - 0 - 1, Dr. Spangler abstained

Mr. Curro moved to approve the Regular minutes of June 23, 2009, seconded by Ms. Starks.

Ms. Burns moved to amend the motion to approve the video tape recording from ACMI into these minutes and to the record of June 23, 2009.

Mr. Curro withdrew his original motion.

Mr. Curro moved to approve the Regular minutes of June 23, 2009 and enter ACMI video recording of said session into the record, seconded by Ms. Burns

Voted 6 - 0 - 1, Mr. Thielman abstained

Mr. Curro moved to approve the Regular minutes of Thursday, July 2, 2009 and enter ACMI video tape recording of said session into the record, seconded by Ms. Heigham.

Voted 5 - 0 - 2, Mr. Thielman and Ms. Starks abstained

Mr. Curro moved to approve the Regular minutes of July 27, 2009 and enter ACMI video tape recording of said session into the record, seconded by Dr. Spangler.

Voted 6 - 0 - 1 Dr. Spangler abstained.

Mr. Curro moved to approve the Regular minutes of September 8, 2009 and enter ACMI video tape recording of said session into the record, seconded by Ms. Starks.

Voted 7 - 0

Mr. Curro moved to approve the Regular minutes of September 22, 2009 and enter ACMI video tape recording of said session into the record, seconded by Ms. Burns.

Voted 6-0-1, Mr. Curran abstained.

VOTE FOR APPROVAL

Ms. Burns moved to approve the Special School Committee Meeting for Tuesday, November 3, 2009 at 6:00 p.m., seconded by Mr. Curro.

Voted 7 - 0

Mr. Curro moved to approve the School Committee Public Visioning Session, Tuesday, December 1, 2009 from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at Arlington Town Hall., seconded by Mr. Thielman.

Voted 7 - 0

ADJOURNMENT

Dr. Spangler moved to adjourn at 11:05 p.m., seconded by Mr. Curro.

Voted 7 - 0.

*Respectfully submitted by
Karen M. Fitzgerald
Administrative Assistant
Arlington School Committee/jc*