

SCHOOL COMMITTEE

(Official Report)

Special Informal Meeting

Thursday, March 9, 2006

Called by Mayor Kenneth E. Reeves, in accordance with Chapter I, Section 3, of the Rules of the School Committee for 6:00 p.m., Hotel at MIT, Sidney's Board Room, 20 Sidney Street, for the purpose of a follow-up retreat with the Superintendent of Schools to continue discussions on team building, goals and objectives, and any other business that may properly come before the Committee.

Members Present: Mr. Fantini, Mr. Grassi, Mr. Harding, Ms. Nolan, Mr. Schuster, Ms. Walser,
Mayor Reeves

A quorum of the School Committee being present, the Chair convened the meeting at 6:45 p.m.

Also Present: Thomas Fowler-Finn, Superintendent
Carolyn Turk, Deputy Superintendent
Elizabeth Vizza, Facilitator

Ms. Vizza presented a proposed Agenda for the evening, including:

- Start Up
Desired Outcomes
Agenda Review
Exercise
- School Committee Working Relationships
Posting of Agenda Items
Open Meeting Law
Work Levels, Expectations
- Engaging Public/City Council Communication
Public Input
Roundtables
Lines of Communication Between the 3
- School Committee/Superintendent Working Relationship
Policy/Operations
Communication
Level of Information

Ms. Vizza facilitated discussions among the participants on the following:

- Desired Outcomes
- Ground rules
- Characteristics of a Good Team
- Summary of Characteristics – Honesty – Trust – Respect

- Working Relationships Within School Committee and With Superintendent

Politics

School Committee Relationships

Subcommittees

Need for Deliberation away from Cameras

Process/Timing of Superintendent Proposals/Information to School Committee

School Committee/Superintendent Relative Roles, Working Relationships

- Needs for School Committee/Superintendent Relationship
- Proposals for Improvement

On a motion by Ms. Nolan, seconded by Mr. Fantini, it was voted to suspend the Rules to continue the meeting past 10:00.

The participants shared their thoughts on the evening, and thanked Ms. Vizza.

On a motion by Mr. Fantini, seconded by Ms. Nolan, the meeting adjourned (10:25 p.m.)

Adjourned

Marilyn Y. Bradshaw

Executive Secretary to the School Committee