

**LEXINGTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING  
OPEN SESSION MINUTES  
Wednesday, April 6, 2015  
Lexington High School, Library Media Center  
251 Waltham Street**

**PRESENT:** Dr. Paul B. Ash, Superintendent; Jessie Steigerwald, Chair; Alessandro Alessandrini; Margaret Coppe; Judy Crocker.

**Absent:** Bill Hurley.

The Minutes were taken by Jessie Steigerwald.

6:00 Jessie Steigerwald called the School Committee to order and explained that the committee would participate in an Executive Session with the Board of Selectmen at approximately 6:15 p.m. She reported that Mr. Hurley had contacted her to say that he was delayed due to traffic on a return trip from Logan airport and that he would join the meeting as soon as possible. (Mr. Hurley did not arrive in time to participate in the open session or executive session. He arrived in time to participate in Town Meeting.)

Steigerwald announced that the committee was coordinating to move through the open session and executive session by 7:15 p.m. in order to be present during the Sharyn Wong-Chan/Sarah Harrington Diversity Award presentation.

**Public Comments:** There were no public comments.

**Superintendent Announcements:** There were no superintendent announcements.

**School Committee Member Announcements:**

Steigerwald reported on the meeting that took place the prior Thursday with Selectman Norman Cohen, Andy Beck (from School and Main Institute), and Manjula Karamcheti (LHS/K-12 Assistant Director of Guidance). Mr. Beck has experience helping communities build coalitions to support youth services. One idea that emerged from the meeting was to have the School Committee and Selectmen consider jointly hosting a mini-summit on youth to ask the question “What goals do we have for Lexington’s youth that we cannot achieve alone.” Different community leaders and organizations could be invited to attend. If this were held in the late spring, it could become a planning session for a larger summit in the fall.

Steigerwald next took up the consent agenda and took it out of order because there were no other agenda items and she wished to complete the item to approve minutes in a timely fashion.

Ms. Crocker requested taking the March 10<sup>th</sup> open session minutes out of the consent agenda to table them so she could provide edits. Steigerwald noted that they had been tabled from the April 1<sup>st</sup> meeting at Mr. Alessandrini’s request as well and asked for Ms. Crocker and Mr. Alessandrini to send their edits soon to help make approved minutes available promptly. Steigerwald had already received Ms. Coppe’s edits and incorporated them in the current version.

Ms. Crocker offered edits to the March 23<sup>rd</sup> and March 25<sup>th</sup> minutes. These were accepted. Steigerwald asked for separate motions as three items were now amended.

***Motion to approve second reading of Policy JIC: Student Discipline (Crocker, Alessandrini). Approved 4-0.***

***Motion to approve minutes of March 23<sup>rd</sup>, as amended, (Alessandrini, Crocker). Approved 4-0.***

***Motion to approve minutes of March 25<sup>th</sup>, as amended, (Alessandrini, Crocker). Approved 4-0.***

***Motion to approve but not release Executive Session minutes of March 25<sup>th</sup>, as amended, (Alessandrini, Crocker). Approved 4-0.***

***Motion to approve minutes of March 30<sup>th</sup>, as amended, (Alessandrini, Crocker). Approved 4-0.***

**6:16 PM Chair called for a recess to move to room 148 in order to go into Executive Session with the Board of Selectmen and to return to open meeting.**

**The School Committee proceeded to room 148 but the Board of Selectmen were not yet ready. The School Committee entered room 148 at 6:29 and Steigerwald called the meeting back to order. Steigerwald immediately moved to go into Executive Session.**

**6:30 PM Motion to go into Executive Session**

Steigerwald moved that the School Committee go into Executive Session under Exemption 3 to discuss strategy with respect to coalition bargaining and to return to open session, and further, as chair, she declared that an executive session was necessary to protect the bargaining position of the School Committee.

Alessandrini seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.

**Alessandrini AYE**

**Crocker AYE**

**Coppe AYE**

**Steigerwald AYE**

Bill Hurley was not present.

The vote was unanimous and at 6:30 PM the Executive Session began. It ended at 7:10 PM.

**7:10 PM Motion to exit Executive Session and return to Open Session**

Steigerwald moved to end Executive Session and return to Open Session to relocate to the Lexington High School auditorium to participate in Town Meeting.

Alessandrini seconded the motion a roll call vote was taken.

**Coppe AYE**

**Alessandrini AYE**

**Crocker AYE**

**Steigerwald AYE**

**Mr. Hurley did not attend the session. He arrived later in the evening.**

The committee relocated to the auditorium where Bob Harris announced that Cheryl Crowder was the 2015 winner of the Sharyn Wong-Chan/Sarah Harrington Diversity Award presentation. Ms. Crowder was nominated by two elementary school principals, Louise Lipsitz (Hastings) and Meg Colella (Bridge). Cheryl Crowder was recognized for her long standing and deep commitment to supporting and celebrating diversity in our schools. Ms. Crowder currently serves as a METCO Elementary Social Worker.



Pictured: Carol Pilarski, Meg Colella, Louise Lipsitz, Charles Martin, Cheryl Crowder, Mary Crowder, Paul Ash, Bob Harris and Karen Watson.

**Margaret Coppe left at 10:02 PM. Judy Crocker left at 10:07 PM.**

**At 10:35 Alessandrini moved to adjourn the meeting, the motion was seconded by Steigerwald, Hurley participated in the vote and the vote was unanimous (3-0).**

*Materials: Packet included updated draft of Policy JIC: Student Discipline; draft minutes from prior School Committee meetings dated March 10, 2015, March 23, 2015, March 25, 2015, and March 30, 2015, as well as draft minutes from Executive Session held on March 25, 2015.*

Voted Approved by the School Committee April 28, 2015