



School Committee

MINUTES OF THE CHELSEA SCHOOL COMMITTEE
PUBLIC HEARING
March 19, 2009

APPROVED MINUTES APRIL 16, 2009

The Chelsea School Committee held two Public Hearings Thursday, March 19, 2009, in the City Council Chambers, City Hall, 500 Broadway, Chelsea.

Members Present: Chairman Rosemarie Carlisle, Vice-Chairman James E Dwyer, Ramona Foster, Lisa Lineweaver, and Morrie Seigal.

Also Present: School Superintendent Dr. Thomas S. Kingston, Deputy Superintendent Dr. Mary M. Bourque, Executive Director for Administration and Finance Gerald McCue, Director of Personnel Tina Sullivan and School Business Manager and Clerk to the School Committee Barbara Martin.

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:00p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance:

Chairman Carlisle stated the purpose of the public hearings was on the following two questions:

- a. School Choice decision for the 2009-2010 school year, and
- b. The presentation of the proposed school budget for the 2009-2010 school year

Dr. Kingston introduced the Spanish translator, Nancy Melendez-Giron and the Somali translator, Abdikadir Hassan

3. School Choice for 2008-2009

Dr. Kingston stated that each year the district is obligated under Massachusetts General Law to examine the district's enrollment and to determine whether the Chelsea Public Schools should be a school choice district. Dr. Kingston stated that based on projected enrollments, the administration does not recommend Chelsea Public Schools be a school choice district.

Chairman Carlisle asked if any one in the audience would like to speak on the school choice issue. There being none, Chairman Carlisle stated that the hearing on School

Choice for the 2009-2010 was closed. The Chelsea School Committee will vote on School Choice at their next meeting.

4. Proposed School Budget for Fiscal Year 2010.

Dr. Kingston introduced Executive Director for Administration and Finance Gerald McCue to give a presentation on the proposed FY 2010 school budget. Mr. McCue also reviewed the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act and how the proposed new funding along with cost savings will help close the funding gap.

A copy of the presentation is enclosed and forms a part of the minutes.

Questions and discussion ensued.

At this time Chairman Carlisle asked if any one in the audience would like to speak on the proposed school budget for FY 2010.

Diezekier Reyes, 1 Clinton Ct #2, Chelsea, spoke on the importance of the sports program at Chelsea High School and asked the School Committee not to cut sports.

Michelle Cordon, 9 Lynn St #2, Chelsea, asked the School Committee to continue the after school homework program.

Max Medina 61 Bloomingdale St #2, Chelsea spoke in favor of continuing the Health Center at Chelsea High School.

Since there were no additional speakers the hearing on the proposed school budget was closed. The Chelsea School Committee will vote on the proposed budget at their next meeting.

5. Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 8.25 p.m.

Recorded by



Barbara A. Martin

Business Manager

Clerk to the Chelsea School Committee



Thaicha – John Silber Early Learning Center

Chelsea Public Schools

Proposed Annual Budget for the
2009-2010 School Year

FY2009-2010 Budget Priorities

Continue building a bridge to success

- 21st century skills into the curriculum
- Promote and encourage student aspiration
- Expansion of a common understanding about excellence in teaching and learning

FY2008-2009 Budget Priorities

Implement:

- Design and establishment of professional learning communities
- Improved access to and use of quarterly assessment data
- Continued expansion of reading first instruction to grades 5 & 6
- Consistent use of the three tier intervention model

FY2008-2009 Budget Priorities

- Continue and enhance parent involvement efforts
- Support School Improvement Efforts
- Improve efficiency and productivity to offset funding constraints

Enrollment

	FY2009 Budget	10/1/2008 Actual	FY2010 Budget
PK	402	375	398
K	461	448	449
G1-G8	3,264	3,359	3,424
G9-G12	<u>1,390</u>	<u>1,426</u>	<u>1,393</u>
In-District	5,517	5,608	5,664
Tuitioned Out	<u>110</u>	<u>123</u>	<u>123</u>
Total	5,627	5,731	5,787

AVERAGE CLASS SIZE TARGETS
Regular Education-Grades PK-8

PK	17/18	Grade 4	24.7
K	19.4	Grade 5	26.1
Grade 1	21.4	Grade 6	25.8
Grade 2	24.4	Grade 7	25.5
Grade 3	26.4	Grade 8	23.0

AVERAGE CLASS SIZE TARGETS
Regular Education-Grades 9-12

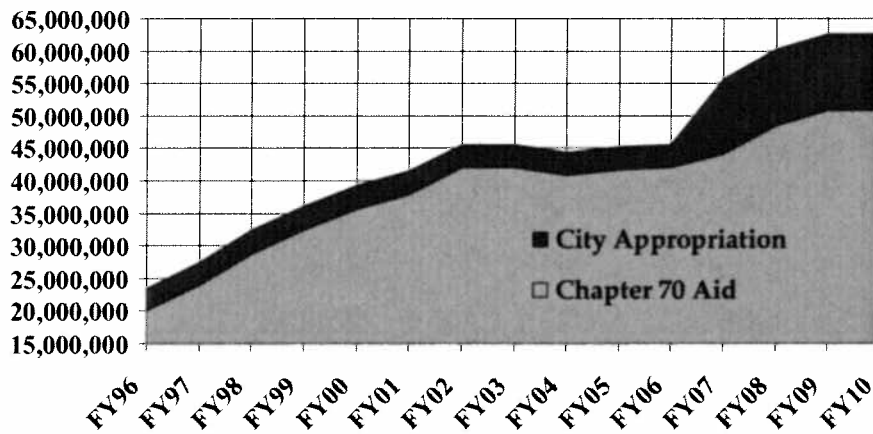
Commerce & Technology	24.0
Foreign Language	23.2
Physical Education	36.4
Health Education	23.0
History & Social Studies	24.4
Language Arts	20.2
TV Studio Production	12.4
Math	19.8
Science	20.7

New Revenue

	FY2009	FY2010	New Revenue
City Funds	\$11,783,550	\$11,783,550	\$0
Chapter 70	\$50,797,335	\$50,797,335	\$0
Indirect Costs	\$84,000	\$12,500	(\$71,500)
Total	\$62,664,885	\$62,593,385	(\$71,500)

School Department Funding

Exclusive of Indirect Costs



Proposed New Spending

• Labor Agreements	\$1,827,056
• Benefits/Insurance	\$677,148
• Special Education Tuition	\$578,053
• Special Education Staffing	\$116,233
• 53-Week Salary Cycle	\$102,040
• Full Day PK Class	\$95,936
• Student Information System	\$55,000
• Teach For America	\$15,000
• Transportation	\$189,500

Total New Spending

Proposed Increases:	\$3,655,965
New Revenue:	(\$71,500)
Funding Gap:	\$3,727,465

Closing The Funding Gap

Staffing Reductions

- Savings-salary and health insurance \$1,488,190
 - Central Office-Personnel Director
 - District Administration - 2 Coordinators
 - Support Staff – 6 positions
 - Teachers-CHS – 7 positions
 - Teachers & Paras-ELC – 9 positions
 - Specialists – 3 positions

Closing The Funding Gap

Other Savings

- Savings \$500,142
 - Rent - \$48,800
 - Education Supplies & Materials - \$126,367
 - Computer Replacement - \$82,075
 - Tuition Reimbursement - \$33,000
 - Central Office Supplies - \$18,000
 - Utilities - \$40,000
 - Extraordinary Maintenance - \$151,900

Total New Spending

Proposed Increases: \$3,655,965

New Revenue: (\$71,500)

Funding Gap: \$3,727,465

American Recovery & Reinvestment Act Title 1

- Positions Shifted to ARRA Funding \$1,010,802
 - ELA & Math Lead Teacher Coaches,
Elementary & Kindergarten- \$734,289
 - Lead Teachers Math, MCB Complex - \$276,513

- New Programming
 - Lead Teacher Coaches, CHS - \$113,000
 - Caminos Program, Clark Ave. - \$8,370
 - Expanded Reading & Math Intervention - \$181,275

**American Recovery & Reinvestment Act
IDEA (94-142)**

- Positions Shifted to ARRA Funding \$121,212
 - Special Education Teachers, CHS
- Tuitions Shifted to ARRA Funding \$607,119

- New Programming
 - PK Integrated Classrooms, ELC - \$122,081
 - Special Education Resource Teacher, Wright - \$50,240
 - Special Education Resource Teacher, Browne - \$50,240

**Total
New Spending**

Proposed Increases:	\$3,655,965
New Revenue:	(\$71,500)
Savings:	\$1,988,332
ARRA Funding	\$1,739,133
Funding Gap:	\$0

Budget Notes

- Planning for FY2011 starts now, anticipate level funding as costs continue to increase
- Work with school unions in a joint effort to mitigate spending increases to save positions
- Carefully manage ARRA funding
- Review level of bus service offered

Budget Notes

- The duties of Human Resources Director and Personnel Director reorganized and combined within the position of Human Resources Director
- Position of Energy Management Analyst added to push energy conservation and energy reduction opportunities
- Second Applications Support Administrator added from Microsoft Settlement funds to manage web applications and document management initiatives

Budget Notes

- This proposal is based on the Governor's proposed State Budget
- This proposal is based on preliminary estimates of funding expected to be available from the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act.

Chelsea Public Schools

Proposed Annual Budget for the
2009-2010 School Year



School Committee

MINUTES OF THE CHELSEA SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING March 26, 2009

APPROVED APRIL 16, 2009

The Chelsea School Committee met on Thursday, March 26, 2009, in the City Council Chambers, City Hall, 500 Broadway, Chelsea.

Members Present: Chairman Rosemarie Carlisle, Vice-Chairman James E Dwyer, Lucia Colon, Ed Ells, Ramona Foster, Lisa Lineweaver, Morrie Seigal, Melinda Alvarado-Vega and City Council Delegate to the School Committee Deborah Washington

Also Present: School Superintendent Dr. Thomas S. Kingston, Deputy Superintendent Dr. Mary M. Bourque, Executive Director of Administration and Finance Gerald McCue, School Business Manager and Clerk to the School Committee Barbara Martin.

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:00p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance:

3. School Committee Minutes: The minutes of the February 26, 2009, School Committee Meeting were unanimously approved.

4. Public Comment: None

5. Report of the Superintendent of Schools: Dr. Kingston introduced the Spanish translator, Nancy Melendez-Giron and the Somali translator, Abdikadir Hassan.

Dr. Kingston thanked all the people involved in the dedication of two portraits of Dr. John Silber at the John Silber Early Learning Center.

Student Achievement: Dr. Bourque reported on the results of the IOWA test taken by the third graders. Dr. Bourque explained that prior to MCAS the IOWA test was mandated by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. She feels it helps to measure Grade 3 reading comprehension and predicts student performance on MCAS. For 2009 students in Chelsea scored in the 55th percentile.

Dr Bourque reported that spring MCAS testing begins on March 31, 2009. She asked that parents see that children are well rested, have a good breakfast every morning, and are in attendance at school.

Dr. Bourque discussed the reorganization of the Grade 9 program. She is working with lead teachers at Chelsea High School to design a new program.

Dr. Bourque reported on notification by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education that the Special Education program was determined to be in need of intervention. Dr. Bourque noted that work needs to be done in reorganizing service delivery.

Questions and discussion ensued.

Personnel Report: Dr. Kingston commended the Personnel Report to the record.

Enrollment Report: Dr. Kingston commended the Enrollment Report to the record. As of March 23, 2009, the district-wide enrollment was 5,695 students, including 127 students in out-of-district placements. In addition, there are three (3) Chapter 768 students for whom the district has financial responsibility.

Miscellaneous: Dr. Kingston reported that the Chelsea Collaborative requested the use of the cafeteria, auditorium, and classroom space at Chelsea High School on February 28, 2009, and that the customary rental fee be waived. Use of school property where the usual rental fee has been waived is reported back to the School Committee. Dr. Kingston explained that while the rental fee was waived, the organization had to pay for security and custodial coverage.

Dr Kingston also commented on the high school drop-out rate as being critical and where the tendency is to blame the institution, the situation is much more complicated. Students, parents and others are needed to intervene and help. A forum is being held on May 2, 2009 with the Chelsea Collaborative.

Dr. Kingston noted that information on the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act was included in the packet for members to read.

Questions and discussion ensued.

6. New Business:

- Mr. Ells moved to vote on the superintendent's recommendation to modify the title and duties of the Director of Personnel. This action would result in a Director of Human Resources position being established. Also, the current Director of Personnel Tina Sullivan would be placed in this position and the Personnel Director's position eliminated.

Chairman Carlisle called for a roll call vote:

1	Rosemarie Carlisle	Y
2	James Dwyer	Y
3	Morrie Seigal	Y
4	Edward Ells	Y
5	Ramona Foster	Y
6	Lisa Lineweaver	Y
7	Michael Caulfield	Y
8	Lucia Colon	Y
9	Melinda Alvarado-Vega	Y

With nine votes in the affirmative the motion to modify the title and duties of the Director of Personnel to Director of Human Resources was unanimously approved.

- Mr. Ells moved to authorize the Director of Human Resources to act as a representative of the Chelsea School Committee with respect to interim agreements, contract modifications and other discussions or negotiations with Union representatives.

Chairman Carlisle called for a voice vote. The motion to authorize the Director of Human Resources to act as a representative of the Chelsea School Committee with respect to interim agreements, contract modifications and other discussions or negotiations with Union representatives was unanimously approved.

- Mr. Caulfield moved to forgo school choice for the 2009-2010 school year. Chairman Carlisle called for a voice vote. The motion to forgo school choice for the 2009-2010 school year was unanimously approved.

- Ms. Colon made a motion to approve the proposed school budget for FY 2010.

Chairman Carlisle called for a roll call vote:

1	Rosemarie Carlisle	Y
2	James Dwyer	Y
3	Morrie Seigal	Y
4	Edward Ells	Y
5	Ramona Foster	Y
6	Lisa Lineweaver	Y
7	Michael Caulfield	Y
8	Lucia Colon	Y
9	Melinda Alvarado-Vega	Y

With nine votes in the affirmative the motion to adopt the proposed school budget for FY 2010 was unanimously approved.

- Under suspension of the rules a letter from the Chelsea Teacher's Union concerning the proposed 2009-2010 school calendar was moved out of communications and read. The letter was accepted and filed. Dr. Kingston recommended adopting the school calendar as originally proposed.

Chairman Carlisle called for a voice vote. The motion to accept the 2009-2010 school calendar as originally proposed passed unanimously.

- Ms. Lineweaver moved to extend the current contract with Direct Energy Services, LLC for an additional twelve months for a total contract period of four years.

Chairman Carlisle called for a roll call vote:

1	Rosemarie Carlisle	Y
2	James Dwyer	Y
3	Morrie Seigal	Y
4	Edward Ells	Y
5	Ramona Foster	Y
6	Lisa Lineweaver	Y
7	Michael Caulfield	Y
8	Lucia Colon	Y
9	Melinda Alvarado-Vega	Y

With nine votes in the affirmative the motion to extend the current contract with Direct Energy Services, LLC for an additional twelve months for a total contract period of four years was unanimously approved.

- Ms. Alvarado Vega moved to investigate expanding the number of streets included in the walking routes (the area not eligible for transportation) and reducing the number of streets included in the areas eligible for transportation for both the Early Learning Center and the Mary C Burke Complex, such areas, if revised, would take effect in the 2010-2011 school year.

Chairman Carlisle called for a roll call vote:

1	Rosemarie Carlisle	Y
2	James Dwyer	Y
3	Morrie Seigal	Y
4	Edward Ells	Y
5	Ramona Foster	Y
6	Lisa Lineweaver	Y
7	Michael Caulfield	Y
8	Lucia Colon	Y
9	Melinda Alvarado-Vega	Y

With nine votes in the affirmative the motion to investigate expanding the number of streets included in the walking routes (the area not eligible for transportation) and reducing the number of streets included in the areas eligible for transportation for both the Early Learning Center and the Mary C Burke Complex was unanimously approved.

7. Communications: Letter from Chelsea Teacher's Union filed and accepted under suspension of the rules.

8. Committee Reports:

- **Budget and Finance:** Ms. Colon reported that the subcommittee last met on March 11, 2009. A copy of the report is attached and forms a part of these minutes.
- **Policies and Procedures:** Mr. Caulfield reported that the subcommittee last met on March 4, 2009. A copy of the report is attached and forms a part of these minutes.
- **Student Representative:** Mr. Chung was absent. He is currently taking part in the drama clubs production of *Into the Woods*.

9. Announcements:

- Ms. Foster donated three books. Ms. Foster noted that she felt the books were particularly appropriate during the current fiscal recession. The books are as follows:

Show Me the Money, by Alvin Hall donated to the Elementary Schools
Rich Dad, Poor Dad for Teens by Robert Kiyosaki donated to the Clark Ave Middle School

The Motley Fool-Investment guide for Teens by David and Tom Gardner donated to Chelsea High School

- Mr. Ells volunteered for the Book of the Month for April.
- Chairman Carlisle asked for a moment of silence in memory of the following individuals who either worked for the Chelsea Public Schools or who were close relatives of school department employees:

Paula Campers
Edwin Rivera
Gregory Hamilton, Sr.

10. Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 8.05 p.m.

Recorded by

Barbara A. Martin

Barbara A. Martin

Business Manager

Clerk to the Chelsea School Committee

Policies and Procedures Subcommittee Minutes of March 4, 2009 Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm. Members present were Dr. Kingston, Tina Sullivan, Mrs. Carlisle, Mr. Dwyer, and Mr. Caulfield.

Agenda Items

1. John Silber event at the ELC was discussed. It is expected that 50-75 people will be in attendance for the portrait presentation. Invitations and other public notification to be sent this week.
2. The committee reviewed correspondence with regard to the ELC parking issues and resolved to continue focusing on the possible acquisition of parking spaces or some form of amenable solution.
3. We discussed several budget issues and some of the parameters about reopening negotiations as a means of resolving the budget shortfall while trying to preserve as many teaching, and support staff positions.
4. The committee discussed procedures for filling certain administrative vacancies. These positions have been or are in the process of being posted and advertised.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30

Respectfully submitted,

Michael J. Caulfield