



School Committee

MINUTES OF THE CHELSEA SCHOOL
COMMITTEE MEETING
August 25, 2011

Approved 9-22-2011

The Chelsea School Committee met on Thursday, August 25, 2011, in the City Council Chambers, City Hall, 500 Broadway, Chelsea.

Members Present: Chairman Ed Ells, Vice-Chairman, Rosemarie Carlisle, Lucia Colon, Ramona Foster, Lisa Lineweaver, Morrie Seigal, and Jeannette Velez.

Also Present: School Superintendent Dr. Mary M. Bourque, Assistant Superintendent Linda Breau, Assistant Superintendent David Weinberg, Executive Director of Administration & Finance Gerry McCue, City Council Representative Deborah Washington and School Business Manager and Clerk to the School Committee Barbara Martin.

Absent: Ana Hernandez and Melinda Alvarado-Vega

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

2. Pledge of Allegiance: Chairman Ells called for a moment of silence in memory of former school committee member Arthur Bowen. Chairman Ells then welcomed new member Jeannette Velez.

3. Public Comment: None.

4. Report of the Superintendent of Schools:

Student Achievement: Dr. Bourque called upon Assistant Superintendent Breau to report on student achievement, noting that there were no student reports since school has not started. Ms. Breau reported on MEPA testing for students indentified as Limited English Proficient. With the exception of grades 9-12, all grade levels are on target.

Next, Ms. Breau reviewed AP scores for 2011.

Lastly, Ms. Breau discussed the Drop-Out Report noting that the final rate of 4.6% does not include credit recovery.

A copy of the report is enclosed and forms a part of these minutes. Questions and discussion ensued.

Miscellaneous: Next, Dr. Bourque discussed the new branding and marketing program. She called upon Assistant Superintendents Breau and Weinberg to reveal the new banner and tag line. The logo depicts the Tobin Bridge with three (multiple) pathways to success, to a nine point star, one point for each school. Superintendent Bourque noted that the material is currently available in English and Spanish and will be available soon in other languages. Dr. Bourque then thanked Gabby Ramos, an Education Pioneers intern who worked on the marketing initiative and noted that Gabby will continue to volunteer this coming school year. Questions and discussion ensued.

Dr Bourque reported that everyone is working hard preparing for the opening of school. Last week administrators attended a retreat in Boston, followed by a two day professional development program sponsored by AFT's Center for School Improvement. New teacher training also began this week.

Dr. Bourque thanked the custodial staff for their hard work in getting the buildings ready for opening day.

Lastly, Dr. Bourque thanked the Community for their support of the annual back to school celebration. This year was the largest ever, with over 1,500.00 people in attendance.

5. New Business: Ms. Colon moved to revise the FY2012 Annual Budget.

Explanation: The Chapter 70 state aid which was first proposed in the Governor's budget was increased by \$11,728.00 in the final budget adopted by the Legislature's conference committee.

Chairman Ells then called for a roll call vote.

1	Edward Ells	Y
2	Jeannette Velez	Y
3	Ramona Foster	Y
4	Ana Hernandez	Absent
5	Rosemarie Carlisle	Y
6	Lucia Colon	Y
7	Melinda Alvarado-Vega	Absent
8	Lisa Lineweaver	Y
9	Morrie Seigal	Y

Having seven votes in the affirmative and two absent, the motion was approved.

- Ms. Lineweaver moved to revise the fees for participation in the Commonwealth Athletic Conference sports programs at Chelsea High School.

Explanation: Last May, the school committee adopted a Student Athletics revolving fund and a \$25 registration fee for each sport a high school student signs up for during the course of the school year. This fee included two-tiered discount based on free or reduced lunch status. Upon review of school lunch regulations, it has been determined that a fee-schedule that is based on free or reduced lunch status would require parental consent, which may or may not be granted. Therefore, the fee schedule has been revised as follows:

The school department proposes to establish a Student Athletics revolving fund and charge \$25 registration fee for each sport a high school student signs up for during the course of the school year. The fee would be assessed at the time of team registration and would be non-refundable.

A single fee is assessed per sports season (Fall, Winter and Spring) on the first family member signing up to play a sport and would not be assessed on any siblings signing up to play a sport in the same sport season.

Any student concerned about their ability to pay the required fee may apply to the School Principal, or his/her designee, for consideration to have their fee adjusted or waived, such adjustment taking into consideration the student's financial situation and the fair and equitable implementation of the registration fee.

The School Committee must vote to adopt district wide school policy.

Chairman Ells then called for a roll call vote.

1	Edward Ells	Y
2	Jeannette Velez	Y
3	Ramona Foster	Y
4	Ana Hernandez	Absent
5	Rosemarie Carlisle	Y
6	Lucia Colon	Y
7	Melinda Alvarado-Vega	Absent
8	Lisa Lineweaver	Y
9	Morrie Seigal	Y

Having seven votes in the affirmative and two absent, the motion was approved.

- Ms. Colon moved to enter into a 60 month lease with Xerox.

Explanation: The school department currently utilizes Xerox equipment for its district-wide copy center, located at Chelsea High School. Two production copiers are approaching the end of their useful life based on the number of copies run on these

machines over the last three years and we are experiencing increased down time as a result. We are looking to replace these two machines (model 4112) with two slightly more robust machines (model 4127) using a 5 year lease from August 2011 to July 2016. A lease of this duration will allow us to keep within our current budget. All equipment proposed utilizes state contract pricing. The monthly charge would be \$4,091 per month for 60 months. The Chelsea School Committee must vote to authorize agreements over three years in duration.

Chairman Ells then called for a roll call vote.

1	Edward Ells	Y
2	Jeannette Velez	Y
3	Ramona Foster	Y
4	Ana Hernandez	Absent
5	Rosemarie Carlisle	Y
6	Lucia Colon	Y
7	Melinda Alvarado-Vega	Absent
8	Lisa Lineweaver	Y
9	Morrie Seigal	Y

Having seven votes in the affirmative and two absent, the motion was approved.

- Ms. Lineweaver moved to accept the following gifts for the 2011-2012 Back to School Celebration:

Mc Donald's Corp- Judy Hajar	\$500.00
Chelsea Rotary	500.00
Chappy Corp.	150.00
Morrie Seigal	25.00

Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 71, Section 37A provides for the acceptance of gifts only with the approval of the Chelsea School Committee.

Chairman Ells then called for a roll call vote.

1	Edward Ells	Y
2	Jeannette Velez	Y
3	Ramona Foster	Y
4	Ana Hernandez	Absent
5	Rosemarie Carlisle	Y
6	Lucia Colon	Y
7	Melinda Alvarado-Vega	Absent
8	Lisa Lineweaver	Y

9	Morrie Seigal	Y

Having seven votes in the affirmative and two absent, the motion was approved.

- Ms. Foster moved to approve the Gaspar's petition to home school their child. On a voice vote the motion was approved unanimously.
- Ms. Foster moved to approve the Ybarra's petition to home school their child. On a voice vote the motion was approved unanimously.
- Discussion of the Draft Budget Calendar for FY2013 was tabled.
- Discussion of the online payment system for user charges was tabled.

9. Announcements: Ms. Foster volunteered for the Book of the Month for September.

10. Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Recorded by



Barbara A. Martin
Business Manager
Clerk to the Chelsea School Committee

MEPA Testing is done in the Fall and in the Spring for all students (K-12) identified as Limited English Proficient regardless of how long they have attended school.

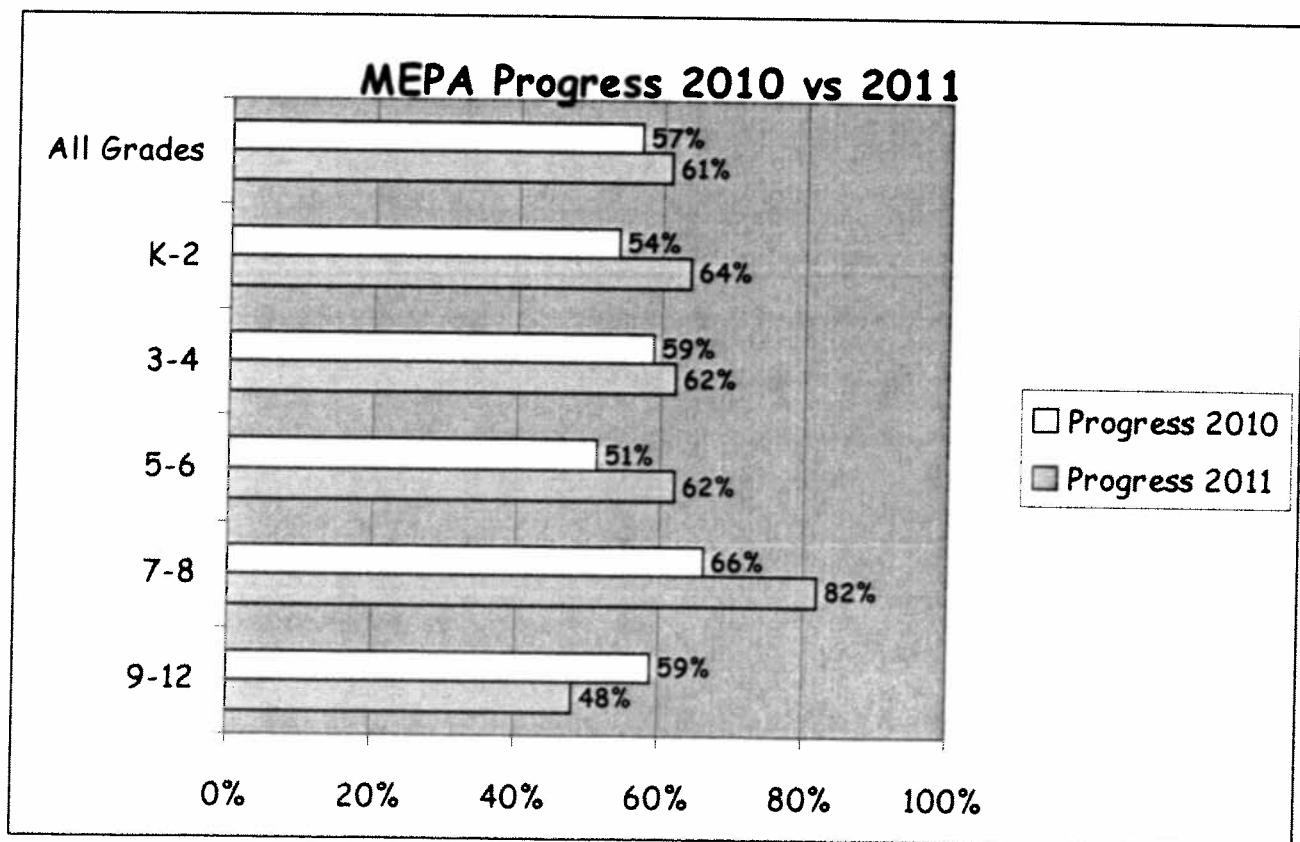
The Fall testing is a baseline test and the Spring testing is a measure of the progress students have made throughout the year. The only students reported in the statistics for the Spring testing are students who were tested in the Fall either here in Chelsea or in another Massachusetts school.

Students are scored on reading, writing, listening (comprehension) and speaking English.

Although no State target for the percent of students making progress has been set for the 2010-2011 school year, the target for 2009-2010 was 60%. Mary Grace thinks it's likely this year's target would be about 62%.

Chelsea's results are shown below.

Grade Span	Number of students Tested	Number of students Making Progress	% of students making progress	District Average Scaled Score 2011	State Average Scaled Score 2011
9-12	168	81	48%	476.0	482.9
7-8	72	59	82%	480.7	487.8
5-6	128	79	62%	482.4	488.2
3-4	154	96	62%	481.5	485.4
K-2	142	91	64%	477.4	485.8
All Grades	664	406	61%		



Chelsea High School AP Scores 2011

SCORE	Number of Students	% of Students
5	9	4%
4	26	11%
3	43	18%
2	75	31%
1	91	37%

Drop Out Report

School Year	SY Dropouts	Summer Dropouts	Returned dropouts	Adjusted	Final Rate
2010-2011	90	3	30	63	4.6%
2009-2010	101	17	29	89	6.5%



A Commitment to Our Students

Our Vision

By June 30, 2016, Chelsea Public Schools will be a model for other school districts in the way we utilize reflective practice and leverage family and community partnerships to ensure that ALL students achieve at high levels, think critically, and graduate from our school system college and career-ready.

Our Mission

Student success is our job and we will do whatever it takes.

Our Values

- All children can learn.
- The life and mind of every student are precious and it is our job to take students from where they are to where they need to be.
- Results matter more than intentions and it is the job of all the adults in the community to help children achieve academic success, high aspirations and the skills they need to be successful.
- The diversity of our school community (race, ethnicity, ability and socioeconomic status) is a source of strength and a resource for the education of all learners.

Our Indicators of Success

- District-wide daily students' attendance rate will be 95%.
- District annual dropout rate will not exceed 3%.
- Using the Early Warning Indicators, students identified at-risk for dropping out at all levels, elementary, middle and high school, will decrease at .5% each quarter or 2% per year.
- Less than 8% of CHS students will be retained and less than 10% will fail at least one class in grades 9 & 10.
- The percentage of students in grades 5, 6 and 10 who score Advanced/Proficient on Math MCAS will increase by 2% or more each year.
- 80% of middle school students will read at a Lexile level of 955 or higher by the end of Grade 7.
- 80% of elementary students will score a 24 or higher on the DIBELS Daze by the end of Grade 4.
- By June of each school year, 95% or more of Kindergarten students will score in the "Proficient" or "In Process" range on the Phonemic Segmentation Fluency DIBELS subtest (less than 5% will be identified as "at risk" in Phonemic Segmentation Fluency).
- 60% of Chelsea High School students in AP courses will attain a 3, 4, or 5.
- 50% of all middle school students will take and pass at least one pre-AP science or pre-AP math class before moving on to high school.