

MINUTES  
SALEM SCHOOL COMMITTEE  
Subcommittee Building and Grounds  
February 3, 2020, 6:15pm

**In Attendance:** Mr. Cruz, Mr. Fleming, Ms. Manning, Superintendent Smith, Ryan Monks, Attorney Colby Brunt;

**Use of Schools by public:** Mr. Fleming discussed a request for a gentleman who wishes to use our facilities to work on a vehicle for private use.

Attorney Brunt listed several issues regarding the use of public schools by the general public.

1. The request doesn't conform to the school policy pertaining to use of facilities.
2. If we allow this individual, then we would be put in a position to allow all members of the public to use our facilities for personal use.
3. Insurance issues could arise in the event something happened
4. Custodial overtime would occur

Mr. Monks spoke to the issue with filling out a use of facilities form. The form is necessary for him to track who is in our buildings. He spoke about keeping track of all eight buildings and knowing who is in the buildings at all times.

Mr. Monks informed the committee of several issues surrounding the use of facilities by staff after hours. This includes use of the basketball courts and music rooms.

Mr. Fleming thought there was an adhoc policy regarding employees being allowed to remain in buildings after hours. Mr. Monks required that all individuals need to submit a use of facilities form should they be in the buildings after normal school hours. Mr. Fleming and Ms. Manning didn't agree with this practice.

Mr. Cruz thought personal or commercial use of public buildings by staff for personal use is a conflict of interest which violates the Ethics Law. Attorney Brunt advised that this was not good practice.

Attorney Brunt will check the collective bargaining agreements, in regard to the use of facilities by employees. Mr. Monks will look into this as well.

Mr. Fleming motioned to approve the use of facilities by employees and Ms. Manning seconded. Motion carried.

**High School Bathrooms**

Mr. Fleming moved on to discuss the inspection of the bathrooms at the high school. The Committee inspected the majority of the bathrooms with the Student Advisory Committee. They came up with a plan to document the improvements. The SAC will report to the Committee on a 30-day basis up to 90 days in total.

The Committee made the following recommendations to Mr. Monks: sink repairs, adding doors to some stalls and installing containers. Mr. Cruz had concerns over the bathrooms looking more like a place to hang versus a bathroom. Mr. Cruz would like to see dividers installed in the boys' room for privacy. He mentioned that the boys' bathrooms seemed small in square footage than the girls' bathrooms. Mr. Monks said they were not. It appears this way mostly, because of the manner the bathrooms are laid out. Mr. Monks informed the committee of some things he could do such as adding slide bolts to the doors. He mentioned some of the repairs need to conform to building codes. Superintendent Smith stated she will work with Mr. Monks to come up with a plan to address these issues.

### **School Lifts**

Ms. Manning informed the Committee she received some calls regarding the lifts in the schools. Mr. Monks spoke about the three lifts in the schools. He informed the committee the lifts were not inspected in a timely manner. The schools are facing fines for not inspecting them. However, once the lifts were taken out of service the fines are stopped. Mr. Monks told the Committee he is in contact with a new contractor to address the issues with the lifts but there are still outstanding fines. Mr. Cruz suggested reaching out to public officials to assist with the fines. Mr. Monks and Superintendent Smith will reach out to Senator Lovely. In the meantime, Mr. Monks will use capital funds to work with the contractor on next steps in repair of the lifts.

### **Vote on Use of Facilities by the Public for Personal Use**

Mr. Fleming made a motion to accept the Lawyer's recommendation to not allow the public to use school facilities for personal use, Ms. Manning seconded and the motion carried.

Mr. Fleming motioned to adjourn the meeting and Ms. Manning seconded. Meeting adjourned at 6:50pm.