Committee Members present: Vice Chair Andrew Polouski, George Abbott, Giancarlo Cicchetti, Holly Eaves, Deborah Jennings, Bob Petit and Terri Serra (arrived 6:38 PM). Absent: Chair Bill Day, Bill Felkner and Andrew McQuaide.

Administrators present: Superintendent Barry Ricci, Assistant Superintendent Phil Thornton and Director of Finance and Administration Brian Stanley. Also present: School Committee Clerk Donna Sieczkiewicz.

Superintendent Ricci informed the Committee that Article 26 is ready for tentative approval. It is a new article which was previously covered under “General” and is now titled “Professional Growth”. Few contracts in the State have this. It requires six (6) hours of Professional Development above and beyond what is currently required. A mentoring program will be established and a new evaluation tool will be created prior to June 30, 2008. The cost to implement this will be about $14,000 with $9,000 of this amount coming from a grant. This is the first agreement that requires funding. Holly Eaves stated she had no problem with the concept but questioned some of the wording. Item 26.3 – “president” should be clarified, possibly include “of the bargaining unit”. Holly stated she did not understand the last sentence in 26.8 as she found the wording confusing. She felt “as part of the mentoring program” should be removed. Giancarlo Cicchetti added that “lead clerk trainers” needs to clarified and agreed that the 1st clause, “as part of the mentoring program” should be eliminated. Superintendent Ricci replied that the Union has already signed off on this but that he would discuss the recommendations and see if changes can be made. He suggested the Committee sign off with the changes as requested and he will ask the Union to approve the revisions.

Bob Petit made a motion, seconded by Giancarlo Cicchetti and it was VOTED: To tentatively agree to Article 26 with the changes requested. In favor: Abbott, Cicchetti, Eaves, Jennings, Petit and Serra. Abstained: Polouski. The motion passed by a vote of 6 in favor with 1 abstention.

Superintendent Ricci suggested that the Committee select an alternate to the Negotiation Subcommittee in the event that a quorum is not present. George Abbott volunteered his services.

Bob Petit made a motion, seconded by Holly Eaves and it was VOTED: To appoint George Abbott as an alternate to the Negotiation Subcommittee. In favor: Abbott, Cicchetti, Eaves, Jennings, Petit and Serra. Abstained: Polouski. The motion passed by a vote of 6 in favor with 1 abstention. George will be called only in the event that a quorum is needed.

The School Committee moved to discussion pertaining to potential litigation. Chair Day and Andrew McQuaide rejoined the meeting at 6:50 PM.

Donna J. Sieczkiewicz, Clerk