

PLYMPTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Including a Report of the Silver Lake Regional School District.

DENNETT SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Mr. K. Scott Merrill, Chairman Term expires 2005
Ms. Susan Ossoff, Vice Chair Term expires 2006
Ms. Lisa Hart, Secretary Term expires 2005
Ms. Pamela Bloomquist Term expires 2004
Ms. Maureen Springer Term expires 2006

The Plympton School Committee meets at 4:30 p.m., on the third Monday of each month in the Library of the Dennett Elementary School.

ADMINISTRATION OFFICE

Dr. Gordon L. Noseworthy Superintendent of Schools
Mr. Robert A. Hodge Superintendent 9-12
Dr. Maurice Splaine, Jr. Interim. Asst. Supt., K-8
Ms. Judith F. Bell Adm. of Special Education
Mr. John Tuffy Business Manager

In addition to all legal holidays, schools will be closed on the Friday following Thanksgiving and Good Friday.

NO SCHOOL announcements will be given on radio stations WATD, WPLM and on television stations WCVB (Channel 5) and WHDH (Channel 7) and WFXT (Fox 25) between 6:35 a.m. and 8:00 a.m. In addition, the fire alarm signals will indicate no school as follows:

6:30 a.m., no school all schools, including Junior & Senior High Schools

7:00 a.m., no school Elementary ONLY.

The signal will be 4 short blasts, repeated 3 times.

REPORT OF THE PLYMPTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Introduction

The Plympton Elementary School Committee is the elected body responsible for reviewing and approving budgets for public education in the town and for establishing educational goals and policies for the Dennett School consistent with the requirements of law and statewide goals and standards established by the board of education.

Our new Facility

The renovation of the Dennett was completed with students and teachers making the final moves into the new classrooms in January of 2003. The school now has a library/media center with a computer lab, music and art classrooms, dedicated special education and reading classrooms, a new gymnasium, and completely new or renovated classrooms. The new school building should provide a fantastic environment, one that will spur an enthusiasm for learning and a focus on education.

Our headaches

We started the 2003-2004 school year in budget crisis mode—In July, the Town requested that each department reduce their 2003-2004 budget by 8.9%. For the Dennett, this meant a reduction of approximately \$195,000. To fulfill this obligation, the school committee and administration were forced to reduce non-contractual and or non-mandated services; therefore, planned purchases were reduced or eliminated. Student services were also impacted with the elimination of one teaching position and loss of a library aid, and by not expanding speech services. In addition, additional custodial help, necessary for the new and much larger building, was not able to be included in the budget.

We expected to start the new school year in our brand new and renovated school, but nature had other ideas, as our school, like many others this year developed problems with mold. Just before school opened, as part of the school preparation process, the staff discovered mold growing in remote parts of a classroom. During the subsequent inspection, mold growth was found in almost every classroom. This discovery delayed school opening for several days as a plan by our administration and town government was put in place.

The students once again moved into unaffected portions of the school, primarily the gymnasiums, for class. In November, students and staff were able to re-occupy the entire building and

the school got back to normal. We thank our teachers, staff and volunteers for making the situation work and continuing to deliver a sound educational program.

Our educational program

The Dennett Staff has worked hard to deliver educational programs that work and our most recent MCAS results prove it. Our scores continue to improve as our staff continues to implement new and refreshed curriculums and educational tools. Our Principal, Dr. Dickerson, sponsors several after-hours sessions for parents during the school year to introduce new or to review curriculum frameworks—all are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Our thanks to CASA

Over the years, our students, parents and staff have come to depend on CASA, the Community and School Association, for so very much--it is hard to think of ways to say thank you enough. In our deepest hour of need CASA always seems ready to rally the troops, from organizing the Thanksgiving Feast to fund raising for a new piece of equipment to moving books and furniture.

Our thanks to the administration and staff

The Committee would like to thank the members of our teaching staff, support staff and administrative staff for making 2003 a good year through adversity and trying times--our hats are off!

Come all and yee shall be rewarded

The School Committee meets on a regular basis the third Monday of every month or as posted at the Dennett Elementary School. Community participation is welcome and encouraged.

Respectfully submitted:

K. Scott Merrill, Chair
Susan Ossoff, Vice-Chair
Lisa Hart, Secretary
Pamela Bloomquist
Maureen Springer

**DENNETT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
DR. MARY S. DICKERSON, PRINCIPAL
HIGHLIGHTS 2003**

The past school year has proven to be both challenging and exciting. In spite of enduring new building and renovation timelines and obstacles, our students' MCAS scores soared. During this time, our teachers were involved in exciting professional development opportunities. As we near the end of the year 2003, we can all feel confident that our goals will be reached, and our children will continue to grow both academically and socially.

In January, our fourth, fifth, and sixth graders participated in the thirteenth annual National Geographic Bee. Our Read-a-thon theme for the year was, "New Beginnings", referring to the new building and renovation project. Mrs. Brides, our Reading Specialist, wrote a poem entitled, "New Beginnings", which was published. The Caldecott and Newberry children's literature awards were read during the Read-a-thon in February and March. We again hosted a "Celebrity Readers" week during the kick-off of the Read-a-thon. Our summer reading contest included

reading activities and projects for the children. The fourth, fifth, and sixth graders competed in our seventeenth annual Spelling Bee in February. In April, children and their families in grades K-6 participated in a Family Math Night around the theme, "Digging Math at the Dennett", inspired by the school building project. The annual Arbor Day celebration took place in May as a tribute to nature and the preservation of the environment. The Plympton Garden Club donated a beautiful flowering plum tree during the celebration. The tree was dedicated to the victims of the Columbia disaster, and was planted in the lovely new courtyard in the center of the school. Children in grades K-6 were involved in project-based learning in Social Studies which resulted in many excellent projects and presentations, with the help and support from families. We were invited to participate in a MASC/MASS Conference at the Worcester Centrum as a result of a program entitled, "Technology at the Dennett: Success in Progress." CASA, our Community and School Association, continues to have a very positive impact on our school. Their tireless efforts provide us with family dances, the third annual Harvest Fair, the third annual Talent Show, Mr. Wizard, the first annual Winter Festival, the annual Thanksgiving Feast, and enrichment programs with a variety of themes. We extend

thanks to CASA again this year for the playground stegosaurus, for school improvements they have made, for being a steady rock of support during the building and renovation project, and for their continued participation in our school, making it a happier and better environment for all of the children and staff members!

The Dennett Voice newsletter is produced by the School Council, and is delivered quarterly to every home in Plympton. The newsletter provides information from the many individuals responsible for providing education at the Dennett School, including the School Council, School Committee, CASA, the principal, teachers, and staff. The newsletter also includes a calendar of events with information about school programs and events. The major goal of the School Council is to conduct a yearly needs assessment of staff and parents, and to write a school improvement plan which is submitted to the School Committee for their approval in June. The Council's "Make a Difference Program" has enabled community service to be implemented in the classrooms and community. Through the efforts of the Council, families and students, we collected \$1,072. worth of pennies for the Pembroke Chapter of the Boston Animal Rescue League. Our entire school body has a vested interest in community service, both inside the school and outside of school, of which we are very proud.

Officer Dennis Reddy, our DARE officer, continues to be a strong presence at the Dennett Elementary School, teaching fifth graders to say "NO" to drugs and alcohol. The fifth grade's completion of the DARE Program was celebrated with a graduation ceremony in May. The Plympton Fire Chief, David Rich, is also very involved in the school. He talks to individual classes about fire safety, and is always willing to speak to the entire student body about issues ranging from school fire safety to home safety. The children look forward to the opportunity to speak with Officer Reddy and Chief Rich about issues involving safety, and we are indeed lucky to have both of them in our school on a regular basis.

In music, our children in grades K-6 continue to enjoy their music series which is rich in musical styles and diversity. Our Winter Concert in December was very well attended and enjoyed by everyone. The annual Spring Concert/Arts Festival was presented in May with the theme, "Dennett on Broadway." On the same evening, we also were treated to an Art Festival featuring artwork from all the Dennett children and displayed throughout the building. Artwork created by Dennett Elementary

School children was displayed at the Administration Building in December. Our art program continues to flourish and remain strong. Included in the art program are an art history component, and a decent art curriculum. Mrs. Cashman, our Art Teacher, drew a sketch of the new building, which has been printed and highlighted at many school events and programs. In addition to teaching

physical education classes, our physical education teacher has introduced a sportsmanship award given to the soccer team who displays excellent sportsmanship at recess. In the winter months, the focus remains on fitness through dance and movement.

We celebrated American Education Week in November with, "Making Public Schools Great for Every Child", as the theme. Students in each classroom participated in activities and presentations for their parents, grandparents, community members, and fellow classmates. The annual Thanksgiving Feast, hosted by CASA, was one of the highlights of this special week.

Thanks to the generous support of the School Committee and the town of Plympton, Dennett Elementary School has continued to add more computers to the computer lab located in the Library/Media Center. All of our computers in the school are hooked up to the Internet. Our staff has been involved in several professional development workshops in technology and the web page. We have two webmasters on our staff, keeping our web page updated and user-friendly to the entire school and community. Our Sixth Graders hosted their annual Science Exposition with the theme, "Space." Each project incorporated a PowerPoint presentation and a written report, both of which were extraordinary. We continue to support the teacher as trainer model, which gives our teachers opportunities to use their expertise to teach other staff members. We are most pleased to report that our library is now fully automated.

The school year was enriched and improved through the efforts of Mr. Philip Holt, sixth grade teacher, who was also appointed as part-time Assistant Teacher. We began the school year by welcoming a new Speech Therapist, Mrs. Marie Pessin. The staff at the Dennett Elementary School and the Plympton community is indeed a partnership working towards reaching the educational potential of each child. This is one of our goals listed in our Dennett School Philosophy. Another goal is to secure a safe environment for each child. We have developed and implemented the Dennett Emergency Response Plan. The entire

staff has participated in school safety drills and fire drills. We are continually working towards strengthening our volunteer programs in the school by encouraging people of all ages in Plympton to share their time and talents with the young people in the school. The School Council has developed a Community Resource File with names of people in the community who are available to visit our school and share their job roles and talents with our students. My responsibility is to reinforce respect, tolerance, and high academic standards for each child, and to provide a line of open communication between the school and the community. My goal is to see that every child is eager to come to school each and every day. As always, I am privileged to serve as the Principal of the Dennett Elementary School.

SILVER LAKE REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE

2003 has been a busy year for the various Silver Lake constituencies. As Pembroke prepares to withdraw its students from the District at the end of this school year, students are busy planning 'last' activities with their Pembroke classmates. Administrators are finalizing plans for the academic and extra curricula offerings for the schools first year as a three town District. Staff are anxiously waiting to see if they will remain at Silver Lake or move to the Pembroke School District. Central office administrators are busy planning for the division of District assets with Pembroke as well as meeting the many terms agreed to in the Transition Agreement signed with Pembroke in May of 2002.

Our Superintendent, Dr. Gordon Noseworthy, has made a concerted effort to involve staff from ALL the schools in the three towns in a comprehensive review of curriculum in Language Arts and Mathematics. Since almost all students ultimately end up in the 7 -12 Silver Lake schools, it is important that they come to the Region with a thorough grounding in the knowledge and skills Massachusetts has identified in the Curriculum Frameworks. For the first time in many years, staff in all four Districts are working together to align their curricula. Under the able guidance of the Silver Lake Building Committee, the new Silver Lake Middle School is progressing on schedule. We are confident that the building will be ready to open as planned in September 04.

During their annual spring elections, voters in each of the three towns approved an override to renovate the High School. Given the uncertain financial circumstances facing the state, we were all relieved in the fall to be officially notified by the Department of Education that our High School renovation project has been included on the list of school projects to be reimbursed by the State. Our heartfelt thanks go to Representative Tom O'Brien and Senator Theresa Murray for their hard work in making this a reality for our taxpayers.

Two new members were elected to serve on the School Committee this year. Joan Rogers of Halifax and Tom Calter of Kingston both joined the Committee in June. With Brian Caseau's resignation from the Committee in October, Jim Connolly was appointed to fill out the remainder of his term.

Again this year we must acknowledge the unstinting efforts of Regional administrators and staff who continue to give their best

for the students of our District. To the parents and voters of the communities we extend our thanks for their generous support.

Respectfully submitted,
Gerald S. Buckley, Chair
Thomas Cambria, Vice Chair
Maureen Springer, Secretary
Patricia Doherty, Treasurer
Thomas Calter
James Connolly
John Creed
Joan Rogers,
Ellen Snoeyenbos

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT 2003
SILVER LAKE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
DR. GORDON L. NOSEWORTHY**

To the Citizens of Plympton:

Change provides challenge and opportunity and sparks invention as well. And change is well underway in Union 31/Silver Lake School Regional District. This is an exciting time for all participants in the newness of our reconfigured and reconstructed schools. I said to all school faculties of Halifax, Kingston and Plympton, assembled on the first day of school this year in August, "The decision to change is history. The implementation of the change is inevitable. That challenge is ours and we are up to it."

In January 2003, Mr. Robert Hodge was appointed as Assistant Superintendent for Secondary Education and Ms. Luci Record replaced Mr. Hodge as Housemaster at the High School. Two of our secondary administrators retired this year—Ms. Aurella Levesque, Guidance Director, and Mrs. Paula Sennett, Math and Computer Education Coordinator, after almost thirty years each of dedicated service to Silver Lake Regional School District. Mr. Kevin Sawyer has been appointed as Acting Coordinator of Math and Computer Education for the 2003 – 2004 school year. At the elementary level everything remained status quo.

The PK-12 solidarity of our school system remains a top priority. The children depend on that because they all belong to all of us at one time or another throughout their thirteen years of public education. The very nature of standards based learning demands articulation between and among the grades. Great strides have been made in opening up the channels throughout all our schools. Once we had defined our strengths and weaknesses and determined evidence of need in the literacy and math curricula, we set goals of action. Teachers across grades and schools meet in professional development settings. Summer work and staff led workshops are products of that initiative. If the proof is in the pudding then two significant feathers have been added to our united cap. All schools at every grade tested achieved Adequate Yearly Progress as defined by state assessment expectations. That means we are succeeding through the cycles that by 2014 must see all children proficient by MCAS standards.

Secondly, a team of educators from the Department of Education spent a week in all our schools conducting a compliance review of Title I, Special Education, and Career and Vocational Education. At their exit interview, the chairperson not only listed significant commendations that reflect the intended goals of our work but, most importantly, indicated that Union 31/Silver Lake had absolutely no areas of non-compliance. This is truly a source of pride and accomplishment for the school community.

The new Silver Lake Regional Middle School is beautiful and will be ready for occupation in September. We will begin school after Labor Day to accommodate the move. As soon as the students leave the high school in June the renovation of that facility will start. Community and state support has delivered a new high school to our district.

While task forces in the middle school work on the design for middle level learning, high school staff reach for Mission '07. While we adapt to the change created with a smaller school, we are also pursuing the vision of the future in a state-of-the-art renovated building.

This was the year of mold when weather conditions caused mold problems in schools throughout New England. We were no exception and both Dennett Elementary and the high school suffered from this condition. Staff members in both facilities rallied and delivered quality education under limited conditions until all teaching spaces could be restored.

Where budgets were level funded last year we have reduced services to manage the budget. In any year where this happens there needs to be a careful plan to restore the losses at some time in the not too distant future. The fiscal crisis in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts comes at a bad time as three towns take over the regional school district.

As our numbers diminish, we move our athletes from the Old Colony League to the Patriot League. While school size defines league eligibility, we anticipate no fewer students participating in the extracurricular program. There is no limit to the talent and spirit among those many students on athletic teams and in our music and other activities.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

As we strive for excellence and advance as a quality school community, thanks go to all the students, teachers, staff, administrators, parents, volunteers and to those who serve on the School Committee and the Building Committee for hours and hours of dedicated service to the children of the Tritowns.

Gordon L. Noseworthy, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

**SILVER LAKE REGIONAL MIDDLE SCHOOL
JEFFREY S. LUCOVE, PRINCIPAL
HIGHLIGHTS FOR 2003**

Transition is a very appropriate word to describe the 2003-2004 school year for Silver Lake Regional Middle School. As we move speedily toward a tri-town region and the opening of a state-of-the-art middle school, there are a multitude of activities happening which include: the building project, Staff and School Council reviews of our program offerings, budget challenges, packing and moving plans, and the creation of a *New Middle School Orientation Program* for staff, students, and parents.

Ground breaking ceremonies for the new middle school (located at 250 Pembroke Street, Kingston next to Silver Lake Regional High School) took place on March 22nd at the building site. Dr. Gordon Noseworthy, Superintendent of Schools, hosted the event which was well attended by local residents. Also in attendance and supporting this momentous occasion were state representatives Thomas J. O'Brien and Daniel Webster, as well as State Senator Therese Murray. As of this writing, the building project is right on target. We expect to take possession of the building in the July 2004 timeframe and be ready for our opening just after Labor Day!

On October 22, a special program entitled, "The New Silver Lake Middle School: An Information Evening for Parents" was held in the Kingston Intermediate School Auditorium. Presenting at the meeting were Robert Spear, Executive Director of the New England League of Middle Schools; Patricia Clem, Board Chair of the Commonwealth of Middle Level Educators; and, a panel of Silver Lake Middle School teachers. During this program, parents were provided with overviews of middle school philosophies, concepts, organizational structures and programs. An additional information evening is being planned for early March 2004.

We are very pleased with our 2003 "Mid-Cycle AYP (Annual Yearly Progress) Report" from the Department of Education regarding our latest MCAS results. We continued with our strong results in English/Language Arts meeting all our improvement targets. Of particular note this year is the increase we showed in Mathematics. Our scores rose on the aggregate by a total of 8.5 points. This is significant movement in one year and we will continue our focus to raise these scores above our annual goal.

In November 2003 we received a congratulatory letter from the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) for our continued accreditation. The association commended our active attention to the recommendations in their report stating that they are “proud to have schools like Silver Lake Middle School among its membership – schools that look to improve themselves to ensure that children are being served completely and appropriately”.

Another word that properly describes the 2003-2004 school year for us at the middle school is ***opportunity***. We look forward to the opportunity to improve the education of our tri-town students through a new facility, an improved academic program, additions to our after-school activities, and by establishing a new and positive school culture. This culture will stress *excellence* in all we do as teachers, support staff, students, and parents to *ensure the success of each individual child*.

**SILVER LAKE REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL
RICHARD J. KELLEY, PRINCIPAL
HIGHLIGHTS 2003**

At the High School, we continued our preparations for the reconstituted district. Mission '07, a committee comprised of teachers, students, administrators, and parents, was formed in January 2003. This committee will oversee the transition to a three-town high school as well as implement the vision for the new Silver Lake Regional High School. The group has formed two sub-committees that will deal with the short-term issues of transition and the long range planning issues that will define how Silver Lake Regional High School operates in the future. Administrators and faculty have been actively working with the architects as they design the physical structure for the High School. These meetings have focused on maintaining the high standard of our educational programs during the renovation project as well as on developing a state of the art physical plant at the end of construction.

Early in the year, the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) sent us confirmation that our Two Year Interim Report received 30 new commendations for its ability to address recommendations made following the site visit of November 2000. NEASC made no new recommendations at this time, and Silver Lake maintains full accreditation, the highest standard NEASC awards. As part of the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB), Silver Lake issued its first report card. We were proud to report our Performance Ratings of "Moderate" for mathematics and "High" for English language arts. In addition, we were "Above Target" in both areas on the improvement scale for "Adequate Yearly Progress." Our "Proficiency Index" rose from 73.8 to 77.3 in math and from 83.8 to 89.2 in English. In December, the Department of Education visited the Silver Lake Regional School District for a Program Review. The High School, in particular, received high praise in the preliminary report for its culture, which is "clearly to do what is best for kids."

Faculty and administration prepared twenty appeals to the Department of Education for those students in the Class of 2003 who did not pass an MCAS exam. Nineteen of those appeals were granted. All 351 students who met Silver Lake Regional High School's much higher graduation requirements passed MCAS. Our Advanced Placement (AP) scores for this year were outstanding. All together, over 120 students took 256 AP exams. Students who achieve scores of 3 or above receive college credit. The percentages for students who received 3 or

above are: 100% for Computer Science, 80% for Biology, 77% for Environmental Science, 50% for Physics, 82% for European History, 79% for US History, 52% for Calculus AB, 73% for Latin, 50% for French, 93% for Spanish, 97% for English Literature.

The Class of 2003 graduated 351 members on June 7, 2003. Earlier in the week, approximately \$150,000 was granted to members of the senior class in scholarships, prizes, and awards. This amount does not include scholarships awarded to our students directly from the colleges and universities. I am also pleased to note that 13 of our 18 non-graduating students from the Class of 2003 completed their graduation requirements over the summer and have received their diplomas.

Our annual Evening of Excellence was held on May 28, 2003. Part of the school's Renaissance Program, this celebration of academic achievement, perfect attendance, service, and personal growth of our students is planned and executed by faculty volunteers. This year's event recognized approximately 600 underclassmen before a standing room only audience.

The summer months were busy this year. In addition to the normal summer school course offerings, students were on campus for MCAS camps and tutorials. The Middle School construction also impacted the High School as parts of our grounds were re-landscaped to accommodate the upcoming changes in traffic patterns. After summer school ended, mold was discovered in two areas of the high school plant and that necessitated re-doing the master schedule to open school without the White House and Little Theatre. Through the efforts of our committed faculty and staff, there was minimal disruption to the educational process for the 1808 students enrolled as of October 1st. Just as school opened, the High School received notice that it had been awarded Title One Funding for the first time. The funding enabled us to hire a Math and English teacher to provide supplemental services for students who have experienced difficulties in the areas of math and language arts.

The Class of 2005 received their MCAS results in the fall of 2003. In both areas, Silver Lake scored well above the statewide averages; 85% of the class passed math (80% statewide) and 96% percent passed English language arts (89% statewide). The percentages of students who achieved either Advanced or Proficient scores also rose in both testing areas: ELA from 68% to 73% and math from 47% to 56%. We are improving in reaching our school-wide goal that **every** student score in the Advanced or Proficient area for both math and ELA.

Last year's Code Yellow exercises and emergency planning paid dividends this year as we encountered a number of unexpected situations. On April 7th, we were forced to cancel school as students were arriving because we had an oil leak that could have affected the water treatment plant. On June 6th, we welcomed approximately 1000 Middle School students who were evacuated because of a broken water main in Pembroke. On December 10th, a gas main was broken at the Middle School site adjacent to the High School forcing the evacuation of all students and staff to the Middle School in Pembroke. Our experiences have given us valuable input on our preparedness, and we continue to evaluate and fine-tune our emergency procedures.

School-wide in-service days were held on January 21st and October 14th. In January, every teacher attended a workshop on writing across the curriculum and developing rubrics for assessing writing skills. In October, John Collins, a nationally known researcher on writing education, presented to the entire faculty his Five Types of Writing Program, which the English Department has been using for a number of years, to provide strategies for teachers in all disciplines to use student writing activities as a regular component of the learning process. In January of 2004, teachers will be reporting to their departments on the writing activities that they have developed to implement these strategies and how they will assess student achievement.

As part of the annual handbook review, the requirements to make honor roll have changed. To achieve High Honor Roll, a student must attain an A- or better in all subjects. To achieve Honor Roll, a student must attain a B- or better in all subjects. Over 600 students received invitations to the Renaissance Awards ceremony in November to celebrate their achievements (210 for perfect attendance; 242 for honor roll; 146 for both perfect attendance and honor roll). At the ceremony, privilege cards for discounts at both school and in the community were awarded to students. We appreciate the efforts of the Plymouth Area Chamber of Commerce in developing a listing of local businesses that offer discounts to students who achieve academic excellence.

Beyond academics, our students participate and make a difference in a variety of ways. Over 80% of our students participate in an extracurricular activity. Eight of our sports teams met the requirements for the state tourney in their sport in 2003. Members of the National Honor Society, Key Club, Best Buddies, Student Council, SADD, GSA, DECA, FFA, individual

classes, and other groups donate time, money, and services to better the lives of others in the community. Music and dramatic performances entertain those who attend sold-out performances. In May, seniors showcased their talents in the visual and performing arts to both the school community and the community at large at an evening festival.

The Year 2003 marks the last full calendar year that students from the four towns will be together. It has been a year of transition and impending change. Silver Lake has continued to offer students a stimulating, challenging curriculum taught by well-prepared, dedicated professionals. The faculty and staff, in concert with parents and the greater community, encourage students to take advantage of our offerings so that they may realize their full potential both as students and as citizens. As we look to the future, Silver Lake remains committed to maintaining highest level of educational offerings possible for all students.

PLYMPTON SCHOOL BUILDING COMMITTEE

An addition and renovation project for the Dennett School was approved by voters in May of 2000, and the construction work began in October 2001. In January 2003 the entire school building, except the new gymnasium, was ready for occupancy by students and staff. This building provides adequate space for all educational programs. There are classrooms for Special Education, Reading, Music and Art; there are also instructional spaces for Math, Speech and other specialist programs. There is also adequate office space and areas for storage. All regular education classrooms are now spacious and well-lighted, and have windows that open. The school building has new operating systems including HVAC, electric and plumbing, and is now heated by gas rather than the expensive electric service of the original building.

After the temporary classrooms and offices were moved out of the new gym in January 2003, the new wood floor, basketball hoops and bleachers were installed. This gym was not available for use by the school until the beginning of the 2003-2004 school year, but is now being used for the school's physical education programs, and by PAYS for its youth basketball programs. Having a full-sized basketball court and adjustable height half-court baskets allows the program to better serve the needs of the community. Unfortunately, it has not been possible to use the new athletic fields at the school due to inadequate growth of the grass over the past year. It is hoped that these fields will be in usable condition by the start of the 2004-2005 school year. There is a full-sized Little League field and a soccer field. Both are intended for use by the school and the community, though some additional fencing will be required for the Little League field before it can be used for official games.

There were also difficulties in the new building in 2003. In August, mold was discovered on a classroom wall. After inspecting other rooms, it was determined that mold growth was also present in many other classrooms. Unusually high humidity and temperatures for prolonged periods of time this summer were contributing factors to mold growth; mold problems occurred in many schools across Massachusetts this summer. The School Administration quickly arranged for all classes to be held in the two gymnasiums after consulting with the Plympton Board of Health. Following a series of meetings and negotiations, the General Contractor agreed to help with the mold remediation, even though the causes of the mold growth at that point were not clear, and a formal agreement was signed.

In the final agreement, the Town paid for the cleaning of the building, a very comprehensive and expensive process. The Town will also be responsible for the final repairs to the walls. The General Contractor, with its subcontractors, provided the air containment system necessary for remediation, removed, cleaned, and replaced the HVAC unit vents, removed contaminated insulation and sheetrock, and replaced the insulation. The classrooms were reoccupied in November 2003.

The funding for the mold remediation came from two sources. The School Building Committee voted to use most of its remaining funds, and the Town, at a Special Town Meeting in October, voted to take \$25,000 from stabilization. The total cost to the Town, including testing and consulting fees for the industrial hygienist who consulted with the Board of Health throughout the process, is approximately \$70,000. Using School Building Committee funds for mold remediation means that many other things that had been planned for the school can no longer be funded by this Committee. These include additional fencing for the ball fields, regrading the old playground area, providing furniture and technology, and many other items.

The School Building Committee hired an independent engineer to determine what factors contributed to the mold problem. The engineer reviewed the design and construction documents, inspected the building, and reviewed building operation procedures. The final report indicates that the mold growth occurred as a result of several factors, including improper insulation of some pipes, lack of training for the custodial staff on the building systems, and operation of the controls within the building. The report provides recommendations for the operation of the building that, in conjunction with much greater awareness of mold issues, should prevent this situation from occurring again.

The school building project is now essentially complete, with the exception of the construction of a shed by the Silver Lake High School House Carpentry students; this is scheduled to begin this winter. The School Building Committee has provided the vocational program with the plans for the shed, and will also pay for the materials needed for its construction. The shed is necessary for storage of the tractor used for plowing, the snow blower, and other maintenance equipment and supplies used by the school.

The Plympton School Building Committee wishes to extend our heartfelt appreciation to the Project Architect, Mr. Daniel

Bradford of KBA Architects in Boston, and to the General Contractor, the Paul J. Rogan Company of Braintree and its Project Manager, Mr. James Rogan, for their dedication to this addition and renovation project. The School Building Committee is also grateful for the support of the citizens and officials of the Town of Plympton, whose cooperation and support has helped ensure the success of the project, which will benefit Plympton's children and the entire community for many years to come.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Ossoff, Chair
Susan Earle, Secretary
Jeanne Black
Henry Nover
Rick Springer

**SILVER LAKE REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS OF 2003**

Patrick Alan Adams
Nancy Ann Bloomquist
Mackenzie William Burke
Macaela Banes Burnet
Grace Hallie Dennison
Kerri Lynn Edson
Curtis Wright Edwards
Daniel Francis Egan
Robert Joseph Firlotte
Justina Rose Finocchi
Dana Lawrence Fowler
Lindsay Helen Garuti
Steven Andrew Klepper
Meghan Maria Lakis
Peter Fredrik Lee
Adam John Little
Jeffrey David Luker
Kristena Elizabeth Magoon
Rayan Farrell Mahoney
Stacy Lynne McAuliffe
Erik John Miller
Kellen Stephen Murphy
Ryan Benjamin Nicotri
Alyssa Rose O'Malley
Kimberly Jean Orcutt
Matthew Clark Prescott
Ashley Marie Reddy
Dennis Edward Reddy IV
Meghan Marie Robinson
Dominic Steven Sarro
Bryn Phallon Schockett
Stacie Noelle Shedd
Claire Marie Smith
David Ray Thompson
Stephanie Eileen Varley
Kylah Marie Zeoli

PLYMPTON SCHOOL DEPARTMENT

MEMBERSHIP

Enrollment October 1, 2002

Grade	K	SP	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	37	0	34	35	33	34	41	48	42	35	30	39	43	35

TOTAL

ELEMENTARY 262

SECONDARY 224

GRAND TOTAL 486 STUDENTS

**SILVER LAKE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
 COMBINED STATEMENT OF REVENUES, TRANSFERS, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES-
 ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2003**

	GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES			Combined Totals (Memorandum Only)	
	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	June 30, 2003	June 30, 2002
Revenues					
Member town assessments	17,439,746			17,439,746	11,399,337
Intergovernmental	8,958,190	1,530,300		10,488,490	14,021,091
Paid on behalf of member Town	176,301			176,301	1,539,467
Interest income	278,118			278,118	53,176
Charges for services	549,315	1,564,666		2,113,981	2,094,095
Miscellaneous	54,419			54,419	31,785
Sale of Land and Building			11,900,000	11,900,000	
Total revenues	27,456,089	3,094,966	11,900,000	42,451,055	29,138,951
Expenditures					
Administration and supervision	1,906,203			1,906,203	1,915,143
Instructional services	15,965,992	1,328,268		17,294,260	16,542,598

School services	202,409	1,730,953		1,933,362	1,785,701
Transportation	689,899			689,899	1,091,200
Operations and maintenance	2,317,733			2,317,733	2,449,041
Employee benefits and other fixed charges	4,760,304			4,760,304	4,261,652
Lease of facilities and computer equipment	1,112,714			1,112,714	1,038,983
Capital Outlay	90,061		10,243,459	10,333,520	141,989
Debt service	226,600			226,600	246,536
Assessments	58,100			58,100	107,354
Total expenditures	<u>27,330,015</u>	<u>3,059,221</u>	<u>10,243,459</u>	<u>30,389,236</u>	<u>29,580,197</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	126,074	35,745	1,656,541	12,061,819	(441,246)
Other financing sources (uses)					
Premium on BANs	477,319			477,319	
	<u>477,319</u>			<u>477,319</u>	
Excess (deficiency) of revenues and other financing sources over expenditures and other uses	603,393	35,745	1,656,541	2,295,679	(441,246)
Fund equity, beginning of year	<u>1,058,801</u>	<u>911,763</u>		<u>1,970,564</u>	<u>2,411,810</u>
Fund equity, end of year	1,662,194	947,508	1,656,541	4,266,243	1,970,564

**SILVER LAKE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
2002 - 2003 OPERATING BUDGET
FINAL CLOSEOUT TRIAL BALANCE**

	TOTAL AVAILABLE	TOTAL EXPENDITURES	BALANCE
REGULAR DAY			
11SCHOOL COMMITTEE	331,901.00	120,981.70	210,919.30
12SUPERINTENDENTS' OFFICE	988,058.00	918,508.33	69,549.67
21SUPERVISION	630,101.52	659,999.82	(29,898.30)
22PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE	898,833.92	837,653.29	61,180.63
23TEACHING	12,133,106.68.68	12,777,247.85	(644,141.17)
235PROFESSIONAL DEV.	120,900.00	118,314.87	2,585.13
24TEXTBOOKS	187,500.00	132,662.11	54,837.89
245INST. HARD & SOFTWARE	249,140.00	183,945.29	65,194.71
25LIBRARY	197,380.40	157,230.66	40,149.74
26AUDIO VISUAL	9,880.00	6,117.19	3,762.81
27GUIDANCE	949,002.72	1,022,457.11	(73,454.39)
32HEALTH	101,706.00	110,507.96	(8,801.96)

33TRANSPORTATION	1,156,254.80	658,819.58	497,435.22
35ATHLETICS	68,700.00	68,511.98	188.02
411CUSTODIAL	880,194.88	1,033,213.13	(153,018.25)
412HEATING	151,500.00	156,927.45	(5,427.45)
413UTILITIES	869,105.00	812,522.59	56,582.41
421MAINTENANCE/GROUNDS	32,750.00	21,135.06	11,614.94
422MAINTENANCE/BUILDINGS	193,085.00	371,310.77	(178,225.77)
423MAINTENANCE/EQUIPMENT	129,030.00	119,487.25	9,542.75
51RETIREMENT	472,638.00	438,001.47	34,636.53
52INSURANCE	2,055,704.01	1,922,606.03	133,097.98
53LEASE	764,539.00	764,697.14	(158.14)
54DEBT SERVICE	72,500.00	0.00	72,500.00
73ACQUISITION/EQUIPMENT	29,029.00	20,529.83	8,499.17
74REPLACEMENT/EQUIPMENT	84,004.00	69,531.07	14,472.93
TOTAL REGULAR DAY	23,756,543.93	23,502,919.53	253,624.40

SPECIAL EDUCATION			
221SUPERVISION	211,196.80	206,712.95	4,483.85
223TEACHING	821,328.08	808,651.57	12,676.51
228PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES	32,450.00	23,389.35	9,060.65
233TRANSPORTATION	27,000.00	31,079.73	(4,079.73)
TOTAL SPECIAL EDUCATION	1,091,974.88	1,069,833.60	22,141.28
GRAND TOTAL	24,848,518.81	24,572,753.13	275,765.68

**SILVER LAKE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
2003 - 2004 OPERATING BUDGET**

	2002 - 2003		2003 - 2004	%
	BUDGET		BUDGET	INC/DCR
REGULAR DAY				
11SCHOOL COMMITTEE	331,901.00	(98,500.00)	233,401.00	-29.68%
12SUPERINTENDENTS' OFFICE	988,058.00	54,342.00	1,042,400.00	5.50%
21SUPERVISION	630,101.52	(26,294.52)	603,807.00	-4.17%
22PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE	898,833.92	39,394.08	938,228.00	4.38%
23TEACHING	12,133,106.68	441,048.73	12,574,155.41	3.64%
235PROFESSIONAL DEV.	120,900.00	20,000.00	140,900.00	16.54%
24TEXTBOOKS	187,500.00	(86,750.00)	100,750.00	-46.27%
245INST. HARD & SOFTWARE	249,140.00	(9,500.00)	239,640.00	-3.81%
25LIBRARY	197,380.40	(39,864.40)	157,516.00	-20.20%
26AUDIO VISUAL	9,880.00	920.00	10,800.00	9.31%
27GUIDANCE	949,002.72	(39,172.72)	909,830.00	-4.13%
32HEALTH	101,706.00	9,611.00	111,317.00	9.45%

33TRANSPORTATION	1,156,254.80	(535,868.40)	620,386.40	-46.35%
35ATHLETICS	68,700.00	(16,385.00)	52,315.00	-23.85%
411CUSTODIAL	880,194.88	(50,439.88)	829,755.00	-5.73%
412HEATING	151,500.00	(56,500.00)	95,000.00	-37.29%
413UTILITIES	869,105.00	(69,212.00)	799,893.00	-7.96%
421MAINTENANCE/GROUNDS	32,750.00	0.00	32,750.00	0.00%
422MAINTENANCE/BUILDINGS	193,085.00	10,240.00	203,325.00	5.30%
423MAINTENACE/EQUIPMENT	129,030.00	1,325.00	130,355.00	1.03%
51RETIREMENT	472,638.00	59,311.00	531,949.00	12.55%
52INSURANCE	2,055,704.01	543,490.99	2,599,195.00	26.44%
53LEASE	764,539.00	0.00	764,539.00	0.00%
54DEBT SERVICE	72,500.00	(52,500.00)	20,000.00	-72.41%
73ACQUISITION/EQUIPMENT	29,029.00	(19,919.00)	9,110.00	-68.62%
74REPLACEMENT/EQUIPMENT	84,004.00	(82,504.00)	1,500.00	-98.21%
TOTAL REGULAR DAY	23,756,543.93	(3,727.13)	23,752,816.81	-0.02%

SPECIAL EDUCATION				
221SUPERVISION	211,196.80	6,173.20	217,370.00	2.92%
223TEACHING	821,328.08	47,788.92	869,117.00	5.82%
228PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES	32,450.00	0.00	32,450.00	0.00%
233TRANSPORTATION	27,000.00	1,080.00	28,080.00	4.00%
TOTAL SPECIAL EDUCATION	1,091,974.88	55,042.12	1,147,017.00	5.04%
LESS UTILITY REIMBURSEMENT			(52,315.00)	
GRAND TOTAL	24,848,518.81	(1,000.00)	24,847,518.81	0.00%

**PLYMPTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE
2002 - 2003 BUDGET
FINAL CLOSEOUT TRIAL BALANCE**

	TOTAL AVAILABLE	TOTAL EXPENDITURES	BALANCE
REGULAR DAY			
110 SCHOOL COMMITTEE	7,907.00	41,036.62	(33,129.62)
120 SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE	52,046.98	47,245.00	4,801.98
220 PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE	119,581.00	118,133.95	1,447.05
230 TEACHING	967,460.86	1,048,009.97	(80,549.11)
235 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOP.	23,000.00	11,937.00	11,063.00
240 TEXTBOOKS	16,044.00	23,726.53	(7,682.53)
245 INST. HARD & SOFTWARE	9,165.00	38,745.05	(29,580.05)
250 LIBRARY	67,443.00	77,361.04	(9,918.04)
260 AUDIO VISUAL	5,500.00	10,372.29	(4,872.29)
310 ATTENDANCE	75.00	75.00	0.00
320 HEALTH	28,897.00	27,896.48	1,000.52
330 TRANSPORTATION	93,665.00	100,436.88	(6,771.88)

340	FOOD SERVICE	500.00	500.00	0.00
411	CUSTODIAL	77,948.00	92,208.92	(14,260.92)
413	UTILITIES	87,110.00	71,236.06	15,873.94
421	MAINTENANCE/GROUNDS	125.00	0.00	125.00
422	MAINTENANCE/BUILDINGS	35,775.00	16,055.28	19,719.72
423	MAINTENANCE/EQUIPMENT	10,700.00	10,755.15	(55.15)
730	ACQUISITION/EQUIPMENT	383.00	14,552.43	(14,169.43)
740	REPLACEMENT/EQUIPMENT	7,510.00	20,663.03	(13,153.03)
	TOTAL REGULAR DAY	1,610,835.84	1,770,946.68	(160,110.84)
	SPECIAL EDUCATION			
221	SUPERVISION	7,912.16	7,665.62	246.54
223	TEACHING	97,372.00	48,722.11	48,649.89
227	GUIDANCE	31,292.00	31,409.31	(117.31)
228	PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES	14,528.00	3,223.37	11,304.63
233	TRANSPORTATION	80,255.00	52,352.93	27,902.07
290	PROGRAMS WITH OTHERS	295,202.00	133,043.64	162,158.36
	TOTAL SPECIAL EDUCATION	526,561.16	276,416.98	250,144.18
	GRAND TOTAL	2,137,397.00	2,047,363.66	90,033.34
932	VOCATIONAL EDUCATION	57,949.00	53,948.99	4,000.01

**SILVER-LAKE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
COMBINED BALANCE SHEET - ALL FUND TYPES AND ACCOUNT GROUPS**

June 30, 2003

	<u>GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES</u>			<u>FIDUCIARY FUND TYPE</u>	<u>ACCOUNT GROUP</u>	<u>Combined Totals (Memorandum Only)</u>	
	<u>Special</u>	<u>Capital</u>	<u>Trust and Agency</u>	<u>General Long-term Debt</u>	<u>June 30,</u>	<u>June 30,</u>	
	<u>General</u>	<u>Revenue</u>			<u>Projects</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2002</u>
<u>ASSETS</u>							
Cash	1,934,001 \$	907,186 \$	22,595,102 \$	131,619 \$		\$ 25,567,908 \$	2,739,137
Due from other governments	6,924,826	135,417				7,060,243	279,797
Deposits and miscellaneous	18,204					18,204	8,900
Amounts to be provided for payment of long-term obligations					1,009,000	<u>1,009,000</u>	<u>1,545,000</u>
Total assets	8,877,031 \$	1,042,603 \$	22,595,102 \$	131,619 \$	1,009,000 \$	<u>\$ 33,655,355</u>	<u>\$ 4,572,834</u>

**SILVER LAKE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
STATEMENT OF DEBT**

2002 – 2003

<u>PURPOSE</u>	<u>YEAR OF ISSUE</u>	<u>YEAR OF MATURITY</u>	<u>ORIGINAL ISSUE</u>	<u>PRINCIPAL OUTSTANDING</u>	<u>INTEREST OUTSTANDING</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
SR. HIGH CONSTRUCTION	1994 - 1995	2004 - 2005	2,000,000.00	400,000.00	21,500.00	421,500.00
TOTAL OUTSTANDING DEBT						421,500.00

**SILVER LAKE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
 CONSTRUCTION COST
 2003 - 2004 BUDGET**

SUMMARY OF TOWN ASSESSMENTS

TOWNS	TOTAL
HALIFAX	40,974.29
KINGSTON	60,158.78
PEMBROKE	97,677.20
PLYMPTON	17,289.73
TOTAL	216,100.00
1994 CONSTRUCTON - SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL	
PRINCIPAL DUE	200,000.00
INTEREST DUE	16,100.00
TOTAL PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST	216,100.00
LESS STATE AID	0.00
NET CONSTRUCTION ASSESSMENT	216,100.00