

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MINUTES

MONDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2016

Eric Hipp, Chair (present)
Stephanie Peters, Vice Chair (present)
Jennifer Fleming, Secretary (present)
Kelley Huxtable, Member (present),
David Twombly, Member (present)

Kathleen I. Tyrell, Superintendent of Schools
Judith Kuehn, Assistant Superintendent
David DeGennaro, Business Administrator
Maggie Ollerhead, Secretary to the Superintendent

- 1.0 Call to Order
The meeting was called to order by Eric Hipp, Chair at 7:00 p.m. at Hull High School Second Floor Exhibition Room, 180 Main Street with the salute to the Flag.
- 2.0 Approval of Agenda
Motion: Stephanie Peters **Second:** David Twombly
Move to approve the October 17, 2016 with the knowledge that items may be moved to accommodate students:
Vote: 5-0-0
- 3.0 Input from Public on Agenda Items
None
- 4.0 Student Representative
Mr. Richard Barone, senior, informed the Committee of the happenings at the high school, which included the following:
- Homecoming on Friday and Blue and Gold game against Blue Hills
 - This week is Spirit Week
 - Mock Trial went to Harvard
 - The band is raising money for their field trip in the spring to Washington, DC
 - \$3,000 was raised at the CNote last weekend, which will go to the Hull High School music department
 - Varsity and Clubs are in full swing
- 5.0 Approval of Minutes
None

6.0 School Committee Business Items

6.1 MSBA Site Visit

Mr. Hipp asked the Superintendent to update the Committee on the MSBA site visit. Dr. Tyrell state that we are continuing the MSBA process and the next step is the site visit. A meeting was held today with the Superintendent, Phil Lemnios, Town Manager, Bart Kelly, and Assistant Building Commissioner and staff members to discuss what will happen at the MSBA site visit. She said that in the spring we should hear whether we will move forward to the next step. She also said that we don't have the percentage of reimbursement right now but think it will be 50% for the middle school project, which is \$900,000.

7.0 Superintendent's Business Items

Dr. Tyrell stated that some of the students receiving awards are playing in the soccer game now so she would like some items taken out of order to accommodate the students and their parents.

7.5 Memorial School Out-of-State Field Trip Request

Ms. Anthony Hrivnak, Memorial School Principal, requested permission for grade seven students to attend the play *A Christmas Carol* at the Stadium Theatre in Woonsocket, RI on December 9, 2016. He said that every year the students do something related to the story and this year the teachers would like to take them to the play.

Motion: David Twombly

Second: Stephanie Peters

Move to approve the out-of-state field trip to *A Christmas Carol* at the Stadium Theatre in Woonsocket, RI.

Vote: 5-0-0

7.6 Testing Presentations

Dr. Tyrell stated that in her 10 years in Hull these scores are the strongest scores we have had. She said that MCAS was taken in grade 5 and 8 science and technology, grade 9 introductory physics and grade 10 ELA and Math. The PARCC assessment was taken in grads 3 reading and grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 ELA and math. Dr. Tyrell presented the following achievement levels:

Levels	PARCC Achievement Levels	MCAS Achievement Levels
Level 5	Exceeded expectations	Advanced
Level 4	Met expectations	Proficient
Level 3	Approached expectations	Needs improvement
Level 2	Partially met expectations	
Level 1	Did not yet meet expectations	Warning (3-8) Failing (HS)

Ms. Judith Kuehn, Assistant Superintendent, presented the following data results:

PARCC Data

Grade	Level 4 & 5	Level 5	Level 4	Level 3	Level 2	Level 1
Grade 3 ELA	76	15	61	13	10	2
Grade 4 ELA	77	19	58	14	9	0
Grade 5 ELA	74	5	69	21	5	0

Grade 6 ELA	65	19	46	25	9	1
Grade 7 ELA	79	42	37	13	6	1
Grade 8 ELA	73	18	55	15	7	5
Grade 3 Math	85	39	46	11	2	2
Grade 4 Math	69	18	51	25	5	2
Grade 5 Math	58	11	47	34	8	0
Grade 6 Math	59	13	46	30	7	4
Grade 7 Math	38	8	30	47	8	8
Grade 8 Math	58	9	49	16	16	9

MCAS Data

Grade	Advanced	Proficient	Needs Improvement	Warning
Grade 5 Science & Technology/Engineering	16	31	38	14
Grade 8 Science & Technology/Engineering	6	35	40	19
Grade 9 Introductory Physics	26	42	23	9
Grade 10 ELA	47	45	6	3
Grade 10 Mathematics	54	24	15	8

Ms. Kuehn stated that the PARCC and MCAS scores across most levels did improve.

Ms. Kuehn compared Hull with our District Analysis Review Tools (Dart) districts, which are the schools that are most like us demographically. This showed a great improvement in our scores.

Grades 3 – 8 English Language Arts – Meeting expectations (Level 5 & Level 4)

District	2014-2015	2015-2016	Variation
Hull	58%	73%	+15%
Central Berkshire	54%	44%	-10%
Gateway	52%	60%	+8%
Monson	44%	51%	+7%
Pioneer Valley	54%	53%	-1%
Quaboag Regional	50%	54%	+4%
Ralph C. Maher	35%	32%	-3%

Grades 3 – 8 Mathematics - Meeting expectations (Level 5 & Level 4)

District	2014-2015	2015-2016	Variation
Hull	48%	60%	+12%
Central Berkshire	49%	41%	-8%

Gateway	42%	49%	+7%
Monson	37%	41%	+4%
Pioneer Valley	45%	51%	+6%
Quaboag Regional	48%	49%	+1%
Ralph C. Maher	40%	40%	-

Dr. Tyrell presented the Student Growth Percentile – SGP

Each student's rate of change in performance is compared to others

- Median student growth above range – ELA grades 4,5, 6, and 7
- Median in growth range – ELA grades 8 and 10
- Median student growth above range – mathematics grades 6
- Median in growth range – mathematics grades 4, 5, 7, 8 and 10
- Median student reduction – mathematics grades 10

Ms. Judith Kuehn, Assistant Superintendent discussed the response to data.

The Superintendent said that the DESE has levels of accountability ranging from 1 to 5, with 1 being the top level and 5 being at the bottom. The 2016 Accountability Levels for Hull are as follows:

Hull High School – Level 2

Memorial Middle School – Level 2

Jacobs Elementary School – Level 1

Dr. Tyrell congratulated all students, staff and parents for the work that has been done to bring the schools scores up and that everyone should be very proud of themselves.

Advanced Placement Examinations and SAT Scores

Mr. Michael Devine, Hull High School Principal, presented the following information on AP and SAT Exam scores:

- Advanced Placement (AP) exams overview
- Hull High School 2016 AP scores
- Number of Hull High School students taking AP exams (2012-2016) in 2016 = 75
- Percentage of Students Taking at Least one AP Exam (2012-2016) in 2016 = 24%
- Number of AP Exams Taken (2012-2016) in 2016 = 139
- Number of Students Earning a 3 or Better (2012-2016) in 2016 = 49
- Percentage of Students Earning a 3 or Better (2012-2016) in 2016 = 65
- AP Trends – continue to increase the number of students enrolled in AP courses, continue to see a rise in AP scores
- Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) overview
- Mean SAT Scores (2013-2016) in 2016 = critical reading -507, mathematics – 513, writing - 502
- Mean SAT Scores Comparison (2016) above the national average in all areas
- SAT trends

Mr. Devine responded to School Committee questions and comments. He explained the waiver system that has increased opportunities for students to take AP courses and has not led to lower AP test scores. The Committee thanked Mr. Devine and the staff.

7.1 M.A.S.S. Academic Excellence Awards

Each year the Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents provides an award to a senior from every school district in the Commonwealth. The criteria for the selection of this award include cumulative average, class rank, and leadership. This year Dr. Tyrell presented two awards this year to Richard Barone and Luis Gonzalez. Dr. Tyrell read a long list of both students' accomplishments during their high school years.

School Committee and Superintendent congratulated Richard and Luis.

7.2 National School Development Council Award (N.S.D.C.)

Dr. Tyrell asked the two students who received the MASS award to stay at the podium. She presented the *National School Development Council (NSDC) Academic Growth and Student Leadership in Learning (NSDC) Awards* to Richard Barone and Luis Gonzalez.

7.3 National Merit Commended Students

Mr. Michael Devine, Hull High School Principal, presented certificates to three high school seniors named *National Merit Commended Students* by the College Board. This is in recognition of earning scores in the 99th percentile of all juniors who took the PSAT in the fall of 2015. The three students receiving the award were Richard Barone, Aiden Leahy and James Rosado. Mr. Devine added that because this is national it is amazing to have three students in a school the size of Hull.

Mr. Devine also presented the *National Academy of Future Scientists and Technologists Award of Excellence* to Richard Barone.

7.4 Hull High School AP Scholars

Mr. Michael Devine, Hull High School Principal, presented a certificate of achievement to eleven (17) Hull High School students. The College Board has named the following students AP Scholars in recognition of the scores they earned on the 2016 Advanced Placement examinations:

AP Scholars

Granted to students who receive scores of 3 or higher on three or more AP Exams.

Brianna Bennett	Jake Hague	Nolan Palma
John Dahill	Daria Healey	Lauren Saniuk
Stacia Foresta	Danielle Hooper	
Luis Gonzalez	Sinead McDonagh	

AP Scholar with Honors

Granted to students who receive an average score of at least 3.25 on all AP Exams taken, and scores of 3 or higher on four or more of these exams.

Richard Barone	Kathryn Pearlman
Margaret Dreishpoon	James Rosado

AP Scholars with Distinction

Granted to students who receive an average score of at least 3.5 on all AP Exams taken, and scores of 3 or higher on five or more of these exams.

Kaler Diemer

Kiernan Leahy

Haley McBride

School Committee and Superintendent congratulated students, teachers and parents. Dr. Tyrell said that the whole school community and town should take pride in what is happening in the Hull Public Schools.

7.7 FY16 Year End Actuals

Mr. David DeGennaro, School Business Manager, said that we were fortunate to have some late retirements that let us pay for unexpected special education costs and the lunch program overage. He stated that the closing went very smoothly, which he accredited to central office staff. He commented that Hull has a lean budget with no extras in it. Mr. Twombly agreed then shared his concerns that the rising out-of-district tuitions will be unsustainable. Ms. Peters added that out-of-district tuitions are an ongoing conversation at Budget Subcommittee meetings. Mr. Hipp thanked Mr. DeGennaro and Dr. Tyrell for getting the actual to the Committee early. He said he is grateful that we have the actual hard numbers itemized so if anyone has questions we have the information.

8.0 School Committee Policy Issues

None

9.0 Old Business Items

9.1 Sub-Committees

Mr. Hipp stated that he is the Hull School Committee member appointed to the South Shore Vocational Technical School (SSVT) Subcommittee, which held their preliminary meeting on September 19, 2016. On September 20, 2016 the committee met at SSVT and had a tour of the school. The Committee was put together to decide if whether or not to join SSVT or not. Mr. Hipp said Dr. Hickey, SSVT Superintendent, told Committee that the way enrollment works now is member towns students who have scores above 60 (this includes several criteria including grades, standardized test scores, etc.) will be accepted first, then non-member students who score above 60. No one that scores under 60 is admitted. He stated that this year there are 160 incoming freshmen. Ms. Hipp stated that the price to become a member town would be approximately \$34,000 but if a non-resident student was to be accepted into the school the cost would be just under \$17,000 including transportation. Mr. Hipp added that if we were a member town we would also have to pay for any repairs or other expenses. He added that there is a lot to look at when making the decision of whether to become a member or not. Mr. Hipp informed the School Committee that he thinks it is unfortunate that the SSVT Committee scheduled the next meeting for this exact time with the full knowledge that we had a School Committee meeting. He added that it is quite concerning since the votech budget is part of the school budget, not the entire town budget. Committee members had questions and concerns regarding the SSVT membership. The Superintendent said this is the beginning of the process that could take a few years to hash out and Mr. Hipp added that he would keep this board updated as new information comes out.

Ms. Peters informed the Committee of the Capital Outlay Committee meeting to be held, tomorrow night, October 18, 2016 at Town Hall.

Ms. Peters and Ms. Fleming will be scheduling the first meeting of the Community Outreach Subcommittee.

9.2 Acceptance of Donations

\$530 from HHS Class of 1971 to Theatre Arts

\$250 from James & Mary Lynch – in memory of Cynthia Kellem to Theatre Arts

10.0 New Business

None

11.0 Approval of Warrants

None

12.0 Correspondence to and Comments from School Committee Members

Ms. Peters informed the television viewing audience that the Realtor Open House will be held this Thursday, October 20, 2016 in the Jacobs School Library. She asked that people spread the word to any realtors they know. She added that there will be optional tours afterwards.

Ms. Peters requested that school advertising be added to a future School Committee agenda.

Ms. Fleming expressed her opinion that it would be tough on the town financially so she is voting no on question 2. She also opined that, because of Hulls terrific history she will be voting yes on 3. Mr. Hipp said that after the last meeting when the School Committee signed the Resolution Against Lifting the Cap on Commonwealth Charter Schools he sent it to the Board of Selectmen, who also signed the resolution.

13.0 Executive Session

Adjournment

Motion: Stephanie Peters

Second: David Twombly

Motion to go into Executive Session at 8:46 p.m. for the purpose of a grievance hearing with the Hull Teachers Association (Teachers). An open meeting may have a detrimental effect. The Committee is not expected to reconvene in Open Session.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes: David Twombly, Stephanie Peters, Eric Hipp, Jennifer Fleming and Kelley Huxtable.

Attachments

1. MCAS presentation
2. 2016 AP Exam and SAT Scores presentation
3. FY16 Budget with Actuals

These Minutes of a meeting of the Hull
School Committee were approved and
adopted by the Committee on
November 21, 2016

Jennifer Fleming, Secretary
Hull School Committee