

SCHOOL COMMITTEE  
HULL PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
HULL, MA 02045

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MINUTES  
MONDAY, JANUARY 23, 2017

**SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT**

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

**STAFF MEMBERS 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 7:01 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:** Kelley Huxtable  
Move to approve the January 23, 2017 as presented  
**Vote:** 4-0-0
- 3.0 Input from Public on Agenda Items  
None
- 4.0 Student Representative  
None
- 5.0 Approval of Minutes  
**Motion:** Stephanie Peters                                 **Second:** Jennifer Fleming  
Move to approve the following minutes as presented:
  - Monday, January 9, 2017 Regular Meeting**Vote:** 4-0-0
- 6.0 School Committee Business Items
  - 6.1 MSBA Statement of Interest - Memorial Middle School  
Mr. Hipp explained that last year we sent statements of interest to MSBA to have much needed fixes done at both the Memorial School and Hull High School that was not performed during renovations. He said that unfortunately Hull was not picked to receive funding for renovations. Dr. Tyrell added that the Memorial School did go to the second phase, which means that they did recognize that it was significant but they did not have the funding. Mr. Hipp said that only 17 schools received funding in the entire state.

Mr. DeGennaro filled out two applications, one for each school and the School Committee has to vote to move this forward then the Board of Selectmen will have to vote. The Town Manager and Superintendent will have to sign off as well. He also said that the other necessary vote is to prioritize which building gets work first if we only get picked for one. Mr. DeGennaro informed the Committee that Thompson and Litchner prioritized the Memorial School and he concurs.

**Motion:** Stephanie Peters

**Second:** Kelley Huxtable

Resolved: Having convened in an open meeting on January 23, 2017, prior to the closing date, the School Committee for the Town of Hull, in accordance with its charter, by-laws, and ordinances, has voted to authorize the Superintendent to submit to the Massachusetts School Building Authority the Statement of Interest Form dated February 28, 2017 for the Memorial Middle School located at 81 Central Avenue, Hull, Massachusetts 02045, which describes and explains the following deficiencies and the priority category(s) for which an application may be submitted to the Massachusetts School Building Authority in the future. The building envelope related issues that meet the criteria for Priority #1 – “Replacement or renovation of a building which is structurally unsound or otherwise in a condition seriously jeopardizing the health and safety of school children, where no alternative exists.” The school building needs masonry and building envelope repair work per the Thompson and Litchner report dated February 20, 2015 and also to replace rooftop air handling units (RTU-1) or repair and replace other HVAC units per recommendation report from WSP Engineering Services; and hereby further specifically acknowledges that by submitting this Statement of Interest Form, the Massachusetts School Building Authority in no way guarantees the acceptance or the approval of an application, the awarding of a grant or any other funding commitment from the Massachusetts School Building Authority, or commits the Town of Hull to filing an application for funding with the Massachusetts School Building Authority.

**Vote:** 4-0-0

## 6.2 MSBA Statement of Interest – Hull High School

Mr. DeGennaro explained that there needs to be two separate votes on the statement of interest to MSBA and then a final vote on which school is the priority if only one school is to be picked for funding. See item 6.1 for details.

**Motion:** Stephanie Peters

**Second:** Jennifer Fleming

Resolved: Having convened in an open meeting on January 23, 2017, prior to the closing date, the School Committee for the Town of Hull, in accordance with its charter, by-laws, and ordinances, has voted to authorize the Superintendent to submit to the Massachusetts School Building Authority the Statement of Interest Form dated February 28, 2017 for the Hull High School located at 180 Main Street, Hull, Massachusetts 02045, which describes and explains the following deficiencies and the priority category(s) for which an application may be submitted to the Massachusetts School Building Authority in the future. The building envelope related issues that meet the criteria for Priority #1 – “Replacement or renovation of a building which is structurally unsound or otherwise in a condition seriously jeopardizing the health and safety of school children, where no alternative exists.” The school building needs masonry and building envelope repair work per the Thompson and Litchner report dated February 20, 2015 and also to replace or repair HVAC units per recommendation report from WSP Engineering Services; and hereby further specifically acknowledges that by submitting this Statement of Interest Form, the Massachusetts School Building Authority in no way guarantees the acceptance or the approval of an application, the awarding of a grant or any other funding commitment from the Massachusetts School

Building Authority, or commits the Town of Hull to filing an application for funding with the Massachusetts School Building Authority.

**Vote:** 4-0-0

Mr. DeGennaro then asked the Committee to prioritize the schools based the recommendation from Thompson and Lithchter and on the building with the most need and to vote on the top priority.

**Motion:** Stephanie Peters

**Second:** Kelley Huxtable

Move to make the Memorial Middle School the first priority in our Statement of Interest application to the Massachusetts School Building Authority.

**Vote:** 4-0-0

## 7.0 Superintendent's Business Items

### 7.1 Geography Bee Winner

Mr. Anthony Hrivnak, Memorial Middle School Principal, gave an overview of the National Geographic Bee that was held recently at Memorial School. The event went 4 rounds in each classroom then each grade level then to a large school event after school. Finally there was an all school assembly with the top students on stage. The winner was Nolan Tiani.

### 7.2 Ocean Drifter Student Presentation

Mr. Anthony Hrivnak, Memorial School Principal, introduced science teachers Ms. Joanna Frazier and Heather Weber, and several of the students who were involved in the Ocean Drifter Project, to come and update the Committee on the project. The students built an ocean drifter and on October 19, 2016 they took a trip to Cape Cod and put the drifter in the ocean. There were other school there doing the same thing, which the students and teachers found to be a great experience. The students have been tracking the currents by monitoring the progress of the drifter on a map to see where it is going. The last "ping" they got from the drifter was on December 20, 2016. The teachers and students will continue to monitor to see if there is any new pings in the future. The Global Ocean Drifter Program is an initiative started by NOAA and brought to our school by the South Shore Natural Science Center of Norwell, MA and funded by a grant from 3M.

### 7.3 The Educational Impact of School Consolidation

Mr. Anthony Hrivnak, Memorial School Principal, and Mr. Michael Devine, Hull High School Principal, updated the 2013 presentation that was originally presented to the Advisory Board and the Board of Selectmen. Topics included:

- Purpose
- Current Mandates
- Additional Requirements
- Additional Challenges
- Grade Configuration
- Impact on Students Grades 6 - 8
- Impact on Students Pre-K - 7
- Impact on Students 9 – 12
- District-wide Impacts
- Other Issues to Consider
- Summary

Ms. Huxtable made the comment that not much has changed from the last presentation but there are fewer students. Mr. Hrivnak explained that although there are fewer children they are not all in the same grade, the grade levels of the students are spread throughout all grades so one or two less students in one grade would not have an effect. Mr. Devine added that the number of students requiring significant support has increased in the commonwealth. Students needing special education services, including counseling, occupational and physical therapy and other services increased in just the past three years. The Committee and Superintendent discussed the negative effects of consolidation on the educational impact of students and how these negative effects would make families not want to move to Hull or even move out of Hull, which would also affect the entire community.

#### 7.4 Mass Grad Promising Practices Competitive Grant

Ms. Judith Kuehn, Assistant Superintendent, gave an overview of the Mass Grad Promising Practices Competitive Grant. She stated that there has been a significant increase of students with social emotional needs and this grant helps school districts with a high concentration of at risk youth. Hull received \$20,000 to continue to transition students with behavior, attendance and other issues, from grade 8 to grade 9. She stated that we have been doing this work with similar grants in the past. It is a 5 week program with a special education teacher, counselor and coach working with the students on an individual learning plan when they get to high school.

#### 7.5 FY18 Budget Discussion

- Facilities Maintenance Overview and Budget

Topics discussed

- Brief History of Spending
- FY18 Proposed Maintenance Budget
- Recent Projects
- Projects in Process

When asked, Mr. DeGennaro told the Committee that there were cost savings because we renegotiated the heating service. He added that we try to do better each year. Ms. Peters said that the custodians do a great job and the buildings are always clean.

#### 7.6 School Calendar

Dr. Tyrell referred to the calendar the Committee received in their packet and noted that the first day of school for staff will be Monday, August 28, 2017 and the first day for students will be Tuesday, August 29, 2017 and the last day of school is scheduled to be June 13, 2018 unless there are no school days, which would extend later into June. Ms. Huxtable stated that she has heard from parents who would like school to start after Labor Day so the students can work on those three days and because Park and Rec. doesn't start until after July 4<sup>th</sup>. Dr. Tyrell stated that there are competing needs and different reasons people give for starting before or after Labor Day and there is no right or wrong answer but she said she believes three days at the beginning of the school year are far more important academically than three days at the end of the year, when the buildings are hot and testing is over. She reminded the Committee about 2015 when we had to have Saturday school to make up snow days. Ms. Kuehn stated that KidsCare started on June 29<sup>th</sup> this year. Ms. Peters



None

12.0 Correspondence to and Comments from School Committee Members

Ms. Huxtable thanked Ms. Frazier and Ms. Weber stating that hands-on project based things are happening in the schools.

13.0 Executive Session

Adjournment

**Motion:** Stephanie Peters

**Second:** Jennifer Fleming

Motion to go into Executive Session at 9:05 p.m. to discuss negotiation strategy with respect to collective bargaining (Nurses & Secretaries) and litigation on a charge of Prohibited Practice filed by the Hull Teachers Association. An open meeting may have a detrimental effect. The Committee is not expected to reconvene in Open Session.

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

1. MSBA Statements of Interest
2. Ocean Drifter Student Presentation
3. The Educational Impact of School Consolidation Update

These Minutes of a meeting of the Hull School Committee were approved and adopted by the Committee on February 7, 2017

Jennifer Fleming, Secretary  
Hull School Committee