

5.0 Approval of Minutes

Motion: Stephanie Peters

Second: Jennifer Fleming

Move to approve the following minutes as presented:

- Monday, September 18, 2017, Executive Session

Vote: 4-0-0

6.0 School Committee Business Items

6.1 School Committee Goals

Mr. Hipp said that at the last meeting there was interest in the whole Committee put together the School Committee Goals instead of a subcommittee but not sure that there was input from everybody on that. He said he wanted to reiterate what he said last week about looking at the two policies related to goals (BA and BAA) and have the Committee redouble efforts to draft goals and submit them to Ms. Ollerhead. Ms. Peters suggested using the last School Committee Goals that were presented, which were 2013-2015 goals, as a starting point because they relate back to the policies. She asked Ms. Ollerhead to email Committee members that document.

6.2 Superintendent Evaluation Process

Mr. Devine said that a few years ago the new educator evaluation system went into effect for Superintendents to be evaluated the same as every teacher and administrator in the district. He said he is required to establish smart goals in three areas, these areas are student learning, professional practice and district improvement. He explained that as the School Committee part of the evaluation of Mr. Devine's performance will address how well he achieves the goals that he has set for himself and that the Committee endorse.

Mr. Devine's goals are as follows:

- The number of students in grades 3-10 that earn scores of Exceeds Expectations or Meets Expectations in the 2018 English, science and math MCAS exams will be at or above the state average.
- During the evaluation cycle, successfully complete one-year of the New Superintendent Induction Program (NSIP).
- During the evaluation period, convene a Strategic Planning Committee and develop a 5-year Strategic Plan for the Hull Public Schools.
- During the evaluation period, hire a new Hull High School principal.
- During the evaluation period, the district will implement more Social and Emotional Learning strategies at all levels.

Ms. Peters requested the spring mid-cycle review be presented before town elections so the current board will still be in place to participate in discussion. Ms. Peters asked if students could be on the principal search committee. Mr. Devine said he would look into that.

Motion: Stephanie Peters

Second: Jennifer Fleming

Move to approve Mike Devine's Educator Goal Setting and Planning as presented starting November 2017 to November 2018.

Vote: 4-0-0

7.0 Superintendents Business Items

7.1 John and Abigail Adams Scholarships

Mr. Devine announced that sixteen Hull High School seniors have received the John and Abigail Adams Scholarship. This scholarship is awarded based on individual performance on grade 10 MCAS English Language Arts and Mathematics tests. This award makes them eligible for free tuition at the University of Massachusetts (any campus) or any of the Massachusetts state colleges, community colleges, or universities. Mr. Devine read the students names.

Shea Burke	Meghan Dunn	Sean Reichardt
Margaret Canavan	Victoria Fuda	Madeline Richardson
Sarah Dahill	Kristen MacDonald	Maeve Richardson
Jessica Delaney	Emily Menice	Matthew Williamson
Faith Devitt	Zakary Purcell	
Hannah Diemer	Christian Olivieri	

7.2 MCAS Testing Presentation

Ms. Judy Kuehn, Assistant Superintendent, stated that some of this years tests are Legacy MCAS test and some are Next-Generation MCAS, which is in its first year and did not administering PARCC tests. She presented the MCAS results outlined as performance level trends, growth model explanation and median growth trends, as follows:

Review of 2017 Assessments	
Schools	Assessment
Hull High School	
Grade 9 Introductory Physics	Legacy MCAS
Grade 10 ELA and Math	Legacy MCAS
Memorial Middle School	
Grade 6 ELA and Math	Next-Generation MCAS
Grade 7 ELA and Math	Next-Generation MCAS
Grade 8 ELA and Math	Next-Generation MCAS
Grade 8 Science and Technology	Legacy MCAS
Jacobs Elementary School	
Grade 3 Reading and Math	Next-Generation MCAS
Grade 4 ELA and Math	Next-Generation MCAS
Grade 5 ELA and Math	Next-Generation MCAS
Grade 5 Science and Technology	Legacy MCAS

Ms. Kuehn stated that the next-generation MCAS tests focused on critical thinking, application of knowledge, connections between reading and writing and is updated to reflect expectations in revised learning standards. She said the new standards for meeting expectations are more rigorous than the standards for reaching the Proficient level on Legacy MCAS.

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

Grade	Exceeding & Meeting	Exceeding	Meeting	Partially Meeting	Not Meeting
Grade 3 ELA	49	11	38	44	8
Grade 3 Math	53	8	45	38	9
Grade 4 ELA	65	28	37	30	5
Grade 4 Math	55	11	44	37	9
Grade 5 ELA	56	8	48	35	10
Grade 5 Math	47	14	33	37	16
Grade 5 Science & Technology/Engineering	53	16	37	38	10
Grade 6 ELA	68	8	60	31	2
Grade 6 Math	71	8	63	25	5
Grade 7 ELA	58	6	52	37	5
Grade 7 Math	53	6	47	44	3
Grade 8 ELA	58	16	42	29	14
Grade 8 Math	38	6	32	46	16
Grade 8 Science & Technology/Engineering	44	1	43	35	20
Grade 9 Introductory Physics	83	31	52	14	3
Grade 10 ELA	94	42	52	6	0
Grade 10 Math	79	55	24	15	5

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

Ms. Kuehn 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 and 6
- Median in growth range – ELA grades 5, 7, 8 and 10
- Median student growth above range – mathematics grades 6 and 7
- Median in growth range – mathematics grade 10
- Median student reduction – mathematics grades 10

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

Mr. Devine stated that there are some changes at the high school level that will take place over the next few years. This year in addition to taking the Intro to Physics MCAS in grade 9 and the math and ELA MCAS in grade 10 (graduation requirements) grade 9 will pilot the new Intro to Physics and grade 10 will take either math or ELA, assigned by the state. The purpose is to try out test questions that will be used on the next-generation assessments. He also stated that the state is telling us that we will see a much larger number of students fail to meet the competency determination with the next-generation tests. MCAS is only one measure but not the only measure. We need to understand that over the next few years, as the state develops this new system and schools roll out the new standards, scores will be somewhat unpredictable. We can’t

trace back how students have done over last three years because they have been taken different tests.

Committee members commented on the positive scores, the high level of achievement, student growth and the compounding spirit and culture. Members congratulated students and staff.

Mr. Hipp recognized audience member Mary Schultz, who read a letter from her 10 year-old daughter, when asked how she felt about taking the MCAS test. The letter talked about how she felt worried, stressed and anxious. Ms. Schultz then stated that she was representing families who are opting their children out of the test. She asked that with all the horrific stories of kids dealing with stress and anxiety, why the Committee is supporting these MCAS tests and if the Mass. Teachers Union and the Boston Teachers Union are all opposed to the tests why are you still doing them.

Mr. Devine stated that the short answer is we are required by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to do so; there is federal law and state law that require it. My personal opinion does not matter right now because I am required by law to administer the tests.

Committee members discussed the reasons for standardized testing and how the results measure teaching and learning and that some kind of testing is done at many levels of a person's career path. Members commented on how testing was no big deal when they were young but MCAS testing is discussed throughout the school year and many children suffer from anxiety. Ms. Huxtable said that testing is a fact of life but not this early in life, and now we created a culture where we are talking about the test for so long ahead that we are naturally building up anxiety and nationally children are suffering from anxiety, which impacts their output and value in themselves. She added that people should not be shamed for opting out of the test.

Ms. Schultz stated that she felt it was inappropriate the way the Jacobs School Blue Notes and the Superintendents letter were sent out. Mr. Devine said that what was stated in those letters was factual information; three students opted out of taking that test, which is factual information. He added that parents need to understand that those actions can negatively consequences to the entire community. Real estate market is definitely impacted by MCAS scores. Mr. Hipp stated that these scores are not reflective of a Level 3 school. Mr. Hipp noted that we are appealing to DESE the level assignment but have not received the results yet. Ms. Peters encouraged Ms. Schulz and anyone else thinking of opting out of testing to reach out to the school principals, teachers and guidance counselors to help your child get through it because it does have an impact on the town. Ms. Fleming agreed with other Committee members and added that she has seen the standards of learning improve over the years and anxiety is an unfortunate consequence. Ms. Huxtable said that because we are in a small district three children opting out is detrimental, but if we were in a larger district that wouldn't be the case. Maybe if the test wasn't administered to children at such a young age or wasn't talked about as high stakes children would not feel the anxiety and pressure that they do now.

Mr. Hipp acknowledged Ms. Deborah McCarthy, grade five teacher, said that she was speaking as her role as Chair of Government Relations to draw attention to senate bill 3408, which talks about a three year moratorium on high stakes testing, which is the biggest number. She believes DESE shamed people into compliance and publically humiliated them. She said she could not let this opportunity to go by without applauding the parents who put their child before a test.

7.3 AP/SAT Testing Presentation

Dr. Paula Girouard McCann, Hull High School Principal, and Ms. Nicole Nosek, Assistant Principal, presented the following information on AP and SAT Exam scores:

- Advanced Placement (AP) exams overview
- Hull High School 2017 AP scores
- Number of Hull High School students taking AP exams (2013-2017) in 2017 = 53
- Percentage of Students Taking at Least one AP Exam (2013-2017) in 2017 = 33%
- Number of AP Exams Taken (2013-2017) in 2017 = 119
- Number of Students Earning a 3 or Better (2013-2017) in 2017 = 38
- Percentage of Students Earning a 3 or Better (2013-2017) in 2017 = 70
- AP Trends – continue to see improvement in AP scores, a rise in the percentage of students earning a 3 or better and the waiver system has increased opportunities for students to take AP courses and has not led to lower AP test scores.
- Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) overview
- Mean SAT Scores (2014-2017) in 2017 = critical reading -558, mathematics – 552, there is no more writing component
- Mean SAT Scores Comparison (2017) above the national average in both areas
- SAT trends
- Future plans of the Class of 2017 – 58% four-year college, 10% two-year college, 4% military, 2% gap year and 26% undecided or work force.
- List of competitive colleges with number who applied, got accepted and attended.

Mr. Devine responded to School Committee questions and comments. The Committee congratulated staff and students.

7.4 School Attending Children Report

Mr. Devine presented the School Attending Children Report and noted that on October 1 the enrollment was 918 but as of today, November 13, 2017, our current enrollment is 923 students. He then presented the following information:

- We know there is a decline in enrollment
- Not because fewer students choosing Hull Public Schools
- Fewer school-age children living in Hull
- 384 less school-aged children living in Hull
- There are 325 less students attending Hull Public Schools than 10 years ago
- 25 less in out-of-district Public/Vocational
- 34 less in private schools
- Percentage of students in all 3 remains stable
- Numbers don't include Pre-K (54) or Out-of-district (25)

Mr. Devine also broke down the enrollment by schools and grades. School Committee members discussed recent push over last few years to get students to come to Hull and Hull Public Schools, these include: brochures, principals reaching out by phone calls, eliminated kindergarten tuition, Superintendent forums.

8.0 School Committee Policy Issues

Motion: Stephanie Peters **Second:** Jennifer Fleming

Move to adopt the following policies for first reading as presented.

Policy IKE	Promotion and Retention of Students
Policy IL	Evaluation of Instructional Programs
Policy ILB	Testing
Policy ILBA	School System Program Assessments
Policy IMA	Teaching Activities/Presentations
Policy IMAA	Plan Books and Planning
Policy IMB	Teaching About Controversial Issues/Controversial Speakers
Policy IMDA	Pledge of Allegiance
Policy IMDB	Flag Displays
Policy IMDC	Religious Holidays

Vote: 4-0-0

9.0 Old Business Items

9.1 Sub-committees

- SSVT Feasibility Committee preliminary discussion they received from consultant, with a grant from the state. Ms. Huxtable said the committee were in the process of discussing documentation of monetary feasibility and are still in discussions. She said that data will be shared at the next meeting in more detail. She continued saying as students enroll and get accepted the first year is exploratory session as freshman and after that all students are the same so if your elective is taken you have no advantage. The committee is still trying to figure how they pick who takes what courses. Also, Ms. Huxtable found out that SSVT is starting a capital campaign. She will report back after next meeting.

- The Capital Outlay is meeting on Wednesday night at Town Hall

- Marijuana Task Force will hold Community Forums and discuss with Jim Lampke, Town Counsel, for legal overview. Later the school department will have a say. Ms. Fleming said the task force agreed they will not disband right now.

9.2 Donations

Motion: Stephanie Peters

Second: Kelley Huxtable

Motion to approve the following donation:

- \$7,000.00 from Hull Youth Football to Hull High School Athletics Program to purchase side line benches/tables.

10.0 New Business

None

11.0 Approval of Warrants

None

12.0 Correspondence to and Comments from School Committee Members

Ms. Fleming stated that at the last meeting she raised the subject of meeting as a full Committee instead of subcommittee. She said she spoke to a Hingham School Committee member and she would like to bring the subject up again when everyone is present.

Mr. Hipp told the Committee that last Friday there was a dinner at the MASC/MASS Conference

and Stephanie Peters earned a Lifetime Achievement Award. Committee members congratulated Ms. Peters.

13.0 Executive Session

Adjournment

Motion: Stephanie Peters

Second: Eric Hipp

Motion to go into Executive Session at 9:19 p.m. for the purpose of negotiation strategy with respect to collective bargaining (Custodians) and negotiation strategy with bus services. 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.

Additional documents:

1. MCAS Testing Presentation
2. AP/SAT Testing Presentation
3. School Attending Children Report

These Minutes of a meeting of the Hull School Committee were approved and adopted by the Committee on January 8, 2018.

Jennifer Fleming, Secretary
Hull School Committee