

SCHOOL COMMITTEE
HULL PUBLIC SCHOOLS
HULL, MA 02045

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2002

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

John Silva, Chair
Christopher Shipps, Vice Chair
John Liddington, Secretary
Stephen Avakian, Member
Rhoda Kanet, Member

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Gerald Fournier, Assistant Superintendent for Learning and Teaching
William Hurst, Chief Business and Financial Officer

A. Approval of Agenda:

Chris Shipps made a **motion** to approve the agenda as presented. Stephen Avakian seconded the motion. All members approved the motion.

B. Input from Public:

None

C. Superintendent's Reports, Requests, Announcements, Presentations and Recommendations:

1. Recommendations for Communications Systems at Hull High School During Construction:

Dr. Silva told the committee that Frank MacDonald, who the Superintendent had asked to speak on the communication system issue, had e-mailed him stating that he was unable to attend the meeting. Dr. Goyette spoke on the issue. Dr. Goyette said that he thought the number of units is sufficient and he is confident with Frank MacDonald's decision. He gave several reasons why he is confident that the commercial grade units are adequate for Hull High School. He also went through a list of differences between the commercial grade units and the small family style units. Rhoda Kanet wants every classroom with students in it to have some kind of emergency unit. Bill Hurst stated that the units that were purchased have different crystals in them so they will only work with each other and not get outside interference. After further discussion Rhoda Kanet made a **motion** that every classroom be equipped with an emergency communication system and School Committee instruct our owners representative to select the least expensive system that would meet those goals and be compatible with our current system. Stephen Avakian seconded the motion for further discussion. After some discussion Stephen Avakian **amended** the **motion** to put a \$2300.00 ceiling on the request. Rhoda Kanet seconded the amended motion. Chris Shipps, Stephen Avakian and Rhoda Kanet voted in favor of the motion. Dr. Silva and John Liddington voted against the motion. The motion carried 3 to 2.

D. School Committee Policy Issues:

Rhoda Kanet made a **motion** to accept the following policies from Section A for adoption:

- AB – The people and their school district
- ACAA – Sexual harassment (Also GBB)
- ACE – Nondiscrimination on the basis of handicap

1. First Reading – Section “B”:

Maggie Ollerhead asked School Committee if they had any changes in Section B of the School Committee policy manual.

School Committee requested making the following changes:

- BA – Delete 3rd sentence. Delete *needed by all* in 1st sentence of 2nd paragraph. Change *the technique will involve* to **the committee will** in the 3rd paragraph. Combine #1 and #2. Change #3 to #2. Change #5 to #3. Delete #4.
- BA-E – Grammar changes.
- BBA – Change *Public* to **Community** in #4. Add **instructing the Superintendent to provide for the** in #4. Add **ensuring that the Superintendent** in #5.
- BBBA/BBBB – Delete last paragraph.
- BBBC – Delete *for reasons of health, or any other compelling reason* from 2nd paragraph.
- BBBE – Change *one* to **two** weeks in the second paragraph.
- BCA – Change *children* to **students** in #1.
- BCB – Get advice from Town Council.
- BDB – Change #4 to read **Create subcommittees and appoint members of subcommittee, subject to Committee approval.** Change *found* to **deemed** in #5.
- BDD-E – Add **ethical** to #5, right side.

School Committee ended policy discussion with policy BDD-E.

E. Old Business:

1. Report from School Building Committee:

John Lidington reported that there is leakage in the Clock Tower at the Memorial School. The Building Committee will bring in a consultant to answer the questions, What is leaking? Who should pay? The consultant will also do a mock “Noreaster” once the leak is fixed.

Mr. Lidington also reported that there was a discussion about artificial turf for the High School.

F. New Business:

- Rhoda Kanet brought up her concerns about very low MCAS results in Math. Dr. Silva reported that Language Arts scores were above target. Math did improve from last year but scores are still below target. School Committee request MCAS be included on the agenda for the next meeting.
- Ms. Kanet reported that she is concerned about a food problem at Hull High School. She stated that her concerns focus on variety and quantity. She has been told that the High School runs out of food on a continuous basis. Ms. Kanet request that this issue also be added to the next agenda. Requesting that either the head of food service or Steve Moore be present to comment on the issue.

G. Approval of Warrants:

The warrants were circulated and signed.

H. Correspondence to and Comments from School Committee Members:

- Dr. Silva received a letter of retirement from a Jacobs School employee.
- Rhoda Kanet reported that the play **Barnum** is scheduled for December 6 and 7 at the Memorial School.

School Committee members went into executive session to discuss contract negotiations with non-union personnel then reconvene in open session solely to adjourn.