

SCHOOL COMMITTEE  
HULL PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
HULL, MA 02045

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING  
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2002

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

John Silva, Chair  
Christopher Shipps, Vice Chair  
John Lidington, Secretary  
Rhoda Kanet, Member

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Kathleen Reynolds, Superintendent of Schools  
Gerald Fournier, Assistant Superintendent for Learning and Teaching  
William Hurst, Chief Business and Financial Officer  
Maureen Robishaw, Secretary to the Superintendent

**A. Approval of Agenda:**

John Lidington made a **motion** to approve the agenda as presented. Christopher Shipps seconded the motion. All members approved the motion.

**B. Input from the Public:**

Kristen Evans, HASC Member gave an overview of the HASC mini-grant recipients for the 2002-2003 school year as follows:

- Cathy DeiCicchi and the Jacobs School Kindergarten Teachers were awarded \$170 to upgrade the kindergarten home reading project;
- Christine Frederick, and the seventh grade team were awarded \$1,700 for their Interdisciplinary Project entitle Stages for Learning;
- James Merritt, High School Environmental Science Teacher was awarded \$1,725 for his three day project Sea Turtle in Cape Cod;
- James Merritt, High School Environmental Science Teacher was awarded \$1400 for his Hydes Ponding Mapping Experience.

Ms. Evans noted that the HASC Wine Dinner would be on November 14<sup>th</sup> at Jake's Seafood Restaurant. Tickets may be purchased from any HASC member or at Jakes Restaurant.

Superintendent acknowledged the contributions that HASC makes to the Hull Public Schools.

Chair noted that HASC is not only a contributor to Hull education but has become a true partner in education.

**C. Student Representative's Report:**

Mark Saville reported on the following:

- Senior Elections;
- Home Coming Court
- Home coming football game;
- Senior Executive Board;
- Hull High School open house;
- PTO elections;
- No Place for Hate Stand in the Sand;

- AP English Class;
- Forensics;
- Theatre Arts;
- Haunted House;

Chair congratulated student representatives for the comprehensive reports that are presented at School Committee meetings.

#### **D. Superintendent's Reports, Requests, Announcements, Presentations and Recommendations:**

Superintendent announced that some Hull High School Students from last year's graduation class were awarded AP scholar awards in various categories. The awards and students are as follows:

- ◆ Scholar with Distinction Category:
  - Catherine Lidington completed six AP exams with three threes or better;
  - Sarah McDonald completed four AP exams with three threes or better;
  - Matthew Powers completed five AP exams with three threes or better;
- ◆ Scholar with Honor category:
  - Paul McCann completed six AP exams with five threes or better;
  - Eric O'Keefe completed six AP exams with five threes or better;

The top award given by ETS to a Hull High School Student was awarded to Catherine Lidington for Scholar with Distinction.

#### **1. Request for Approval of AP Environmental Studies Field Trip to Costa Rica:**

Superintendent stated that the federal guidelines would be used for students who want to but who can not afford to go on this trip. Dr. Reynolds stated there is a great commitment to fund raising for students who cannot afford to go on this trip.

James Merritt, High School AP Science Teacher gave an overview of the high school environmental studies field trip to Costa Rica. Mr. Merritt responded to School Committee questions. Chair requested a response from administration regarding our insurance covering students in an out of the country trip. Superintendent stated she would respond at a future meeting. Chair asked Dr. Russell Goyette, HS Principal if he endorsed the trip. Dr. Goyette responded that he did support the trip. Superintendent stated she also recommends approval of this trip.

Christopher Shipps made a **motion** to approve the Advanced Placement Environmental Studies Field Trip to Costa Rica for nine days during April 2003. Rhoda Kanet seconded the motion. All members approved the motion.

Superintendent noted she would be presenting information for a field trip to France and Germany at an upcoming School Committee meeting.

#### **2. Request for Vote on Custodian's Contract:**

Superintendent requested approval on the three-year custodian contract. Christopher Shipps suggested making the following changes to the contract:

- Page 4 – article 7.5 change the word *men* to ***custodians***;
- Page 7 – Article 12.3 change *his* to ***custodians***;
- Page 7 – Article 12.3 change *Workmen's* to ***Worker's***;
- Page 15 – Article 26.1 change *shifts* to ***shirts***.

Superintendent stated the custodian's contract would be reviewed for gender items and appropriately changed. Chair stated the custodian's contract is for three years with an increase of 2.5% the first year, 3% the second year, and 3.5% the third year of the contract.

Christopher Shipps made a **motion** to accept and ratify the custodian's contract from July 1, 2002 through June 30, 2005 with a 2.5% increase in year one, a 3% increase in year two, and a 3.5 increase in year three of the contract. John Lidington seconded the motion. All members approved the motion.

### **3. Reading and Signing of Proclamation to Phil Lemnios:**

Superintendent stated there was a very joyous celebration at the Red Parrot on Monday, September 30th to acknowledge all Philip Lemnios, previous Town Manager has done for the Town of Hull. Mr. Lemnios has accepted a position in Natick as Town Manager. Dr. Reynolds read and requested School Committee members to sign the proclamation that was presented to Mr. Lemnios at his party. Superintendent noted that she looks forward to a continued positive relationship with Mr. McCabe our new Town Manager. Chair stated Mr. Lemnios was a great friend to the School Department during his Town Manager tenure.

### **4. Respond to Request for Additional MCAS Data:**

Superintendent stated that School Committee had requested administration to identify and give data on homeless students in other communities. Dr. Reynolds explained that data is not compiled at this juncture. Dr. Reynolds spoke about grade three reading scores. She noted that some students have entered kindergarten below grade level and have shown great progress. Dr. Gerald Fournier gave an overview by grade level of the MCAS scores of students who are on free/reduced lunch and to those who are non-free/reduced lunch students. The data shows that our free/reduced students are performing better than the statewide average free/reduced lunch students.

School Committee asked questions on the following:

- Is there testing data on literacy for students who enter kindergarten below grade level?
- At what point should students who enter below grade level be able to catch up to grade/above level students?
- Is there anyway of looking at data for kindergarten students to see if they were identified at pre-school as below grade level?
- Have we been looking at the data to identify trends from the assessment test of students?
- Is data compared on students who have been in HPS from kindergarten – grade 5 to students who enter HPS in a grade after kindergarten?

Superintendent responded to all questions. Dr. Reynolds acknowledged the good work of teachers.

### **5. Announcement of Dates for Memorial Middle School Open Houses:**

Superintendent announced that the beautiful renovated Memorial Middle School would be hosting two open house tours of the school. The dates and times will be Friday, October 18<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. and Saturday, October 19<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Community members are asked to enter through the cafeteria where people will be signed in and badges will be given to each person who will be touring the school. Refreshments will be served.

### **6. Announcement of Arbitration Decision Regarding Assignment of Teacher:**

Superintendent stated the arbitration decision regarding assignment of a teacher was found in favor of the School Committee and Superintendent. The School Committee did not violate any article of the HTA Contract by its assignment of a teacher for the 2000-2001 school year.

### **E. Approval of Minutes:**

John Lidington made a **motion** to approve the minutes of the September 23, 2002 School Committee minutes as presented. Rhoda Kanet seconded the motion. All members approved the motion.

### **F. School Committee Policy:**

#### **1. Second Reading – Consent First Reading Approved Items Section A:**

School Committee suggested the following changes:

- Policy AD – change *children* to **students** throughout policy;
- Policy AD – change wording of the last paragraph.

Christopher Shipps made a **motion** to approve the following policies from Section A for second reading:

- AA
- AC
- ACA
- AD
- AD-E1
- AD-E2
- ADA
- ADC-E
- ADD
- AE

John Lidington seconded the motion. All members approved the motion.

## 2. First Reading – Held Items Section A:

Maggie Ollerhead stated all changes requested by School Committee have been made to policies AB, ACAA, ACE, and ADC. Ms. Ollerhead noted that on policy ACAA – Sexual Harassment that *this policy is distributed annually to all personnel and is given to all new personal* would be added to the bottom of page three.

Dr. Gerald Fournier gave an overview on School Committee requests for the Tobacco Free School Policy.

School Committee suggested the following changes on policy ADC – Tobacco-Free Schools Policy:

- Eliminate *Vocational* throughout policy;
- Page 2 section on students – first offense – first bullet add after the word suspension ***or mandatory attendance at three classes of smoking cessation training;***
- Page 3 section on employees – change first offense to ***a written reprimand placed in personnel file;*** change second offense to ***Completion of medically recognized smoking cessation program;*** change third offense to ***One day suspension without pay and completion of medically recognized smoking cessation program.*** Superintendent noted that some conversation with HTA E-Board would be needed.

Rhoda Kanet made a **motion** on Tobacco Free School Policy, page one, section Tobacco Use to remove the words *also, the possession by a student on school grounds of a tobacco product* and add a period after the word *product*. Christopher Shipps seconded the motion. (This motion was later withdrawn)

School Committee and Superintendent discussed the following:

- How use of tobacco is defined in the MGL;
- MIAA student eligibility;
- Distinction between students and others (visitors);
- Distinction between carrying tobacco and using tobacco;

Christopher Shipps withdrew his second on the previous motion. Rhoda Kanet withdrew her motion.

John Lidington made a **motion** to request of the administration to provide School Committee with documentation of MGL chapter 71, Section 2A and any other information pertaining to the tobacco laws. Rhoda Kanet seconded the motion. All members approved the motion.

Superintendent proposed the following:

- Remove vocational throughout the Tobacco free School Policy;
- Come back to School Committee with a draft offering a smoking cessation classes to students;
- Change policy to reflect Canton Public School policy on staff violations;
- Investigate the legal requirements for possession.

John Lidington noted that the town determines fines and asked if Town Meeting members have ever set up a fine structure. Superintendent stated she would check with Town Counsel.

Rhoda Kanet requested information on where the definitions in the tobacco free school policy came from.

A **motion** was made by Christopher Shipps to approve policies AB, ACAA, and ACE for first reading. John Lidington seconded the motion. All members approved the motion.

### **3. Second Reading – Student Records Policy:**

Rhoda Kanet made a **motion** on Student Records Policy, page 2, item 3, delete the word *assesses* and add *who assess* after the word team. Christopher Shipps seconded the motion. All members approved the motion.

Christopher Shipps made a **motion** to accept JRA – Student Records Policy as second reading. Rhoda Kanet seconded the motion. All members approved the motion.

Maggie Ollerhead requested School Committee call or e-mail her with any changes to policies.

## **G. Old Business:**

### **1. Report from School Building Committee:**

John Lidington gave the following update regarding Hull High School:

- Start of work at Hull High School
- Contractor site visit;
- Conversion of shop area to cafeteria;
- Vapor barrier and plywood in shop area as a temporary measure;
- Letter to proceed to contractor;

John Lidington gave the following update regarding Memorial Middle School:

- Compiling the monitored punch list;
- General contractor has been put on notice that from this point on the Building Committee would go ahead and have the list corrected if the general contractor did not do it;

Superintendent noted the shop area floor will be ripped up and concrete poured as a permanent measure.

School Committee requested the following items be placed on a future School Committee agenda:

- Physics First on the November agenda;
- Relationship in continuity between three schools kindergarten - grade 12 in the mathematics program;
- A presentation on how schools' math programs connect to the other schools, K - 12 (elementary to middle; middle to high school).

## **H. New Business:**

School Committee requested the following:

- Administration come back to School Committee with information as to why there is no administrator within the confines of Hull High School;
- Budget ASAP (early November);
- How the bullying program will be implemented in the MMS & HHS on a future School Committee agenda.

## **I. Approval of Warrants:**

School Committee questioned the following invoices:

- Warrant #96 for Murphy, Hesse, Toomey, and Lehane
- Warrant # 87 for Project Lead the Way;
- Warrant #102 for Apple Computers.

Warrants were circulated and signed.

**J. Correspondence to and Comments from School Committee Members:**

William Smyth, High School Council Member gave an update on the renovation project at Hull High School. Chair noted there was no correspondence.

John Lidington made a **motion** to adjourn the School Committee meeting at 9:55 p.m. Rhoda Kanet seconded the motion. All members approved the motion.