

SCHOOL COMMITTEE
HULL PUBLIC SCHOOLS
HULL, MA 02045

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
MONDAY, MARCH 24, 2003

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Christopher Shipps, Vice Chair
John Lidington, Secretary
Stephen Avakian, Member
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

Christopher Shipps chaired the meeting.
Meeting began at 6:10 p.m.

Christopher Shipps requested a moment of silence for those who have lost their lives in the Middle East and for those who are serving in the military.

Continuation of Agenda Items Postponed from March 10, 2003, Meeting

E. School Committee Policy Issues

1. First Reading: Revision of Tobacco Free Policy

Dr. Gerald Fournier responded to questions previously asked by School Committee. He asked that the School Committee approve Option C of Attorney Lampke's communication regarding the non-criminal disposition of violations of the policy. Option C is that the Board of Health adopt the School Committee policy as its own regulation, and that voters at Town Meeting amend the Board of Health policy to include the School Committee policy in the Board of Health regulation. This will enable the School Committee to designate school personnel as enforcers of the non-criminal disposition portion of the Tobacco-Free Policy as agents of the Board of Health.

Superintendent stated this is an issue of collecting fines and who has the legal right to assess the fines. It is about anyone who violates the town by-law.

School Committee requested the following information:

- Clarify what needs to be done;
- Clarify if Town Meeting vote is necessary;
- Clarify what is possession;
- Clarify if state law allows an age clause.

School Committee requested a copy of MGL 71.2 and 71.3.

Rhoda Kanet suggested that possession of tobacco not be the equivalent to use of tobacco.

Stephen Avakian made a **motion** to accept revised policy ADC (also GBED) – Tobacco-Free School policy as first reading; to direct administration to move forward with the expectation that an article is included in the next available Town Meeting warrant; to approve Option C of Attorney Lampke's memo requesting the Board of Health to adopt the Tobacco-Free School policy as its own regulation, and that voters at Town Meeting amend

the Board of Health policy to include the School Committee policy in the Board of Health regulation. John Lidington seconded the motion. AYES: Stephen Avakian, John Lidington, and Christopher; NAYS: Rhoda Kanet. Motion passed.

2. Additional Policy Considerations

Maggie Ollerhead, Policy Coordinator, requested approval for third reading / adoption of section B policies.

Stephen Avakian made a **motion** to accept the following section B policies as third reading / adoption:

- BA – School Committee Operational Goals;
- BA-E – Committee Operational Goals;
- BAA – Evaluation of School Committee Operational Procedures;
- BB – School Committee Legal Status;
- BBA – School Committee Powers and Duties;
- BBAA – School Committee Member Authority;
- BBBA/BBBB – School Committee Member Qualifications / Oath of Office;
- BBBE – Unexpired Term Fulfillment;
- BCA – School Committee Member Ethics;
- BDA – School Committee Organizational Meeting;
- BDB – School Committee Officers;
- BDD – School Committee / Superintendent;
- BDD-E – Committee-Superintendent Relations.

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

Stephen Avakian made a **motion** to accept policy JMB – Scholarships as second reading. John Lidington seconded the motion. All members unanimously approved the motion.

Agenda for March 24, 2003

A. Approval of Agenda

Stephen Avakian made a **motion** to approve the March 24, 2003 School Committee agenda as presented. John Lidington seconded the motion. All members unanimously approved the motion.

B. Input from Public

Rhoda Kanet recused herself as a member of the School Committee.

Rhoda Kanet, parent, requested the School Committee under old business to amend policy JM – Selection of Class Valedictorian and Salutatorian for this year only that a student would have the option of attending any part of his / her senior year at Hull High School, meeting all other requirements of this policy be eligible for Valedictorian.

C. Student Representative's Report (Suspended for this Meeting)

D. Superintendent's Request

To Establish a "Wall of Academic Fame" Induction Ceremony for Present and Former Students (within the Past Five Years) who Score 800 on Either Section of the SAT's or "5" on any Advanced Placement Exam (SC #4)

Superintendent requested School Committee to approve establishing a "Wall of Academic Fame" induction ceremony and requested the three readings be suspended on this item. She asked for direction to install some protocols to identify, honor, and memorialize those students who have had significant levels of academic achievement.

School Committee suggested the following:

- Administration work with architect on design;
- Administration to work with architect on location;
- Additional types of achievements;
- Form a committee of school personnel;
- Examine all possibilities;
- Extend list of honorees;
- Administration to come back to School Committee with a plan of academic areas.

Stephen Avakian made a **motion** that administration be instructed to work with all members of the school department to establish an academic “Wall of Fame” and to do so in concert with a “Wall of Fame” that involves other aspects of scholastics including athletics and to direct the Superintendent to come back to School Committee with a plan of identified academic areas. John Lidington seconded the motion. All School Committee members voted to approve the motion.

Stephen Avakian made a **motion** to waive additional readings of this item and for the motion to take effect immediately. John Lidington seconded the motion. All members voted unanimously to approve the motion.

John Lidington made a **motion** to accept this item as third reading / adoption and to direct the Superintendent to set up an award that honors present and former students (within the past five years) who score 800 on either section of the SAT’s, “5” on any Advanced Placement Exam, or Advanced on all sections of MCAS. Rhoda Kanet seconded the motion. All members unanimously approved the motion.

At 7:10 p.m. Christopher Shipps requested a recess. At 7:15 p.m. the meeting reconvened.

Representative Garrett Bradley gave an overview of Governor Romney’s FY04 budget responding to questions from School Committee, Finance Committee, and Board of Selectmen.

At 7:45 p.m. School Committee requested a recess. At 7:48 p.m. the meeting reconvened.

E. School Committee Policy Issues

1. Third Reading – Alternative Physical Education Policy

Superintendent noted that all requested changes have been included in this policy. Dr. Reynolds requested third reading / adoption on policy IKF – Alternative Physical Education Program Policy and Application Process.

Rhoda Kanet recurred herself as School Committee member.

Rhoda Kanet, parent, requested that the minimum number of instructional hours be reduced from five (5) hours to two (2) - three (3) hours.

School Committee asked if this policy included health classes. Dr. Goyette, Hull High School Principal, responded only physical education classes were included in this policy.

Christopher Shipps made a **motion** to change procedure #2 - line one from *five hours* to **three hours**, add the word **school** before the word week, and line one and line two delete **for a minimum total of 150 hours and under the supervision of a qualified instructor(s)** on policy IKF (also: IHAE) – Alternative Physical Education Program Policy and Application Process. John Lidington seconded the motion. Stephen Avakian, John Lidington, and Christopher Shipps voted to approve the motion.

John Lidington made a **motion** to adopt policy IKF (also: IHAE) – Alternative Physical Education Program Policy and Application Process for third reading / adoption with a reconsideration date of June 1, 2003.

Christopher Shipps seconded the motion. AYES: John Lidington and Christopher Shipps; Abstain: Stephen Avakian. Motion passed.

2. Third Reading – Determination of Class Rank

Superintendent stated that all high school staff has reviewed the policy and suggested changes have been incorporated into this policy. Dr. Reynolds requested third reading / adoption on this policy stating that when this policy is adopted the Valedictorian will be done electronically greatly reducing errors.

Rhoda Kanet made a **motion** to adopt policy IKC – Determination of Class Rank for third reading / adoption. John Lidington seconded the motion. No vote was taken on this motion.

School Committee discussed physical education and health education being considered in the calculation of class ranking.

Stephen Avakian made a **motion** to amend policy IKC – Determination of Class Rank. Under number one delete the words **with the exception of Health, Physical Education, Study Skills, Foundation courses and other** and insert the word **and** before the word courses. There was no second to this motion. Motion failed.

Rhoda Kanet made an **alternate motion** to delete from policy IKC – Determination of Class Rank under number one the words **Health, Physical Education**. John Lidington seconded the motion. All members voted unanimously to approve the motion.

Stephen Avakian made a **motion** to accept policy IKC – Determination of Class Rank as third reading / adoption. Rhoda Kanet seconded the motion. All members voted to unanimously approve the motion.

Superintendent requested School Committee postpone physical education and health education in this policy until June 2004. Dr. Reynolds stated that including physical education would alter current class standings.

Christopher Shipps made an **amended motion** to amend policy IKC – Determination of Class Rank to postpone physical education in the calculation of class ranking until the 2003–2004 school year but include health education in the current year. It was noted that the principal may exclude areas for inclusion in class rank that are annually deemed inappropriate. Therefore, if health should not be included this year, this can be done. Stephen Avakian seconded the motion. All members unanimously approved the motion.

I. Approval of Warrants

Warrants were circulated and signed.

At 8:40 p.m. Stephen Avakian requested a five-minute recess. At 8:45 p.m. the meeting reconvened.

A joint meeting between the Board of Selectmen, Finance Committee and School Committee took place for a review of the school budget. A lengthy discussion of the school budget between the committees occurred. The possibility of reducing the School Department's budget further was debated. The members of the Finance Committee and Board of Selectmen asked questions of the School Committee, Superintendent and support staff. At 10:15 p.m. the Finance Committee adjourned followed by the Board of Selectmen. At 10:30 Stephen Avakian made a **motion** to adjourn the meeting. Rhoda Kanet seconded the motion. All School Committee members voted unanimously on the motion.

Agenda items F, G, H, and J were not addressed at this meeting.

