

SCHOOL COMMITTEE
HULL PUBLIC SCHOOLS
HULL, MA 02045

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
MONDAY, APRIL 14, 2003

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

John Silva, Chair
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

Continuation of Agenda Items Remaining from April 7, 2003 Meeting:

Dr. Silva recognized Rhoda Kanet on a Point of Personal Privilege. Ms. Kanet read a statement, copy attached, regarding the appearance of conflict of interest issues arising from her evaluation of the Superintendent and her pending vote on the Superintendent's contract. Dr. Silva took another Point of Personal Privilege by reading a letter, copy also attached, written by Arthur Augenstern regarding the ITE program.

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

Presentation on Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment Budget for Hull High School Building Project:

Several people spoke on the issues of the FF&E budget.
Joe Doniger and Cory Gillman - Theater Arts and Music department budget.
Russ Goyette - the review process that got to this budget.
David Weydt – sports equipment.
Steve Avakian – ITE program.
John Silva – recapped of the Building Committee meeting.

Christopher Shipps made a **motion** to have a School Committee meeting on Thursday, May 1st for the sole purpose of discussing the Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment budget. Rhoda Kanet seconded the motion. All members approved the motion.

E. School Committee Policy Issues:

1. Third Reading:

BBBC – School Committee Member Resignation.
John Lidington made a **motion** to accept policy BBBC – School Committee Member Resignation for third reading / adoption. Christopher Shipps seconded the motion. All members approved the motion.

School Committee tabled policy items E-2, E-3, and E4 until the May meeting:
BDC- Appointed Committee Officials.
JMB – Scholarships.
ADC- Tobacco Free.

5. First Reading: KBBA- Non-Custodial Parents' Rights

Christopher Shipp made a **motion** to accept KBBA – Non-Custodial Parents' Rights for first reading. Stephen Avakian seconded the motion. Ayes: Stephen Avakian, John Lidington, Christopher Shipp, and John Silva; Nays: Rhoda Kanet Motion passed.

6. First Reading: ADAA - CORI Policy

Stephen Avakian made a **motion** to accept ADAA – CORI policy on first reading. Christopher Shipp seconded the motion. All members approved the motion.

7. First Reading: Section B

School Committee accepted the following policies with no changes:
BDF – Advisory Committees to the School Committee
BDFA-R1
BDFA-R2

School Committee requested making changes on the following policies:
BDE – Maggie Ollerhead will research old minutes to see if a one-year lifespan was adopted.
BDFA – Add section from MGL pertaining to parent members. Add last paragraph from BDFA-R1.
BDFA-E – include language that Superintendent is required to approve.
School Committee ended policy discussion with policy BDFA-E.

New Agenda Items:

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

2. Report on Proposed Legislation to Address Charter School Cap Inequities:

Dr. Reynolds reported that she has been working with the Town Manager on this item. Hull is one of three towns that has a high cap on Charter Schools. Hull is at 13.2%. All other towns are capped at 9%. After more discussion Dr. Reynolds informed the committee that she is waiting for a response from the Department of Education's legal counsel.

3. Request for Vote on Revised 04 Budget:

Dr. Reynolds told the committee that after attending a joint meeting between the Finance Committee and the Board of Selectmen, the bottom line on the budget is to have each town department reduce its budget by 1%. That would mean \$119,000 off the schools budget. Dr. Reynolds recommendation is to cut \$100,000. Each School Committee member discussed the issue. Carl Katzeff also spoke on the issue.

Stephen Avakian made a **motion** to approve the \$100,000 cut recommended by the Superintendent. Christopher Shipp seconded the motion. All members approved the motion.

Stephen Avakian made a **motion** to engage in negotiations to reduce the budget by an additional \$19,000. John Silva seconded the motion. All members approved the motion.

4. Request for Vote on Annual Town Report:

Steve Avakian congratulated the Superintendent on the next to last paragraph of the report that reads, "Hull has risen to the challenge." Christopher Shipps made a **motion** to approve the Annual Town Report. Rhoda Kanet seconded the motion. All members approved the motion.

Correspondence to and Comments from School Committee Members:

- Members of the School Committee have received subpoenas for depositions in the Kanet vs. School Committee litigation.
- MASC letter about suspension of the MCAS requirements.

Jack Wholey, Community Member, questioned job postings of football coach. Dr. Reynolds said that all openings are posted in the schools and most are posted in the newspaper.

Approval of Warrants:

Rhoda Kanet made a request for a future meeting to examine bringing back special education students who are currently placed out of district.

Ms. Kanet questioned warrant #382 for \$2,171.69 that is paying for sports equipment. William Hurst, Chief Business and Financial Officer stated that the equipment is for this year's sports teams.

Ms. Kanet questioned warrant #377 for \$9,500.00. Dr. Reynolds informed Ms. Kanet that the program is grant funded through Title I.

Ms. Kanet questioned warrant #378 for \$130.00. Dr. Reynolds told her it was for the Project Lead the Way program.

John Lidington made a **motion** to adjourn. Steve Avakian seconded. Meeting adjourned at 10:39 p.m. All members voted unanimously to approve the motion.