

SCHOOL COMMITTEE
HULL PUBLIC SCHOOLS
HULL, MA 02045

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2003

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

John Silva, Chair
Christopher Shipps, Vice Chair
Kristen Evans, Secretary
Rhoda Kanet, Member

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Gerald Fournier, Interim Superintendent of Schools
Nancy Mrzyglod, Interim Assistant Superintendent of Schools
William Hurst, Chief Business and Financial Officer
Maureen Robishaw, Secretary to the Superintendent

Chair opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Chair noted that Stephen Avakian was out of town and would not be in attendance this evening.

A. Approval of Agenda

Rhoda Kanet made a **motion** to approve tonight's agenda. Kristen Evans seconded the motion for discussion purposes. All members unanimously voted to approve the motion.

B. Input from Public on Agenda Items

None

C. Student Representative Report

See below

D. Superintendent's Reports and Requests

1. Request for Approval of Forensics Team Trip

Gregory Cunningham, Forensics Coach, requested permission for two out-of-state field trips. The first trip is to Philadelphia, PA, to attend the Villiger Tournament at St. Joseph's University on November 22 and 23, 2003. The second trip is the Regis/Loyala Tournament in New York City on Saturday, January 24, 2004. Mr. Cunningham requested permission for the students to leave school on Friday, January 23rd at 11:00 a.m. Christopher Shipps made a **motion** to approve the Forensics Team out-of-state Villiger Tournament trip in Philadelphia, PA, on November 22, and 23, 2003 and the Regis/Loyala Tournament in New Your City on Saturday, January 24, 2004. Rhoda Kanet seconded the motion for discussion purposes. All members voted unanimously to approve the motion.

2. Request for Approval of April 2004 Trip to France and Spain

Marylou El-Shazly, High School World Language Teacher, requested permission to take approximately fifty students (50) on a trip to France and Spain from Friday evening, April 16, 2004, through Sunday evening, April 25, 2004. Ms. El-Shazly stated the trip is being organized by Educational Foundation Tours. She also discussed the four fund-raisers to help with the cost of the trip. Rhoda Kanet made a **motion** to approve the France and Spain trip from April 16, 2004, through April 25, 2004. Christopher Shipps seconded the motion. All members voted unanimously to approve the motion.

3. FY03 Spring MCAS Results

Dr. Gerald Fournier, Assistant Superintendent discussed the following:

- DOE new school performance rating scale;
- No Child Left Behind goals;
- Charter Schools;
- Academic Support funds;
- Composite Performance Index;
- Adequate Yearly Progress;
- Grades 3 – 8 and grade 10 MCAS results;
- District Cycle II ELA performance ratings;
- District Cycle II Math performance ratings.

School Committee discussed the MCAS results.

School Committee directed Dr. Fournier to accomplish the following:

- Meet with Principals to discuss the mathematics and Language Arts programs;
- Review the entire math program;
- Review the English Language Arts program;
- Identify the strengths and weaknesses in both programs;
- Come up with a comprehensive action plan;
- Report this action plan to the School Committee at the November or December meeting;
- Report this action plan to parents / guardians.

Dr. Fournier stated he would report back to the School Committee at the November or December meeting.

C. Student Representative Report

Cassidy Quinn, Student Representative discussed the following:

- Student leadership conference;
- Principal advisory board;
- Fall Sports;
- Homecoming game;
- Pirate Pride;
- Block scheduling;
- New high school office;
- Construction project at Hull High School.

4. Mathematics Curriculum Revision, Second Reading

Dr. Gerald Fournier noted that the second reading of the Mathematics Curriculum Guidelines includes the development of curriculum in the content areas of Algebra, Pre-Calculus and Calculus. Patricia Canniff, High School Mathematics Teacher, responded to questions from the School Committee. Rhoda Kanet made a **motion** to accept the second reading of the Mathematics Curriculum Guidelines as presented. Christopher Shipps seconded the motion for discussion. All members voted unanimously to accept the motion.

5. Attendance Policy Revisited

Dr. Gerald Fournier, requested modifying Policy JE - Student Attendance to include making a determination at the end of each quarter that a student have no more than five absences. A student may not be absent for more than eighteen (18) days in any school year. Dr. Fournier discussed the direct correlation between student MCAS scores and student absences. Dr. Russell Goyette, High School Principal, responded to questions from

the School Committee on attendance. Christopher Shipps made a **motion** to continue the School Attendance policy as approved by the School Committee with the exception of including a five-day per quarter review of student attendance records. Policy is to be reviewed in June 2004. Kristen Evans seconded the motion. VOTE: Ayes: Kristen Evans, Christopher Shipps, and John Silva; Nays: Rhoda Kanet.

6. October 1, 2003, Enrollment Data

Dr. Fournier read the preliminary October 1st enrollment stating student enrollment figures are down from last year.

School Committee requested the following information:

- Student enrollment for past years including vocational and out of district students;
- Reasons for students leaving the Hull Public Schools.

7. Advanced Placement Results

Dr. Gerald Fournier presented the June 2003, Hull High School Advanced Placement results in English Language/composition; English Literature / Composition, Environmental Science, European History, and Calculus AB.

8. Names of 2004 Retirees

Chair noted this item is informational for School Committee members.

9. Reminder Community Forum – Monday, October 20, 2003

Chair stated that the second community forum to discuss the desired goals, characteristics and abilities of the new Hull School Superintendent would take place on Monday, October 20, 2003, at the Memorial Middle School from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

10. Selection of School Committee Member to Serve on Contract Review Committee

Dr. Gerald Fournier requested creating a subcommittee to include a School Committee member, Administration, and HTA representative to review article forty-two (42) - School Based Management in the HTA contract. Dr. Silva volunteered to represent the School Committee on this Subcommittee. Dr. Silva requested that before a meeting date is determined that legal counsel review article 42 as it stands in regards to the Educational Reform Act. Dr. Fournier stated that there is also a need for a meeting to discuss article thirty-five (35) – Reduction in Force. He stated the administration would meet with the HTA to discuss this article.

E. Approval of Minutes

Rhoda Kanet requested adding to page five, item F – new business the words *Martin Luther King week* after the word sponsoring and before the word celebration to the September 22nd School Committee minutes.

Christopher Shipps made a **motion** to approve the September 22, 2003, School Committee minutes as amended. Kristen Evans seconded the motion for discussion. All members voted unanimously to approve the motion.

Christopher Shipps made a **motion** to approve the September 8, 2003, Industrial Technology Engineering Subcommittee minutes. Kristen Evans seconded the motion for discussion. All members voted unanimously to approve the minutes.

F. Old Business

1. Executive Session for the Purpose of Contract Negotiations

Chair requested moving Executive Session to the end of the agenda.

G. New Business

Chair noted there would be a School Committee retreat on Tuesday, November 25, 2003, from 3:30 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. to discuss short term and long-term goals.

Chair reported the following from the School Building Committee meeting:

- Phase one at Hull High School will be completed on October 21st;
- Phase two and phase three at Hull High School have been changed;
- Renovations for the Jacobs School will be on the next School Building Committee agenda.

Dr. Fournier proposed changing the two scheduled November School Committee meetings to one meeting on November 17, 2003. The School Committee agreed with this proposal.

Chair noted that the last day for applying to be part of the Superintendent Search Committee is October 15, 2003.

Dr. Fournier discussed a parent concern regarding teachers' updating homework on the website.

School Committee requested a copy of the high school course syllabus.

William Hurst, Chief Financial and Business Officer, informed the School Committee that Gerald Shaw, a retired English teacher from Hull High School had passed away. Chair requested Dr. Fournier to send a letter of sympathy to Mr. Shaw's family.

H. Approval of Warrants

Warrants were circulated and signed.

I. Correspondence to and Comments from School Committee Members

None

At 9:45 p.m. Rhoda Kanet made a **motion** to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing strategy with respect to collective bargaining and to come back into Open Session for the purpose of adjournment. Christopher Shipps seconded the motion. School Committee members took a Roll Call vote to go into Executive Session.

Executive Session Minutes

School Committee discussed Dr. Gerald Fournier's contract as Interim Superintendent of Schools and Nancy Mrzyglod's contract as Interim Assistant Superintendent of Schools. John Silva made a **motion** to approve the contract of Dr. Gerald Fournier as Interim Superintendent of Schools from November 1, 2003 until June 30, 2004. Dr. Fournier will return to the position as Assistant Superintendent of Schools July 1, 2004. Also, to approve the contract of Nancy Mrzyglod as Interim Superintendent of Schools from November 1, 2003 until June 30, 2004. Nancy Mrzyglod will return as Hull High School Curriculum Coordinator for the 2004 – 2005 school year. Kristen Evans seconded the motion for discussion purposes. All members voted to approve the motion.

At 9:59 p.m. John Silva made a **motion** to come out of Executive Session and go back into Open Session. Kristen Evans seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken by all School Committee members.

At 10:00 p.m. Kristen Evans made a **motion** to adjourn the School Committee meeting. Christopher Shipps seconded the motion. All members voted unanimously to accept the motion.

