

SCHOOL COMMITTEE
HULL PUBLIC SCHOOLS
HULL, MA 02045

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
MONDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2003

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

John Silva, Chair - arrived at 7:15 p.m.

Christopher Shipps, Vice Chair

Kristen Evans, Secretary

Stephen Avakian, Member

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

Christopher Shipps opened the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

A. Approval of Agenda

Stephen Avakian made a **motion** to approve tonight's agenda as presented. Rhoda Kanet seconded the motion for discussion purposes. Stephen Avakian, Kristen Evans, Rhoda Kanet and Christopher Shipps approved the motion.

B. Input From Public on Agenda Items

None

Rhoda Kanet stated that School Committee had not approved the change to add *on agenda items* after Input from Public on agenda item B. Chair noted that the minutes should reflect Ms. Kanet's statement.

C. Student Representative's Report

None

D. Superintendent's Reports and Requests

1. Request for changes in Approval of April 2004 Trip to France and Spain

2. Fund Raisers for April 2004 Trip to France and Spain

Marylou El-Shazly, World Language Teacher, requested permission to change the dates for the April 2004 student France and Spain trip. Ms. El-Shazly requested leaving on Thursday evening, April 15, 2004 and returning on Friday evening, October 23 2004. Dr. Fournier stated that he could not support an early departure for students. Students should leave on Friday evening. Rhoda Kanet made a **motion** that students going on the France and Spain trip should leave on Friday April 16, 2004. Kristen Evans seconded the motion for discussion. See below for vote.

Christopher made an **amendment to the motion** for the students to leave on Thursday evening, April 16, 2004 for the France and Spain Trip. Rhoda Kanet seconded the motion. Vote: AYES: Rhoda Kanet and Christopher Shipps; NAYS: Stephen Avakian, Kristen Evans, and John Silva. Amendment failed.

School Committee members voted unanimously to approve the original motion.

School Committee stated it is mandatory for all students going on this trip to attend school on Friday, April 16, 2004. If a student does not attend school on Friday he/she may not go on the trip.

3. Mathematics Curriculum Revision, Third Reading

Dr. Gerald Fournier requested School Committee approval / adoption on the K – 12 Mathematics Curriculum Guidelines. School Committee discussed teacher Advanced Placement training. Christopher Shipps made a **motion** to accept the revised Mathematics Curriculum guidelines for adoption. Rhoda Kanet seconded the motion for discussion purposes. All members unanimously voted to approve the motion. Rhoda Kanet made a **motion** that any teacher at Hull High School that teaches an Advanced Placement course must have completed Advanced Placement training. Kristen Evans seconded the motion for discussion purposes. All members voted unanimously to approve the motion. Rhoda Kanet stated AP students are being penalized because the AP teacher is not trained. Ms. Kanet requested that a letter be sent to a college where an AP student applies explaining that the AP teacher is not trained. Dr. Fournier stated that the high school guidance office writes college letters. Chair requested to table this discussion. He directed Dr. Fournier to meet with Dr. Russell Goyette, High School Principal and high school guidance staff to discuss this matter and report back to School Committee at a future meeting.

E. Old Business

1. Policy Issues

Maggie Ollerhead, Policy Coordinator, stated that policy ECAA – Security Policy replaced the Video Surveillance Policy.

Christopher Shipps made a **motion** to accept policy ECAA – Security Policy for first reading with the following changes in item #5:

- In the first line insert the word *if* before the word it;
- In the fourth line insert the word *violators* after the word law;
- In the fifty line insert *and if warranted, prosecuted to the full extent of the law.* After the word action;
- Delete the last sentence.
- Policy is to be reviewed by Town Counsel before the second reading.

Rhoda Kanet seconded the motion for discussion. All members unanimously voted to approve the motion.

Stephen Avakian made a **motion** to accept for adoption the following policies:

Policy BDC – Appointed Committee Officials

Policy BDG – School Attorney

Policy BE – School Committee Meetings

Policy BEDA – Notification of School Committee Meetings

Policy BEDC – Quorum

Policy BEDG – Minutes

Kristen Evans seconded the motion for discussion. All members unanimously voted to approve the motion.

Christopher Shipps placed a hold on policy BEDB-E – Sample Agenda until the Public Input policy was approved. See below.

Stephen Avakian made a **motion** to approve the following policies for second reading:

Policy BEDJ – Broadcasting of Meetings

Policy BEE – Special Procedures for Conducting Hearings

Policy BGD – School Committee Review of Regulations (ALSO:CHB)

Policy BGF – Suspension of Policies

Policy BK – School Committee Memberships

Christopher Shipps seconded the motion for discussion purposes. All members voted unanimously to accept the motion.

Stephen Avakian placed a hold on policy BGA – Policy Drafting. Mr. Avakian removed the hold after discussion of policy BGC – School Committee Policy Development that answered his question. Stephen Avakian made a **motion** to approve policy BGA – Policy Drafting for second reading. Rhoda Kanet seconded the motion for discussion. All members voted unanimously to approve the motion.

Stephen Avakian placed a hold on policy BIA – New School Committee Members Orientation. Mr. Avakian requested changing the word *encouraged* to *required* in the first line of the last paragraph of policy BIA – New School Committee Members Orientation. Mr. Avakian also requested adding *per Massachusetts General Laws* to the end of the first sentence. Rhoda Kanet requested deleting the word *specifically* in the first line of this paragraph

Christopher Shipps made a **motion** to approve policy BIA – New School Committee Member Orientation for second reading. Stephen Avakian seconded the motion for discussion purposes. All members voted unanimously to approve the motion.

Rhoda Kanet placed a hold on policy BJ – School Committee Legislative Program. Ms. Kanet was unsure whom the designated person was referring to in #3 of this policy. Chair responded that it was the person the School Committee voted as the delegate at the MASC Conference. Rhoda Kanet made a **motion** to approve policy BJ – School Committee Legislative Program for second reading. Stephen Avakian seconded the motion for discussion purposes. All members voted unanimously to approve the motion.

Stephen Avakian made a **motion** to approve the following policies for second reading:

Policy BF – School Committee Workshops

Policy BG – School Committee Policy Development

Policy BGC – Policy Revision and Review

Policy BGE – Policy Dissemination

Policy BHC – School Committee / Staff Communications (Also:GBD)

Policy BIB – Committee Member Development Opportunities

Policy BID – School committee Member Compensation and Expenses

Policy BIE – School Committee Member Insurance

Rhoda Kanet seconded the motion for discussion purposes. All members voted unanimously to approve the motion.

Stephen Avakian placed a hold on policy BHE – Use of Electronic Messaging by School Committee Members. After discussion by the committee it was decided to refer this policy to Town Counsel for his advice.

School Committee discussed Policy BEDH – Public Participation at School Committee adding the words *once a month* after the word held in the first sentence of the second page. Rhoda Kanet made a **motion** to delete the second sentence in the last paragraph. There was no second to the motion. Motion failed. School Committee discussed of correspondence to and comments from school members directing Margaret Ollerhead, Policy Coordinator, change the wording of the last paragraph and bring back to School Committee for second reading.

School Committee discussed Policy BEA – The Conduct of School Committee Meetings deleting the word *insure* and replacing it with *for the Superintendent and School Committee chair to determine whether or not that item shall be considered for* to the last paragraph under Agendas. Christopher Shipps made a **motion** to

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accept Policy BEA – The Conduct of School Committee with changes. Stephen Avakian seconded the motion for discussion purposes. All members voted unanimously to approve the motion.

Kristen Evans made a **motion** to accept Policy BEDB – Agenda Format as second reading. Christopher Shipps seconded the motion for discussion purposes. Vote: Ayes – Stephen Avakian, Kristen Evans, Christopher Shipps, and John Silva; Nay – Rhoda Kanet.

Christopher Shipps made a **motion** to accept Policy BEDB-E – Sample Agenda for Adoption. Stephen Avakian seconded the motion for discussion purposes. VOTE: Ayes – Stephen Avakian, Kristen Evans, Christopher Shipps, and John Silva; Nay – Rhoda Kanet.

School Committee discussed the following under Old Business:

- November 3, 2003 School Committee will meet with MASC to discuss the Superintendent of Schools Search;
- Change the November School Committee meeting from November 17th to November 24th
 - Public meeting at 7:00 p.m.
 - Advertise in Hull Times;
 - Regular meeting to begin at 7:30 p.m.;
- School Committee Retreat will be on November 25, 2003, 3:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Rhoda Kanet announced that School Committee has extended Dr. Gerald Fournier's contract through 2006. Rhoda Kanet made a statement that Dr. Kathleen Reynolds extended principals contracts until 2006 without School Committee knowledge. Chair stated that under Education Reform the Superintendent could extend principals contracts.

Christopher Shipps stated the Wellspring Diploma Subcommittee would meet on Thursday, November 13, 2003 at 6:00 p.m. He requested Nancy Mrzyglod, Interim Assistant Superintendent, Russell Goyette, High School Principal and high school guidance department is in attendance.

Dr. Silva gave the following update on the Building Committee meeting:

- Discussion of Jacobs School;
- Complaint of heat at Hull High School;
- Discussion of art, drama, and physical education equipment.

Stephen Avakian stated the ITE Subcommittee would meet on Thursday, October 30, 2003 at 7:00 at the Office of the Superintendent. Mr. Avakian thanked members of the subcommittee for going on the vocational school site visits.

Chair thanked Kristen Evans, Dennis Zaia, and Pam Wolfe for the remarkable job as facilitators during the Superintendent Search Public Forums.

Christopher Shipps mentioned the Boston Globe article regarding DOE the amount of special education money. Dr. Fournier stated the state was a 50% / 50% reimbursement. Some districts will be reimbursed at 27.6% from the state.

Stephen Avakian voiced his concern that the School Committee did not know that the principals contract being extended by Dr. Kathleen Reynolds.

F. New Business

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Rhoda Kanet requested information on how the physical education department plans to teach when the high school gym will be closed.

Kristen Evans stated there would be a fundraiser at Jake Seafood Restaurant to benefit the Hull Scholarship Fund on Thursday, November 6, 2003.

Dr. Gerald Fournier requested School Committee members to be on the school secretary contract negotiations. Kristen Evans and Christopher Shipps volunteered to be on this subcommittee.

Chair discussed the article in the October 11th Patriot Ledger regarding the South Shore Maritime Charter School.

Dr. Fournier stated he would try to get the budget information to School Committee at the November 24th meeting.

Chair stated that towns are no longer responsible to transport students who are attending vocational schools.

At 9:10 p.m. Christopher Shipps made a **motion** to go into Executive Session to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining and not reconvene into Open Session. Stephen Avakian seconded the motion. A Roll Call vote was taken by School Committee members.

Minutes of Executive Session:

School Committee discussed a HTA grievance and directed Dr. Fournier to forward grievance to Attorney James Toomey for analysis and guidance.

At 9:30 p.m. Stephen Avakian made a **motion** to adjourn the School Committee meeting. Christopher Shipps seconded the motion. A Roll Call vote was taken by School Committee members.