

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MINUTES

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2005

Kristen Evans, Chair
James Canavan, Vice Chair
Kevin Richardson, Secretary
Catherine Bowes, Member
Jack Wholey, Member

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

- 1.0 Call to Order
Chair called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. at the Memorial Middle School, 81 Central Avenue,
with the Salute to the Flag.
- 2.0 Approval of Agenda
Motion: Kevin Richardson **Second:** James Canavan
Moved to approve the School Committee agenda as presented.
Vote: 5-0-0
- 3.0 Input from Public on Agenda Items
None
- 4.0 Student Representative Report
None
- 5.0 Hull Teacher Association Representative's Report
None
- 6.0 Approval of Minutes
Motion: Kevin Richardson **Second:** James Canavan
Moved to approve the August 22, 2005 School Committee minutes as presented.
Vote: 4-0-1 (Catherine Bowes)
- 7.0 Business Items – Superintendent
7.1 School Opening
Dr. Delaney reported on the September 7th school opening as follows:
 - Opening of school was very positive;
 - All teaching position have been filled except for the music teaching position;
 - Two new administrators have been hired;
 - Student enrollment for September 12 is 1272.

7.2 “On the Same Page,” Community Reading Campaign Mini-grant Program

Katherine Dubrovsky, Library Media Specialist, stated that the Town of Hull had received a Community Reading Grant, called “On the Same Page”. The program is in collaboration between the town library and the school department. Ms. Dubrovsky did not state the name of the book, but said the book is an important topic and will be read by the entire town.

7.3 Academic Eligibility

Dr. Delaney indicated that she and High School Principal Jonathan Ford, have been discussing ways to use the academic eligibility policy to motivate students. Jonathan Ford stated that he is looking into ways to make the academic eligibility a tool to get students refocused on academics. Dr. Delaney said that the high school would be investigating the number of students who failed last year. She will be reporting to School Committee at a future meeting with suggestions on this policy.

7.4 School Attendance Counselor

Dr. Delaney requested School Committee approve her recommendation for Rebecca MacDonald as the new Systemwide Attendance Counselor. She read the letter from the Screening Committee recommending Ms. MacDonald for the position. Rebecca MacDonald presented her credentials, discussed her background and responded to questions from School Committee.

Motion: Kevin Richardson

Second: Catherine Bowes

Moved to approve Rebecca MacDonald as the Hull Public School Systemwide Attendance Counselor.

Vote: 5-0-0

Recess at 7:30 p.m.

Reconvene at 7:34 p.m.

7.5 Strategic Plan

Dr. Delaney presented the final version of the Hull Public Schools Strategic Plan (copy attached). She discussed the following areas:

- Mission Statement
- Communication
- Curriculum and Instruction
- Assessment and Evaluation
- Human Resources and Professional Development
- Student Academic Support
- Finance and Assessment Management.

School Committee asked where a copy of the Strategic Plan might be obtained. Dr. Delaney responded that every staff member would receive a copy. A brochure will also be included in the light plant bill. School Committee also requested that the Strategic Plan be placed on the Town Website. Dr. Delaney said she would periodically place articles in The Hull Times. Chair acknowledged and read the names of the Strategic Plan Committee.

7.6 Superintendent’s Performance Objectives

Dr. Delaney presented her performance objectives for the 2005 – 2006 year. Her performance objectives included the following:

- Oversee the implementation of the newly created five year Strategic Plan;

- Oversee the renovation of the Jacobs School Construction Project;
- Mentor the new High School Principal and the new Middle School Principal;
- Generate community support for the Hull Public Schools and support for increased local funding
- Shift the culture of the Hull school system toward one of high expectations for all, through the development of a professional learning community.

Each objective included action steps and projected completion dates.

Jack Wholey requested the following items be placed on the next School Committee agenda:

- How the Superintendent is evaluated;
- The nine categories in the Superintendent evaluation;
- EQA Audit report;
- Budget;
- Implementation of policies.

7.7 Hiring Process

Dr. Delaney reviewed the Personnel Selection Procedures that School Committee had requested. The following information was included:

- Staffing Requests
- Posting / Advertising
- Receiving Applications
- Interview Team Selection
- Credential Review
- Interviews
- Reference checks
- Recommendations
- Finalist Interview

Jack Wholey discussed the Screening Committee process, Screening Committee Members, HTA contract, and School Based Management. Mr. Wholey requested the names of members of all Screening Committees.

Motion: Kristen Evans

Second: James Canavan

Moved to close debate on this issue.

Vote: 5-0-0

7.8 MASC Delegate

Dr. Delaney requested the School Committee to appoint a voting delegate and an alternate voting delegate for the MASC / MASS Annual Joint Conference on October 26 – 28, 2005.

Motion: Kristen Evans

Second: James Canavan

Moved to appoint Catherine Bowes as the voting delegate at the MASC / MASS Annual Joint Conference on October 26 – 28, 2005 at the Worcester Centrum Centre.

Vote: 4-0-1 (Catherine Bowes)

Motion: Catherine Bowes

Second: Jack Wholey

Moved to appoint Kevin Richardson as the alternative voting delegate at the MASC / MASS Annual Joint Conference on October 26 – 28, 2005 at the Centrum Centre.

Vote: 4-0-1 (Kevin Richardson)

7.9 Budget Update

School Committee received an updated 2005 – 2006 budget expense to-date analysis.

Jack Wholey stated that he could not look at the warrants during a School Committee meeting. He requested that the school warrants be available for School Committee to sign earlier than at the meeting.

8.0 New Business Items

Dr. Delaney informed the School Committee that the Hull Boosters Club had donated \$650 to help pay the cost of the printing of high school student handbooks.

Motion: James Canavan

Second: Catherine Bowes

Moved to accept the donation of \$650 from the Hull Booster Club to help pay the cost of Hull High School Student Handbooks.

Vote: 5-0-0

9.0 Old Business

9.1 Donations / Acceptance of Gifts

Information from Attorney James Lampke, Town Counsel, was included in School Committee packet on this item. James Canavan asked for information on the process / purpose for grants.

9.2 Policy BCB – Committee Member Conflict of Interest

Chair read some of the information from Attorney James Lampke, Town Counsel, regarding this item.

Motion: James Canavan

Second: Kristen Evans

Moved to include Policy BCB – Committee Member Conflict of Interest on the next School Committee agenda as a policy item.

Vote: 5-0-0

9.3 Non-department Functions

School Committee received information recommended language from Attorney James Lampke, Town Counsel on this issue.

Motion: Kristen Evans

Second: James Canavan

Moved to include the following language on school department building use form or any forms pertinent to this issue: Note: Please note that this event is not sponsored or approved by the Town of Hull. It is being held as a private non-Town of Hull function. The Town of Hull bears no responsibility or liability for any circumstances involving this event. Any questions or concerns should be directed to the sponsor of the event.

Vote: 5-0-0

Jack Wholey stated that students were selling a credit card to raise money that had the Hull High School Pirates name on it and it was not a high school fundraising item. It was determined that the name on the credit card was the Hull Pirates and that it was a Hull Boosters Club fundraiser. Dr. Delaney said she would meet with the Boosters Club to discuss fundraising.

9.4 Amendment to Superintendent's Contract

Chair read the amendment to the contract for regarding the evaluation dates of Dr. Paula Delaney. A motion to accept this amendment was voted on at the last School Committee meeting.

10.0 School Committee Policy Issues

Motion: James Canavan

Second: Catherine Bowes

Moved to reinstate Policy BG – School Committee Development and Adoption.

Vote: 5-0-0

Motion: James Canavan

Second: Catherine Bowes

Moved to accept Policy IKF – Graduation Requirements and Policy JICA – Student Dress Code for second reading.

Vote: 5-0-0

Motion: Catherine Bowes

Second: Kevin Richardson

Moved to accept the following policies for second reading with suggested changes:

Policy GCF – Professional Staff Hiring:

- Second paragraph, third sentence, delete the word **adequately**;
- Second paragraph, add the words **for position involved** to the end of the paragraph;
- Add #4 as follows: **all postings and advertisements will emanate from the Central Office. The Superintendent will determine the scope of recruiting and depending on the position and availability of candidates, direct the Central Office to pursue a variety of recruiting sources and utilize the services of newspapers and advertising agencies.**

Policy GDF – Support Staff Hiring

- Add to the end of #3 – **endeavoring to involve parents, teachers and community members.**

Vote: 5-0-0

Motion: James Canavan

Second: Catherine Bowes

Moved to accept Policy AD-E1 – Mission Statement and Policy ADA – School District Goals and Objectives for first reading

Vote: 5-0-0

`School Committee requested Maggie Ollerhead, Policy Coordinator, to look into if Policy EEAG – Student Transportation in Private Vehicles pertains to students driving to and from athletic practice sessions.

Motion: Jack Wholey

Second: Catherine Bowes

Moved to accept Policy EEAG – Student Transportation in Private Vehicles, Policy EEAG-E1 – Student Transportation in Private Vehicle Release, Policy EEBB-E1 – Transportation in Private Vehicle Liability Advisory for first reading.

Vote: 4-1-0 (James Canavan)

11.0 Approval of Warrants

Catherine Bowes asked about warrant #1 – Transfer of Funds. William Hurst, Chief Business and Financial Officer responded that warrant #1 is the new way student accounts were being handled.

Jack Wholey questioned the following warrants:

- #1058 - Joan Fisher

- #1047 – Perma Bound
- #1053 – South Bay Mental Health
- #1056 – Fire Alarm Service Company
- #1056 – Perkins School for the Blind

Mr. Hurst responded to Mr. Wholey's questions.

Motion: Catherine Bowes

Second: James Canavan

Moved to accept school warrants as presented.

Vote: 5-0-0

12.0 Correspondence to and Comments from School Committee Members

James Canavan stated he was very impressed by the enthusiasm of the staff on orientation day, September 6th.

Kevin Richardson said he had received a telephone call from a parent regarding an issue with the fifth grade student lockers. Dr. Delaney responded that she would look into this issue.

Kristen Evans suggested that the Cable Channel 22 Subcommittee meet one hour before the next School Committee meeting on September 27th. Mr. Wholey, the other subcommittee member agreed with this date and time.

Mr. Wholey discussed the DOE website statistics regarding the Hull School cost per pupil. Kristen Evans requested that Mr. Wholey give copies of this information to each School Committee Member.

Mr. Wholey also discussed the school budget and requested this item be placed on the next School Committee agenda. Ms. Evans requested Mr. Wholey to put forth questions to the budget subcommittee.

Motion: Jack Wholey

Moved that an independent audit company look at the School Committee budget. There was no second and no vote on this motion.

William Hurst informed Mr. Wholey that an independent audit is done on the Town of Hull financial area every year. Mr. Wholey requested a copy of the auditors report be given to School Committee members.

Motion: Catherine Bowes

Second: James Canavan

Moved to adjourn the School Committee meeting at 9:40 p.m.

Vote: 5-0-0