

SCHOOL COMMITTEE
HULL PUBLIC SCHOOLS
HULL, MA 02045

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MINUTES
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2006

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Kevin Richardson, Vice Chair
Catherine Bowes, Secretary
Kristen Evans, Member
Stephanie Peters, Member

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Paula Delaney, Superintendent of Schools
Mildred O'Callaghan, Assistant Superintendent
Maria Hortaridis, Director of Finance
David Twombly, Director of Operations
Maureen Robishaw, Secretary to the Superintendent
Margaret Ollerhead, Policy Coordinator

- 1.0 Call to Order
The meeting was called to order by Kevin Richardson at 7:06 p.m. at Hull High School Second Floor Exhibition Room, 180 Main Street with the Salute to the Flag.
- 2.0 Approval of Agenda
Motion: Stephanie Peters **Second:** Kristen Evans
Moved to approve the School Committee agenda as presented.
Vote: 4-0-0
- 3.0 Input from Public on Agenda Items
None
- 4.0 Student Representative Report
Matt Howard, Principal Advisory Committee Member, reported on the following items:
 - Jr. / Sr. semi formal ball will be held on December 2nd
 - Students are enjoying the Foreign Language Club
 - High School Musical rehearsals are taking place
 - Pep rally on 11/22/06 raised \$300 for the jr./ sr. class
 - SAT's are scheduled on December 2nd
 - Hull Drama Program received an award for third place in the Play Writing Challenge at the Theatre Olympics
 - National Honor Society will be volunteering at the Holiday Showcase on December 2nd
 - Hull High School football team had a victory over Cohasset on Thanksgiving day
 - Basketball team are having tryouts
 - Hockey and wrestling teams are having practice
- 5.0 Hull Teacher Association Representative's Report
Deborah McCarthy, HTA President, noted that the Jacobs School Health and Safety Subcommittee would be meeting on November 30th at 7:00 p.m. The Jacobs School parent teachers' conferences will be held on November 28th. The HTA requested a written response from School Committee regarding a letter Ms. McCarthy distributed at the meeting about health and safety issues at the Jacobs School. Ms. McCarthy congratulated Jodi Trubeau as the new Jacobs School Construction Liaison. She commended

Andrew Stephens, Memorial School Principal, Lynda Feeney, Memorial School Assistant Principal and the entire Memorial School staff for welcoming the fifth grade teachers and students to the Memorial School. She also requested inviting Matt Montefusco, Oasis Environmental Contracting Services, Inc, to the School Committee / HTA meeting on December 12th.

Kristen Evans asked Ms. McCarthy if the Jacobs School is planning anything to welcome Dr. Kathleen Tyrell as the new Interim Principal at Jacobs School. Ms. McCarthy responded that she thought that having something for Dr. Tyrell would be a good idea and requested a date that would be convenient for Dr. Tyrell.

School Committee requested Debbie McCarthy to include in her HTA report at School Committee meetings, updates on what is going on with faculty in the classrooms in all three schools.

Dr. Delaney requested as a professional courtesy that Ms. McCarthy forward her a copy of any information distributed to staff or parents from the Health and Safety Committee.

6.0 Approval of Minutes

Motion: Kristen Evans

Second: Stephanie Peters

Moved to approve the October 25, 2006 School Committee Special Budget Goals minutes as presented.

Vote: 3-0-1 (Catherine Bowes)

Motion: Catherine Bowes

Second: Kristen Evans

Moved to approve the November 6, 2006 Special School Committee minutes with the following change:

- o Page three -change the spelling of *John Smith* to **John Schmidt**.

Vote: 4-0-0

Motion: Stephanie Bowes

Second: Catherine Bowes

Moved to approve the November 13, 2006 School Committee meeting minutes as presented.

Vote: 4-0-0

7.0 Business Items – Superintendent

7.1 Scholarship Fund

James Gillis, President of the Hull School Scholarship Fund said he is very proud of being part of the Scholarship Fund for the past fifteen years. He noted because of the support of the Hull residents students have received about \$160,000 to further education. At this time he is turning over the presidency to James O'Brien to continue the growth of the scholarship fund. He thanked School Committee, the Scholarship Committee, Hull High School students and Hull residents for their support over the years.

Kevin Richardson on behalf of the School Committee thanked Mr. Gillis for all he had done over the years for the students of Hull.

7.2 Field Trip

Michele Hanley, Memorial Middle School Teacher, requested permission to bring the eighth grade students to New York City on June 8, 2007. The trip will include visiting the United Nations Building, Ground Zero, Rockefeller Center and a Hudson River Cruise. Ms. Hanley informed Committee members that if this trip is approved she will then send letters home to parents to find out if students are interested in going on this trip.

Motion: Catherine Bowes

Second: Stephanie Peters

Moved to approve the eighth grade student trip to New York City on June 8, 2007.

Vote: 4-0-0

Kristen Evans requested Ms. Hanley to inform the School Committee if the trip will or will not move forward.

7.3 System-wide MCAS Presentation

Mildred O'Callaghan, Assistant Superintendent presented an overview of the district-wide MCAS long-range plan. The following are some of the areas Ms. O'Callaghan discussed:

- Analysis of data for each school
 - Look at the general trends
 - Look at student specific needs
 - Provide individual student improvement plans
- General Trends
 - Multiple choice questions
 - Open response questions
 - High School graduation goal 220 or better
- ELA
 - Trends
 - Move students out of needs improvement
- Mathematics
 - Trends
 - Move students out of needs improvement
- Scores
 - Scores show even levels or small amounts of growth at some grade levels
 - Students need to be exposed to higher level mathematics instruction earlier
- Moving Target
 - The state just set 240, proficient, as the goal for future graduation requirements
- Individual student improvement plans
 - Provide means for remediation i.e. during school, after school, summer
 - Emphasize home/school partnership
- District Level
 - Review curriculum maps at each level
 - Align curriculum to provide students with timely instruction related to MCAS needs
 - Provide professional development as determined to provide teachers with instruction tools
 - Provide frequent assessments across grade levels to monitor student progress
- Resources needed
 - Continued funding for professional development
 - Funding to purchase assessment tools
 - Funding for remediation programs that occur outside of the school day
 - Support for re-structuring recommendations

School Committee discussed the following:

- TerraNova program cost and grade level
- Dibels Reading Assessment program
- Open response questions
- Writing portfolios
- Freshman writing program
- Every Day Mathematics

- More frequent assessments

Motion: Kristen Evans

Second: Catherine Bowes

Moved to charge Budget Subcommittee to look at budget to find the \$5,000 to purchase the TerraNova program for grades five and six and report back to the full Committee.

Vote: 4-0-0

School Committee and Superintendent thanked Mildred O'Callaghan for a very good presentation.

7.4 Jacobs School Principal Search

Dr. Delaney informed the Committee about the following timelines for hiring a new Jacobs School Principal:

- January 25, 2007 Reconvene Screening Committee
- February 4 Post and Advertise the position
- March 5 – 12 Paper screening and reference checks
- March 13 – 22 Interview semi-finalists
- March 26 – 30 Site visits
- April 9 Recommendation made to School Committee
- July 1, 2007 Start date

Stephanie Peters requested a parent and a representative from each grade level be on the Search Committee. Dr. Delaney responded that she would give it some thought, but there is the danger that if the Committee becomes too big it could become cumbersome. Parents and staff members will have a chance to meet with the candidates.

7.5 Other Issues

- Retirement Letters

Dr. Delaney updated the Committee on the following staff member's intent to retire at the end of this school year:

- Susan Perry has taught thirty-five years at Jacobs School
- Janet Scribner has taught thirty-four years at Hull High School
- Joan Cahalane has taught thirty-six years at Jacobs School

8.0 New Business

Stephanie Peters said that Lori Tobin from SporTobin is interested in donating Reflective Vests to the girl's cross-country team.

Motion: Catherine Bowes

Second: Kristen Evans

Moved to accept the donation for Reflective Vests to the girl's cross-country team.

Vote: 4-0-0

Stephanie Peters also informed the Committee that the Hull Garden Club is sponsoring a Decorate Your Door Contest over the holiday season. She suggested the schools partnership with the Garden Club, that teachers decorate classroom doors and have the Garden Club judge the classroom doors. She requested that Principals make an announcement letting staff know about this. She also suggested having a Junior Garden Club for students.

Kristen Evans said she was asked to announce that the Board of Selectmen have scheduled time at the Tuesday, November 28th meeting to discuss the process for selecting a new Town Manager. The public is invited to attend this meeting.

Dr. Delaney noted that she has a tentative date to meet with the Advisory Board on Monday, December 4th at 7:30 p.m. in the Selectmen's Room to present an update on the Strategic Plan and the good things that are happening in the Hull Schools.

Kristen Evans stated that the HASC Dinner is scheduled for Thursday, December 7th at Jake's Seafood Restaurant.

9.0 Old Business

9.1 Subcommittee Updates

Kevin Richardson requested that an update on Building Committee meetings be placed under Old Business.

○ Budget Subcommittee

Stephanie Peters requested Maria Hortaridis to look at line items from each school and identify where in the budget the money is coming from to pay for the Jacobs School mold issue. Kristen Evans asked if this information could be provided to School Committee at the next meeting.

Kristen Evans inquired if a new process had been put in place regarding teachers moving up a step on the salary schedule. Maria Hortaridis responded that a process had been put in the FY08 budget.

○ Athletic Subcommittee

None

○ Negotiations Subcommittee

None

○ Donaldina Gately Memorial Committee

The Donaldina Gately Memorial Committee has decided to ask Roger Tirrell to paint a portrait of Ms. Gately. Also a plaque will be purchased to place under the portrait. A dedication will take place when the Art Suite is completed at the Jacobs School Dr. Delaney informed the Committee.

9.2 Community Access Report

David Twombly, Director of Operations, reviewed the Hull Commission on Disability Community Access Reports. Each of the failed items on the four checklists was discussed and an explanation regarding each remedy was given. Kevin Richardson asked Mr. Twombly to inform the Committee when items on all checklists have been completed.

Kristen Evans requested Kevin Richardson to bring up the following questions at the next Building Committee meeting:

- What items on the Community Access Report are the responsibility of AI3
- What items on these lists is the responsibility of the Building Committee.

9.3 Warrant Questions – Lunch Deficit, Oasis Environmental

Maria Hortaridis responded to School Committee warrant questions from the last meeting. She stated that Chartwell's deficit for September was due to the start-up cost for the school year. David Twombly informed the Committee that the Oasis Environmental invoice was clarified so that \$628.15 would be paid by the school department and the \$4,318.10 balance that was for mold testing in the modular classrooms will be brought to the Building Committee meeting for payment approval. Kevin Richardson suggested that the same thing be done for Hazardous Abatement Services invoices regarding cleaning done in the classroom modulars.

10.0 School Committee Policy Issues

Motion: Stephanie Peters

Second: Kristen Evans

Moved to approve Policy IHAF – Wellness Policy on Physical Activity and Nutrition for third reading / adoption.

Vote: 4-0-0

Motion: Catherine Bowes

Second: Stephanie Peters

Moved to approve the following policies for third reading / adoption:

Policy JA Student Policies Goals

Policy JB Equal Educational Opportunities

Policy JBA Discrimination on the Basis of Race, Ethnicity, Handicap, Religion or Sex

Policy JC Attendance Areas

Policy JCA Assignment of Students to Schools

Policy JEB Entrance Age

Policy JF School Admissions

Policy JF-R School Admissions

Policy JFAA Admission of Resident Students

Policy JFAAA Evidence of Residency/Guardianship

Policy JFC Student Withdrawals

Policy JG Admission To Course of Study

Policy JHD Exclusion and Exemptions From School Attendance

Policy JI Student Rights and Responsibilities

Policy JIA Student Due Process

Policy JIB Student Involvement in Decision-Making

Policy JIBA Student Government

Policy JIBB Student Member of School Committee Student Advisory Committee

Vote: 4-0-0

11.0 Approval of Warrants

○ Stephanie Peters noted that on warrant #1164, tires were purchased for the school vehicle. She suggested in the future a bid be solicited from Atlantic Tire and Alignment on Atlantic Avenue regarding purchasing tires.

Motion: Stephanie Peters

Second: Kristen Evans

Moved to approve the school warrants as presented.

Vote: 4-0-0

12.0 Correspondence to and Comments from School Committee Members

Kristen Evans requested that Dr. Kathleen Tyrell, the new Interim Principal at Jacobs School, be charged with having a new report card in place for September 2007 that includes all grades at the Jacobs School. She also stated that every teacher should put a comment on a student's report card. Dr. Delaney stated that new report cards are a high undertaking and the groundwork would need to be looked at.

13.0 Executive Session

14.0 Adjournment

Motion: Catherine Bowes

Second: Stephanie Peters

Moved to go into Executive Session at 9:08 p.m. for the purpose of discussing collective bargaining and not to return to Open Session.

Roll Call Vote: Stephanie Peters, Kevin Richardson, Kristen Evans and Catherine Bowes.