

SCHOOL COMMITTEE
HULL PUBLIC SCHOOLS
HULL, MA 02045

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MINUTES
MONDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2006

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

James Canavan, Chair
Kevin Richardson, Vice Chair
Catherine Bowes, Secretary
Kristen Evans, Member – arrived at 7:13 p.m.
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 James Canavan at 7:00 p.m. at Hull High School Second Floor Exhibition Room, 180 Main Street with the Salute to the Flag.

2.0 Approval of Agenda

James Canavan requested to add discussion of the Jacobs School sewage issue to the top of the agenda.

Motion: Kevin Richardson **Second:** Catherine Bowes

Moved to approve the School Committee agenda with requested change

Vote: 4-0-0

3.0 Input from Public on Agenda Items

None

Dr. Delaney updated the Committee on the Jacobs School sewage problem as follows:

- Thursday, December 7th there was a blocked drain in the first floor student restroom
- Students were moved to another location in the building
- TLT Construction Company snaked the drain and brown paper towels were found to be blocking the drain
- Bathrooms were cleaned and disinfected
- Friday, December 8th the same restroom had a blocked drain
- Kevin O’Brien, Hull Board of Health was contacted
- Aquarium Water was on site
- Students were dismissed at 1:30 p.m.
- Muzzi Drain Cleaning was called to snake the drain
- A mesh tee shirt was located and removed in the drain
- Hazardous Abatement Company was called to clean the area
- Oasis Environmental Contracting Services performed bacteria testing
- Clearance to reoccupy the building was received

Dr. Delaney explained that the dismissal notification system failed to send out the original message regarding dismissal of students. She apologized for any inconvenience that may have occurred due to the message not being received. Students were only left off at a bus stop if a parent was there to meet the student otherwise the student was taken to the Memorial Middle School and would be sent home on the bus at the regular dismissal time.

4.0 Student Representative Report

Melissa Condo, Principal Advisory Committee Member, reported on the following items:

- High School Musical performances were sold out
- Holiday concert is scheduled for December 20th
- Winter sports are in progress
- Fall sport night on December 5th included 190 students
- Thanked the Boosters Club for supporting the fall sport night
- January SAT deadline will be December 20th
- White Ribbon Campaign assembly will be on December 14th

5.0 Hull Teacher Association Representative's Report

Gregory Cunningham, HTA Representative inquired if Matt Montefusco, President, Oasis Environmental Contracting Services would be present at the School Committee / HTA meeting on December 12th. James Canavan responded that Mr. Montefusco would not be present, but any questions the HTA had for him could be given to the School Committee.

Mr. Cunningham also:

- Thanked Jacobs School staff for the upcoming Polar Express Day on December 22nd
- Announced that the HTA holiday party on December 14 at the Red Parrot Restaurant
- Invited School Committee to the HTA party
- Recognized all staff for the professionalism during the emergency at the Jacobs School on December 8th
- Reminded everyone about the HTA sponsored Health and Safety meeting scheduled for December 12th at 7:00 p.m. in Hull High School

6.0 Approval of Minutes

Motion: Catherine Bowes **Second:** Stephanie Peters

Moved to approve the November 27, 2006 School Committee minutes as presented.

Vote: 4-0-1 (James Canavan)

7.0 Business Items – Superintendent

7.1 Introduction of Dr. Kathleen Tyrell

Dr. Delaney introduced and welcomed Dr. Tyrell. Dr. Tyrell stated she was delighted to be in Hull. She has had six wonderful days, the students are happy, and the staff is caring and dedicated. She thanked everyone for the warm welcome.

7.2 Presentation of Bausch and Lomb Award

The Bausch and Lomb award is given to a high school senior with promise in the field of science. The honorary service award was presented to Alexander Gilman by Dr. Delaney. School Committee members congratulated Alex Gilman.

7.3 Fundraising Project at Memorial Middle School

Andrew Stephens, Memorial Middle School Principal, informed the Committee of a fundraiser to

benefit Easter Seals. Students will request sponsors for a three-minute free throw contest on December 21, 2006. Students have been asked not to go door-to-door to request donations, but to ask family and friends to sponsor them.

7.4 Senior Trip

Gregory Cunningham and Janet Scribner, High School Senior Class Advisors, requested permission to bring high school seniors to Disney Graduation night in Orlando, Florida. Departure date would be on April 27, and return date would be April 29, 2007. Mr. Cunningham said that last year this same senior trip was an overwhelming success.

Motion: Kevin Richardson

Second: Stephanie Peters

Moved to approve Disney Graduation night senior class trip in Orlando, Florida from April 27th through April 29, 2007 with one day excused absence for students.

Vote: 5-0-1 (Catherine Bowes)

7.5 Location of Jacobs Classrooms – September 2007

Dr. Delaney stated that during phase II of the Jacobs School construction eight additional classrooms would be needed. If the fifth grade students were located at the Memorial School, there would only be a need for four additional classrooms.

David Twombly, Director of Operations, presented the following options regarding additional classroom space possibilities:

- Create four classrooms in one-half of the new gymnasium at Jacobs School
 - Cost \$113,00 (taken from the contingency fund)
 - Potential for 70% reimbursement
 - Reduce size of gym for PE classes and community use
 - Will create holes in the new gym floor
- Convert Hull High School library into classroom space for pre-school students
 - Require relocation of library to exhibition room
 - Need to create a system to retrieve books from the exhibition room
 - Need to purchase step stools and toilet seats in bathrooms for pre-school students
 - Bathrooms would have to be shared with high school students
 - Would significantly decrease use of library to students
- Move central administration to Hull High School
 - Option allows the pre-school to relocate to the central office
 - Utilize the following space within the high school
 - Exhibition room
 - Library work room
 - Director of Facilities office
 - Conference room in principals suite
 - In school detention room (2nd floor)
 - All central administration under one roof, but not same space
 - Cost to hire movers or custodians
- Pre-school moved to central office (7 Hadassah Way)
 - Potential for mold remediation
 - Several offices could be converted to classrooms
 - Need a play area
 - Bathroom access (stools for sink and toilets)
- Move central administration to modular classrooms

- Limited remediation: stop water infiltration
- *Perceived* unhealthy environment
- Potential moving cost for administrative location
- Install outside air intakes on univents in the modular classrooms, increase outside air to reduce Carbon Dioxide level
- Move pre-school to cub scout building
 - Not sure about square footage – possibly too small
- Move pre-school to Hebrew School (four classrooms available)
 - Kosher building – no food allowed in school
 - Separation of church and state
 - Religious artifacts on walls
 - Rabbi has a daily half-hour service
 - Hebrew School closes for mini Jewish holidays
 - Building would be used temporarily
 - Lacks handicap access to classrooms and play area
 - Chair lift would need to be installed (\$6,000 - \$10,000)
 - Responsible for opening and closing building (staff or custodian)
 - Need to hire a custodian to clean the area
 - Potential rent of \$2,500 / month
- Move eighth grade to Hull High School and fourth grade to Memorial Middle School
 - Potential for concerns raised by parents
 - Inability to segregate eighth and fourth graders from other students
 - Requires several moves in a short period of time
 - Disruption of 172 students to solve problem (88 8th graders and 84 4th graders)
- Lease modular classrooms to TLT Construction Company
 - TLT Construction lease modular classrooms from School Building Committee
 - \$15,264 credit for not building walkway from modular classrooms to new building
 - \$12,897 lease amount
 - TLT pays for all utilities (install new meters)
 - Sub-contractor may lease out space in modular classrooms for additional revenue
 - School Building Committee doesn't incur any remediation cost in modular classrooms (savings of \$20,000 - \$40,000)
 - TLT accepts modular classrooms "as is"
 - TLT signs waiver not to hold town responsibility for any issues related to the modular rooms
 - TLT moves modular to new location within Town at the end of the project
 - Increase recess area (remove TLT/PMA trailers from site)
 - Potential for TLT to make site improvements earlier
 - Increase potential for project to be completed earlier or on time
- Move pre-school to Hull High School (use exhibition room and library alcove)
 - Need 1,575 square feet to house three pre-school classes at Hull High School
 - Methodology: need 35 sq. feet per student X 45 students = 1,575 sq. feet
 - Department of Education Requirement
 - Room square footage at Hull High School
 - Exhibition room = 1,920 sq. feet
 - Library = 2,350 sq. feet
 - Library workroom = 204 sq. ft.
 - Group room #C103 = 275 sq. ft.

- Purchase or rent partitions
- Need two bathrooms within 40 feet of exhibition room (meets requirement)
- Office space next to exhibition room could be used for crib and changing area
- Detention room on second floor could be used as a changing area
- Exhibition room has a built in kitchen
- Need to create recess area (courtyard or rear of building)
- Need recess / play equipment
- Library lacks exclusive access to bathrooms on first floor
- Need to install a rubber mat over the rug in both spaces (food issue)
- Need permission from DOE to use exhibition room and library as temporary space

School Committee discussed the following:

- Dollar savings if modular classroom are not used
- Relocating temporary sites not reimbursable
- Hadassah Way one-year lease negotiations
- Concerns with using high school library
- Moving another grade level to the high school instead of pre-school
- Having a special School Committee meeting to discuss issues

School Committee requested the following questions be answered at a future meeting:

- Would the credit (for modular classrooms) be part of the School Building project because of problems that occurred?
- Cost savings from not using the modular classroom, could some of that money be used for reconfiguring classroom space?
- Look into additional days off and food issue at the Hebrew School location.
- Would current fourth grade classes fit into Memorial School next year?
- Ask DOE if approval would be granted to move pre-school to the high school.
- Could HFN stay at Hadassah Way if central office was moved to the modular classrooms?
- What would be the cost for a one-year lease for the HFN area only?
- What would the cost be to move pre-school students to the high school library?
- What would the cost be to move central office into the modular classrooms?
- What would the cost be to move central office to the high school?
- What would the cost be to rent space at the Hebrew school?
- What would the impact be on student IEP's and time and learning if students were moved to the Hebrew School?
- What would the cost be to move the fourth grade students to the Memorial School?
- What would the cost be to move the eighth grade students to Hull High School?
- What would the cost be to move the pre-school students to the high school exhibition room?
- What would the saving be not to use the modular classrooms?

Kristen Evans asked what items would be needed for pre-school students to use the exhibition room at Hull High School. Mildred O'Callaghan, Assistant Superintendent responded: mats for under the tables, partitions, OT/PT equipment, separate space for OT/PT, modification to bathrooms, travel time for therapists, and possible additional OT/PT personnel would be needed.

Cathy Bowes asked what would have to be done to the modular classrooms for the central office staff to

move into them? Mr. Twombly responded that the rugs would have to be ripped up, remediation in the walls would have to be done, and outside air should be brought in to the modular classrooms.

Motion: Catherine Bowes

Second: Stephanie Peters

Moved to schedule a special meeting of the School Committee on Monday, December 18th at 7:00 p.m. in the exhibition room of Hull High School to discuss the Jacobs School Classroom location.

Vote: 4-0-0

7.6 Update on Jacobs School Construction

Catherine Bowes updated the Committee on the Jacobs School Construction issues

- Interior wall barrier were installed on the first and second floor on November 29th
- Corey Holmes from the MA Dept. of Public Health inspected the barrier wall on December 5th
- The asbestos abatement has begun on the six classrooms taken over by TLT Construction to tie the new construction into the old building
- Drainage work on Harborview Road has been completed
- Harborview Road has been paved
- Concrete floor has been poured on the first and second floor in the new addition area
- Keyspan has installed gas lines
- Next Building Committee meeting is scheduled for December 14th

James Canavan asked if there had been any security issues at Jacobs School. Jodi Trubia, Jacobs School Construction Liaison, responded that no security issues had occurred.

Stephanie Peters requested that Dr. Tyrell, Interim Principal, keep parents informed and also meet regularly with parents to keep them up-to-date on construction issues.

7.7 Revised School Calendar

Dr. Delaney stated that enclosed in the Committee's packet was a revised school calendar that reflects the three additional days in June due to the postponing of opening the Jacobs School until September 11th.

7.8 Other Issues

Mildred O'Callaghan, Assistant Superintendent, presented the following Professional Development update:

- The fourteen hour teacher professional development plans are in and have been approved
- Nancy Dorsky, Everyday Math consultant will be working with the fifth grade teachers two days a month through April
- Dr. Lauren Katzman from BU will be starting in January at the Middle School to support the implementation of Impact Math
- Dr. Tom Hehir from Harvard University will be providing Professional Development in Literacy at Jacobs School in the spring
- South Shore Collaborative is offering a Math Workshop designed for Special Education Teachers at the Middle School level
- South Shore Collaborative is offering Research for Better Teaching beginning in March
- Administrators who are not trained in Research for Better Teaching will attend a workshop in August at the South Shore Collaborative
- Jerry Morris will be at the Jacobs School in March and May to work on further implementation of the Collins Writing Program

- Kathy Wasik, Jacobs School Technology, will be providing a Power Point workshop
- Pilgrim Area Collaborative will provide a workshop on autism for regular education teachers in January 2007
- The Professional Development Committee has been meeting once a month and is looking at developing opportunities for next year.

8.0 New Business
None

9.0 Old Business

9.1 Subcommittee Updates

○ Budget Subcommittee

Stephanie Peters stated that as charged, the Budget Subcommittee reviewed the budget and recommend spending \$5,000 to purchase the Terra Nova program.

Motion: Catherine Bowes

Second: Kristen Evans

Moved to approve \$5,000 from the school budget to purchase the Terra Nova program for grades five and six.

Vote: 5-0-0

Ms. Peters also stated that at Town Meeting it was voted that community members could make a donation to the schools on their excise tax bills. She asked Maris Hortaridis to look into this.

○ Athletic Subcommittee

Kevin Richardson noted that the Athletic Subcommittee would meet on December 13th at Hull High School. He stated that one of the charges of this committee is to be part of the Search Committee for the new Athletic Director.

○ Negotiations Subcommittee

James Canavan informed the Committee that the school custodians had voted not to accept the tentative contract agreement. School Committee has begun preparing through Executive Session for HTA negotiations. Mr. Canavan also noted that contact with the secretary union needed to be done.

○ Donaldina Gately Memorial Committee

Dr. Delaney stated that the next meeting of the Donaldina Gately Memorial Committee is scheduled for January 23, 2007.

○ Building Committee

Catherine Bowes stated that an Infra-red test had been done on the high school roof. The test showed spots on the roof and also showed where water got into the insulations.

10.0 School Committee Policy Issues

Motion: Kevin Richardson

Second: Stephanie Peters

Moved to approve the following policies for first reading:

Policy JICE Student Publications

Policy JICFA-R Hazing

Policy JIE Pregnant Students

Policy JJ-R Co-Curricular and Extra-Curricular Activities

JJA	Student Organizations
JJG	Contests for Students
JJI	Student Athletics
JK	Student Discipline

Vote: 5-0-0

Jon Ford, High School Principal stated that he wanted to review all discipline policies making sure each policy matches the high school discipline code.

Motion: Kevin Richardson **Second:** Catherine Bowes

Moved to hold the following policies until a future meeting:

Policy JIC	Student Conduct
Policy JICF	Gang Activity/Secret Societies
Policy JICG	Tobacco Use By Students

Vote: 5-0-0

Motion: Stephanie Peters **Second:** Catherine Bowes

Moved to approve Policy JICB – Care of School Property by Students for first reading with the following change:

- Add a section on computers / laptops
- Should include the M.G.L. 71:37H

Vote: 5-0-0

It was also asked if the last sentence under textbooks of above policy is permissible. Maggie Ollerhead will look at the MGL regarding withholding report cards and diplomas.

Motion: Kevin Richardson **Second:** Stephanie Peters

Moved to approve the following policies for first reading with suggested changes:

Policy JIH	Interrogations and Searches
○ Item #2 – change the word <i>if possible</i> to whenever possible in the first line.	
Policy JII	Student Complaints and Grievances
○ Add: REF: Student Handbook at the bottom of this policy	
Policy JJ	Co-Curricular and Extra-Curricular Activities

Vote: 5-0-0

School Committee suggested scheduling the Jacobs School winter concert and any future parent / teacher conferences at the Memorial School during the construction project due to parking issues.

Motion: Catherine Bowes **Second:** Kristen Evans

Moved to approve the following policies for first reading with suggested change:

Policy JJC	Student Performances
Policy JJE	Student fund-Raising Activities
Policy JJI-R	Student Athletic Regulations
○ REF: MIAA website at the bottom of policy	

Vote: 5-0-0

11.0 Approval of Warrants

Motion: Kevin Richardson **Second:** Stephanie Peters

Moved to approve school warrants that were reviewed at the meeting on December 9, 2006.

Vote: 5-0-0

12.0 Correspondence to and Comments from School Committee Members

James Canavan stated that he had received another telephone call from a parent regarding the Jacobs School dismissal and that the parent noted the second Connect-ed call had been received.

Stephanie Peters suggested if possible that Brian Conklin, High School IT Teacher should be selling the products that the students are making in class on-line.

Dr. Delaney stated that two high school students had spoken at the Advisory Board meeting on December 4th regarding their experiences at Hull High School. She said she would like to invite them to a School Committee meeting.

Chris Kinnally, Parent, requested that full walls be put up in the fifth grade area at the Memorial School. She said it is very distracting and very loud in the area where the fifth grade students are located. Dr. Delaney stated that David Twombly, Director of Operations is looking into this matter. There are certain specifications that must be met and Mr. Twombly is working with the Building Inspector. Ms. Kinnally request School Committee to follow-up on this item.

13.0 Executive Session

14.0 Adjournment

Motion: James Canavan

Second: Stephanie Peters

Moved to go into Executive Session at 9:20 p.m. for the purpose of discussing collective bargaining and not to return to Open Session.

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