

SCHOOL COMMITTEE
HULL PUBLIC SCHOOLS
HULL, MA 02045

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MINUTES
MONDAY, APRIL 23, 2007

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

James Canavan, Chair (present)
Kevin Richardson, Vice Chair (present)
Catherine Bowes, Secretary (present)
Kristen Evans, Member (absent)
Stephanie Peters, Member (present)

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Paula Delaney, 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 7:02 p.m. at Hull High School in the Second Floor Exhibition Room, 180 Main Street with the Salute to the Flag.

2.0 Approval of Agenda

James Canavan noted that there would be no HTA report at this meeting. Also item 7.3 – Building / Facilities Use Policy has been removed from the agenda because the individual who requested this item withdrew the request.

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

Moved to approve the School Committee agenda with changes.

Vote: 4-0-0

3.0 Input from Public on Agenda Items

None

4.0 Student Representative Report

Scott Medwatz, Principal Advisory Committee Member, reported on the following items:

- The DVD *The Secret* was shown to students by Katherine Dubrovsky, Library Media Specialist
- Hull High School Chorus will sing the National Anthem at the start of the Brockton Rox Baseball Game May 26th
- National Honor Society will be holding the 2007 elections soon
- Advanced Placement exams will begin in May
- A list of scholarships for seniors to apply for are posted in the guidance office
- Tobacco Cessation program is making progress
- Senior class will be leaving on Thursday for Disney World
- PHI students have returned home from working with Habitat for Humanities in El Salvador
- Advanced Placement English classes have been observing plays in Boston

Stephanie Peters requested that the students working with Habitat for Humanities in El Salvador come to a School Committee meeting to make a presentation on their experiences. Jonathan Ford noted that the

students are putting together information and photographs from the trip to El Salvador and will be available in May to present at a School Committee meeting.

Catherine Bowes requested that the students who participated in the DECA competition be invited to make a presentation at a School Committee meeting.

5.0 Hull Teacher Association Representative's Report
None

6.0 Approval of Minutes
None

7.0 Business Items – Superintendent

7.1 High School Program of Studies

Jonathan Ford, High School Principal presented the 2007 – 2008 Program of Studies. He informed the Committee of additions and changes in the Program of Studies. Mr. Ford responded to School Committee questions regarding:

- Course selections
- Childcare
- Internship program
- Physical education interscholastic sports
- Algebra at Memorial School
- Foreign Language classes
- Science classes
- Microsoft office
- Freshmen extension classes

School Committee inquired about the progress of the high school library renovation. Mr. Ford responded that the stacks of book in the library will be consolidated and may not have to be moved to the exhibition room. Mr. Twombly informed the Committee that the library partitions would be installed on June 18th.

Motion: James Canavan **Second:** Kevin Richardson
Moved to approve the 2007 – 2008 High School Program of Studies.

Vote: 4-0-0

7.2 Update on Jacobs Principal Search

Dr. Delaney stated that Dr. Kathleen Tyrell, Interim Jacobs School Principal, a Jacobs School Screening Committee Teacher and herself would be visiting the school district of one of the Jacobs School finalist on Friday, April 27th. She said she would update the Committee at the next meeting on this visit.

James Canavan requested Dr. Delaney invite a parent from the Screening Committee to participate in the site visit on Friday.

7.3 Building / Facilities Use Policy
Removed from the agenda

7.4 Report on Schools After the Storm

David Twombly discussed the following regarding damage during the heavy rainstorm the previous week:

Memorial Middle School:

- Some water entered into the electrical closet and boiler room
- He is working with the highway department on the catch basin

Hull High School

- A few leaks in the gym hallway, outside the library, and science wing
- All leaks have been forwarded to the Surety Company, Vertex Engineering, and Robert Garrity

L.M. Jacobs School

- No leaks at the Jacobs School
- The crawl space is dry
- A sump pump was running in the crawl space area throughout the storm

High School Athletic Field

- A goal post was destroyed during the storm last week
- A new goal post and soccer net will be needed
- A letter is being sent to the bonding company regarding the damage

James Canavan requested a report on all schools regarding what has been done to date regarding air quality recommendations at the next Committee meeting Mr. Twombly said that Dr. Delaney and himself toured and inspected each of the schools today.

He gave the following report regarding the Jacobs School:

- Received mostly positive feedback from the faculty and staff during this visit
 - Building was thoroughly cleaned over vacation week – April 16 – 20
 - Hazardous Abatement Services replaced tiles in several rooms throughout the building
 - Solar-Tech will be at the school on April 24th repairing the uni-vent in room 30
 - The barriers on the construction side were re-secured
 - Fans were installed on the construction side near the barrier to blow dust away from the classrooms
- Mr. Twombly also said that over the next several weeks everyone has to work together to reduce dust and particulates from the building.

Dr. Delaney said she would put together a list of suggestions from her inspection of the schools and send a memo to all staff with suggestions regarding clutter and cleaning in the schools.

7.6 Dental Van

Dr. Aaron Chenette presented the following information regarding the Mobile Access to Care Dental Van:

- American Dental Association has converted a motor home into a mobile dental van (MAC) to tour the country
- Massachusetts has the dental van for 2007
- The van is fully equipped to treat children for dental care
- Targeting young children with awareness of regular dental care
- Van will be at the Jacobs School on May 1st and May 2nd
- Article has been sent to the Patriot Ledger and Hull Times with information on the dental van and when the van will be in Hull
- The van is staffed with two dentists on each of the two shifts
- Proctor and Gamble has donated tooth brushes for students
- *MA Dentists That Care* are involved in MA Health
- Students will be given information of his/her dental exam to bring to a dentist
- Students will be given a list of dentists involved in MA Health that a student can visit for free dental care

Mr. Canavan suggested Dr. Chenette contact the Chamber of Commerce to have information about this program placed on the Chamber Board. Ann Connelly, Jacobs School Teacher suggested placing information at Nantasket Pharmacy. Catherine Bowes suggested a Connect-Ed call be placed to parents about returning permission slips.

James Canavan thanked Dr. Chenette for this great opportunity for children to get dental care who may not have access to dental work.

7.5 Crisis Planning

Dr. Delaney stated that in light of the tragedy at Virginia Tech on April 16 she met with Police Chief Billings, Officer Casagrande, Officer Reilly and school administrators regarding crisis planning. She stated the following:

- Will be working with the Hull Police over the next few weeks to develop a protocol for a lock down in the schools
- Officer Reilly will walk through each of the schools
- Will be working out a protocol to inform teachers, students and staff on what is going to happen and that there will be a lock down
- Staff and parents will be informed that a lockdown drill will be happening, but not when it will happen
- Following this drill a Connect-Ed call will be placed to parents with information about the drill
- Immediately following the drill Dr. Delaney will meet with police for a debriefing to find out what can be learned from the drill, and what things were not anticipated
- Officer Casagrande will also be getting information from the Marshfield School Department.

James Canavan suggested making sure the communication to staff, students, and parents includes that the lockdown is planned for safety reasons and the school system is being proactive.

Dr. Delaney said she will keep the School Committee updated on this issue.

Catherine Bowes said that the School Committee had received a book from Dr. Delaney regarding emergency protocols, but the book was put on hold because a holding area for students had not been determined. Dr. Delaney responded that she will be working with Chief Billings regarding a staging area for students and completing this emergency manual.

7.7 Parent Surveys

Dr. Delaney said that two hundred and eleven survey envelopes had been mailed to parents / guardians of students not attending Hull Schools. She will put together an executive summary for the next meeting with recommendations on how some of the issues can be addressed.

Stephanie Peters complemented Jon Ford, High School Principal stating that a parent had decided to leave her child at the high school because of Mr. Ford.

7.8 Other Issues

None

8.0 New Business

None

9.0 Old Business

9.1 Jacobs School Condition Update

Mr. Twombly reported that the classrooms and office area walls are being primed and painted. He also noted that a couple of weeks ago when he met with teachers they were happy with preliminary room assignments for next year.

Mr. Canavan requested Dr. Tyrell and Mr. Twombly have a meeting to inform Jacobs School parents what to expect in September.

David Twombly noted that copies of the high school air quality report had been distributed to the School Building Committee. The School Building Committee is being very cautious with the Jacobs School so not to encounter the same issues that happened during the high school construction project. The School Building Committee is looking at hiring a Commission Agent to oversee the mechanical issues at Jacobs School. Also, they have hired Briggs Engineering to oversee the installation of the roof at Jacobs School.

Stephanie Peters requested School Committee tour the new construction area at the Jacobs School. Mr. Twombly responded that the Building Committee will be touring the Jacobs School on a Thursday evening prior to a Building Committee meeting and invited the School Committee to tour the building at the same time. He also noted that the teachers will be invited to tour the building sometime after the Building Committee tour.

9.2 Subcommittee Updates

- Building Committee

The next scheduled meeting is Thursday, April 26th

- Budget Subcommittee

Stephanie Peters said that the last meeting had to be cancelled due to a scheduling conflict. The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, April 27th and requested changing all remaining FY07 meetings back to 9:00 a.m.

- Athletic Subcommittee

None

- Negotiations Subcommittee

James Canavan noted that the Committee and HTA have met once and three other negotiation sessions are scheduled. Mediation with school custodians has also been scheduled.

- Donaldina Gately Memorial Committee

Dr. Delaney said that Roger Tirrell is working the portrait of Donaldina Gately.

10.0 School Committee Policy Issues

Motion: Catherine Bowes

Second: Kevin Richardson

Moved to approve Policy JHA – Student Tardiness for third reading / adoption.

Vote: 4-0-0

Motion: Kevin Richardson

Second: Stephanie Peters

Moved to approve the following policies for second reading:

Policy JLIA Supervision of Students

Policy JLIB Student Dismissal Precautions

Policy JMA Student Awards

Policy JN Student Volunteers For School And Community Service

Policy JO	Employment of Students
Policy JP	Student Gifts and Solicitations (Also: GBEBB, KHA)
Policy JRA	Student Records
Policy JRA-R	Student Records
Policy JRD	Physical Restraint
Vote: 4-0-0	

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

Moved to approve the following policies for second reading:

Policy JKF Physical Restraint

Stephanie Peters asked how many people were trained in each building. Jonathan Ford, High School Principal, responded that there was a training last summer and several people from each building attended the training.

Policy JLIAA Teacher-Student Relations (Also GBEBBA)

Policy JLIAB Staff-Student Relations (Also: GBBBBB)

James Canavan asked what type of training takes place (referencing both policies). Jonathan Ford answered that it is discussed at faculty meetings. Dr. Delaney said that there is not a real training and suggested a civil rights training be held in the fall. Mr. Ford also said that the information could be added to the faculty handbook.

Policy JLIE Student Automobile Use

James Canavan asked Jonathan Ford if we permit vehicles and if there is a spot for them. Jonathan Ford stated we do not because there are no resources to do so and there has never been a problem and he does not see a need to do so.

Vote: 4-0-0

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

Moved to approve Policy JQ – Student Fees, Fines, and Charges

Mr. Canavan asked if it is lawful to deny someone from participating in graduation ceremonies. Mr. Ford responded that it is.

Vote: 4-0-0

Deborah McCarthy, HTA President, requested five policies be disseminated to teachers weekly with the school blue notes. Dr. Delaney noted that there is a policy manual in every school office and online. She suggested teachers should keep asking questions if there is a policy on a certain issue.

11.0. Approval of Warrants

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

Moved to approve the school warrants as presented.

Vote: 4-0-0

12.0 Correspondence to and Comments from School Committee Members

James Canavan said a couple of parents contacted him about the Memorial School bus schedule for September. The parents concern was not necessarily fifth grade students being on the bus with older Memorial School students, but the concern was waiting at the bus stop. He requested when considering the Memorial School bus schedule for September to consider what is best for the students. Catherine Bowes noted that the Memorial School was a grade five through eight at one time. Dr. Delaney said she would meet with Lynda Feeney, Memorial School Assistant Principal, and Kathleen Tyrell, Interim Jacobs School Principal regarding this concern. She suggested also involving the School Council with

this issue. Catherine Bowes said that the administration should communicate and meet with parents regarding bus transportation.

School Committee discussed the Community Outreach meeting scheduled at 6:00 p.m. on May 14th. The following was requested:

- Connect-Ed call be made informing parents of the meeting
- Include information about the meeting in the weekly blue notes
- The subject for discussion will be *Parent Involvement in Schools*
- Input from administrators
- Input from teachers

Dr. Delaney said she would make a Connect-Ed call to parents. Deborah McCarthy said she would email HTA members informing them of this meeting.

Catherine Bowes noted that the Hull Boosters Club is having a \$10,000 drawing on May 10th at the Red Parrott to support academics, arts, and sports for the school system.

Stephanie Peters requested Dr. Delaney to include upcoming retirement parties when the end of the year calendar of events is put together.

Executive Session

13.0 Adjournment

Motion: James Canavan

Second: Catherine Bowes

Moved to go into Executive Session at 8:37 p.m. for the purpose of discussing strategies for collective bargaining and litigation and not to return to Open Session.

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