

# SCHOOL COMMITTEE MINUTES

## MONDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 2007

Kevin Richardson, Chair (present)  
Kristen Evans, Vice Chair (present)  
Stephanie Peters, Secretary (present)  
Catherine Bowes, Member (present)  
Marianne Harte, Member (present)

Kathleen Tyrell, Superintendent  
Joy Turpie, Assistant Superintendent  
Maria Hortaridis, Director of Finance  
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 7:04 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  
**Motion:** Catherine Bowes                               **Second:** Marianne Harte  
Moved to approve agenda as presented.  
**Vote:** 5-0-0
- 3.0 Input from Public on Agenda Items  
None
- 4.0 Student Representative  
Emily Carroll, Principal Advisory Committee Member, reported on the following areas:  
  - Senior early college acceptance
  - Financial aid evening for parents on December 13, 2007
  - Spirit week
  - Thanksgiving rally
  - Home coming rally
  - First annual Hull High School Olympics
  - Pie eating contest
  - Thanksgiving football game
  - Winter sports
  - Fall sports award night on November 30, 2007
  - Tickets for *Annie Get Your Gun* are now on sale

5.0 Hull Teacher Association Representative's Report

Deborah McCarthy, HTA President,

- Welcomed everyone back from Thanksgiving break
- Thanked HASC for the opportunity for teachers to attend the HASC dinner at a reduced cost
- Stated that her fifth grade students were reading *Al Capone Does My Laundry*. One of the four novels that has been purchased with money from a HASC grant
- Thanked Dr. Turpie for inviting six teachers to attend professional development on MCAS open response questions in Cohasset

6.0 Approval of Minutes

**Motion:** Catherine Bowes

**Second:** Stephanie Peters

Moved to approve Monday, October 22, 2007 Executive Session School Committee minutes

**Vote:** 5-0-0

**Motion:** Stephanie Peters

**Second:** Marianne Harte

Moved to approve Tuesday, November 13, 2007 School Committee minutes with the following changes:

- Remove the words *the certificate* from line three of item 7.0
- Change the date on page four under item 8.0 from **December 10, 2007** to *November 26, 2007*

**Vote:** 5-0-0

7.0 Business Items – Superintendent

7.1 Scholarship Committee – Mr. James O'Brien

James O'Brien, Hull Scholarship Committee President, introduced Committee Members Terry Richardson, Janice Marcella, Kristen Woodley, and Geri Calos. He also noted that School Committee Chair Kevin Richardson was a member of the Committee.

Mr. O'Brien gave the following information regarding the Scholarship Committee:

- Began about twenty years ago to provide funds to students going on to college
- Has approximately one-half million dollars in secure CD's
- Objective going forward will be to continue to raise money
- Receive donations throughout the year
- An organized event will take place in February 2008 to raise money
- Working with Hull Alumni.com to have an annual appeal to Hull graduates as a fundraiser

He thanked past Scholarship Committee members, School Committee, administrators and teachers for their support over the years.

7.2 School Committee Goals

Chairman Kevin Richardson read the Hull School Department Mission Statement and discussed the following five School Committee goals:

- Curriculum
  - To implement a high standards curriculum, linked to the Massachusetts Frameworks, vertically and horizontally aligned across all grades and content areas, and supported by investments in professional development that ensure effective instructional programs.
  - Continue to capitalize on our small district and class sizes to provide effective instruction.
  - Implement quarterly presentations at our meetings on curriculum assessments and administration for implementation.

- Fiscal Transparency
  - School Committee members will participate in town-wide governmental groups including Advisory Committee and other ad hoc committees.
  - Work with the school administration to develop financial status reports to be distributed to all committee members.
  - Increase communication and utilization of website regarding budget process.
  - Develop more comprehensive budget presentation for public consumption.
  - Establish regular budget workshops to educate the community on our budgetary process.
- Communication
  - School Committee will work to encourage more parents to attend School Committee meetings, parental conferences and other school events.
  - School Committee will continue to hold monthly Community Outreach Forums on topics that are requested from the public.
  - School Committee members will attend school council meetings, PTO meetings and other events, seeking to maintain open lines of communication with parents in the community. School Committee will use such forums to help inform parents and community members of the district's budget and annual goals.
- Labor Relations
  - Negotiate financial settlements with units of our represented employees that assure fair and appropriate compensation packages, are in the best interest of students and within the financial means of the Town.
- Evaluation Process
  - Implement an effective evaluation tool and process for the Superintendent.

Dr. Tyrell said she had invited the three School Councils to a joint meeting on January 14, 2008 in the exhibition room at Hull High School.

Deborah McCarthy, HTA President, requested a copy of the School Committee goals. Mr. Richardson responded that a copy would be given to Ms. McCarthy and the goals would be placed on the School Website.

### 7.3 Memorial School Science Curriculum Update – Dr. Joy Turpie

Dr. Joy Turpie, Assistant Superintendent, presented the following Memorial School Science Curriculum update:

- MCAS eighth grade science scores
  - 2005 through 2007
  - Advanced, Proficient, Needs Improvement and Warning
- Questions to Answer
  - What is the best sequence in which to teach the middle school sciences?
  - Are we using the best textbooks?
  - How can we improve instruction?
- Sequence of Courses
  - 2007-2008
    - Grade 6 – earth science
    - Grade 7 – life science
    - Grade 8 – earth science and physical science
    -

- 2008-2009
  - Grade 6 – earth science
  - Grade 7 – life science
  - Grade 8 – earth science
- 2009-2010
  - Grade 6 – earth science
  - Grade 7 – life science
  - Grade 8 – physical science
- MCAS Review
  - Grade 6
    - Answering open response questions
    - Technology
  - Grade 7
    - Review 6<sup>th</sup> grade science
    - Technology
  - Grade 8
    - Review 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade science
    - Technology
- How can we improve instruction
  - Monthly science department meetings
  - Consultant to work with science department
  - *Studying Skillful Teaching* course offered to teachers
  - Vertical articulation

#### 7.4 Update on MASC Conference

Catherine Bowes updated the Committee on the delegate voting at the November 14, 2007 MASC conference as follows:

- Resolution 1 – sharing of information on students attending charter schools with the sending districts
  - Passed on a voice vote
- Resolution 2 – The inclusion of special education transportation costs in the circuit breaker
  - Passed on a voice vote
- Resolution 3 – Public Policy Agenda
  - Motion made to vote on each point individually. Motion second. Motion passed on a voice vote.
    - Point 1 – Provide adequate state funding for publicly governed schools
      - Passed on a hand vote
    - Point 2 – Reorganize the State Board of Education
      - Passed by a hand vote
    - Point 3 – Direct 100% of state Medicaid reimbursements to school districts
      - Passed by a hand voted
    - Point 4 – Enact a moratorium on new charter schools and carter school expansion
      - Passed by a hand count
    - Point 5 – restore to School committees the right to approve School Improvement plans
      - Passed by a hand vote
    - Point 6 – Develop a variety of assessment instruments
      - Passed by a hand count
    - Point 7 – Restore to school districts greater flexibility in serving English Language Learners
      - Passed by a hand count

- Resolution 4 – Foundation Budget
  - Passed on a voice vote

8.0 New Business Items

Stephanie Peters stated that the Hull Garden Club has entered into partnership with the Hull Public Schools. There will be an annual holiday door decoration contest and planting will be done at the Jacobs School.

Cathy Bowes requested a brief overview of the new Jacobs School report cards be placed on a future School Committee meeting agenda.

9.0 School Committee Policy Issues

**Motion:** Marianne Harte

**Second:** Stephanie Peters

Moved to approve the following policies for first reading to reflect laws that have recently changed:

Policy JKA – Discipline of Students With Disabilities

- Change the word *fro* to **from** in the first line of the second paragraph.

Policy KBBA – Non-Custodial Parents' Rights

**Vote:** 5-0-0

**Motion:** Stephanie Peters

**Second:** Catherine Bowes

Moved to approve the following policies for third reading:

Policy KFCA            Use Of School Grounds For Motor Vehicles

Policy KHB            Advertising in the Schools

Policy KHC            Promotional Materials In The Schools

Policy KI            Visitors To The Schools

Policy KJ            Relations with Community Organizations

Policy KLG            Relations With Policy Authorities

Policy KLH            Relations With The Fire Department

Policy KLJ            Relations With Planning Authorities

Policy KLK            Relations With Local Governmental Authorities

**Vote:** 5-0-0

10.0 Old Business Items

10.1 Subcommittee Updates

- Building Committee

- Hull High School rededication was on November 22, 2007
- The next Building Committee meeting is scheduled for December 13th
- Town-wide Finance Committee will meet on December 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.
- School Finance Subcommittee will meet on December 6<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 p.m.

- Budget Subcommittee

None

- Athletic Subcommittee

None

- Negotiations Subcommittee

None

11.0 Approval of Warrants

**Motion:** Marianne Harte

**Second:** Stephanie Peters

Moved to approve school warrants as presented.

**Vote:** 5-0-0

12.0 Correspondence to and Comments from School Committee Members

Stephanie Peters

- Referred to a recent article in the Sunday Boston Globe that mentioned the increase in the number of Hull High School students who received a John and Abigail Adams scholarship
- Noted that the South Shore League voted the Sportsman Award to Hull High School for the second year in a row
- Stated that a high school senior received college acceptance to Michigan State

Kevin Richardson thanked everyone for attending the HASC fundraiser on November 15, 2007.

13.0 Executive Session

14.0 Adjournment

**Motion:** Kevin Richardson

**Second:** Catherine Bowes

Moved to go into Executive Session at 7:59 p.m. for discussion of collective bargaining with union and non-union employees and strategy relating to litigation.

**Roll Call Vote:** Catherine Bowes, Stephanie Peters, Kevin Richardson, Kristen Evans, and Marianne Harte