

SCHOOL COMMITTEE
HULL PUBLIC SCHOOLS
HULL, MA 02045

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MINUTES
MONDAY, JANUARY 24, 2011

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Stephanie Peters, Chair (present)
Marianne Harte, Vice Chair (present)
David Twombly, Secretary (present)
Kristen Evans, Member (absent)
Kevin Richardson, Member (present)

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Kathleen I. Tyrell, Superintendent of Schools
Maureen Robishaw, Secretary to the Superintendent
Maggie Ollerhead, Policy Coordinator

1.0 Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Stephanie Peters at 7:01 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: David Twombly **Second:** Kevin Richardson

Move to approve the agenda as presented.

Vote: AYES: 4-0-0

3.0 Input from Public on Agenda Items

None

4.0 Student Representative

None

5.0 Hull Teacher Association Representative's Report

None

6.0 Approval of Minutes

Motion: David Twombly **Second:** Kevin Richardson

Move to approve the following School Committee minutes:

- Monday, January 10, 2011 Community Outreach Forum
- Monday, January 10, 2011 School Committee Meeting

Vote: AYES: 4-0-0

7.0 Business Items – Superintendent

7.1 Revised School Calendar 2011 – 2012

Dr. Tyrell informed the Committee of two changes in the 2011 – 2012 school calendar regarding early release days.

Motion: David Twombly **Second:** Marianne Harte

Move to approve the revised 2011-2102 school calendar as presented.

Vote: AYES: 4-0-0

7.2 TerraNova Results Update

Laura Miceli, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, presented the following information on TerraNova results:

- TerraNova assessments measure important higher-order thinking skills as well as basic and applied skills
- Assessments include reading, language and mathematics
- In reading, all grade levels scored above the national median
- In language, six (6) out of seven (7) grades tested scored above the national median
- In math, seven (7) out of eight (8) grades scored above the national median

School Committee requested a presentation on TerraNova trends at a future School Committee meeting.

7.3 Senior Privileges

Mr. Michael Devine, Hull High School Principal, presented a pilot program that will allow seniors to earn the privilege of having a senior study period during the third and fourth terms.

In order to earn this privilege, the senior must:

- Have a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or better
- Have made the honor roll during the previous term
- Have no suspensions, co-curricular suspensions, or social probations during the 2010 – 2011 school year
- This program will:
 - Reward seniors who have demonstrated academic and civic responsibility during their time at Hull High School.
 - Motivate students to do well academically and follow school rules during their time at Hull High School, especially during their senior year, when motivation often become an issue for seniors.
 - Prepare and assist seniors in developing time-management skills.
 - Help to alleviate overcrowding in some of the high schools electives.

Mr. Devine said 17 students are eligible for this pilot program. He will meet with students individually and parents will need to sign off on this program.

School Committee members approved of the senior pilot program.

7.4 High School Graduation

Mr. Michael Devine, Hull High School Principal, discussed changing the day of graduation from the first Sunday in June to the first Saturday in June. He said School Council members voted in favor of this change. Seniors spend the entire night of graduation at Hull High School and it is difficult getting chaperones for “grad night” on a Sunday. Graduation is a family event and it can be difficult for people who have to travel to graduation and home on a Sunday. Seventy-five percent of parents of the senior class signed a petition in favor of moving graduation to Saturday. Mr. Devine met with Rabbi Lafkowitz who voiced concern about having graduation on the Jewish Sabbath.

Mr. Devine recommended for one-year only moving graduation to the first Saturday in June. He said moving forward each year he would survey the parents of the senior class to have graduation on a Friday evening or Sunday afternoon.

Senior parents who attended the meeting expressed the following:

- Support Saturday graduation

- Consider Friday evening, Saturday or Sunday afternoon in the future for graduation
- Saturday graduation is easier for family members who have long distances to drive
- Leave Saturday open as an option in the future
- Make a standard date of all future graduations
- Cleaning up from “grad night” is easier if graduation is held on a Saturday

Dr. Tyrell said having graduation on a Saturday could prohibit some families from attending graduation.

School Committee members discussed:

- Have more discussion on the issue
- Look at the culture and take small steps
- Be respectful of everyone
- See how graduation goes this year
- Be respectful of something that has gone on for 50 years
- Survey parents of next year seniors this coming Spring regarding 2012 graduation on a Friday, Saturday, or Sunday
- Report back to School Committee in the Fall

Mr. Devine thanked Hull High School Council for all the work that was done on this issue.

Motion: Kevin Richardson

Second: Marianne Harte

Move to change Hull High School graduation for this year only to Saturday, June 4, 2011.

Vote: AYES: 4-0-0

Dr. Tyrell said that Mr. Devine would announce the time of graduation.

7.5 Ryan's Story

Dr. Tyrell said that John Halligan came to Hull on January 19, 2011 to speak about his son Ryan's tragic death. He spoke to middle school and high school students during the day to help students stay away from bullying, change their behavior and chart a new course. Mr. Halligan spoke to about 150 parents in the evening. His message was very powerful. Dr. Tyrell thanked the PTO for the financial support and spreading the word about Mr. Halligan's presentation. She thanked Paula Maxwell, Memorial Middle School Principal, who recommended bringing Mr. Halligan to Hull and the students and parents for listening so attentively. She hopes this presentation has an impact on students and will make Hull a kinder place.

8.0 New Business Items

None

9.0 School Committee Policy Issues

Motion: Kevin Richardson

Second: Marianne Harte

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

Policy CA	Administration Goals
Policy CB	School superintendent
Policy CBD	Superintendent's Contract with the following change
Policy CBG	Superintendent's Professional Development Opportunities
Policy CBI	Evaluation of the Superintendent
Policy CBI-R	Evaluation of the Superintendent
Policy CBI-E	Superintendent of Schools Evaluation Instrument

Policy CCA	Organizational Chart
Policy CCB	Line and Staff Relations
Policy CD	Management Team
Policy CE	Administrative Councils, Cabinets, and Committees
Policy CEA	School Councils (Also: BDFA)
Policy CEA-R1	School Improvement Plan (Also: BDFA-R1)
Policy CEA-R2	Conduct of School Council Business (Also: BDFA-R2)
Policy CEA-E	Submission and Approval of the School Improvement Plan (Also: BDFA-E)
Policy CFA	School Building Administration
Policy CH	Policy Implementation
Vote: AYES: 4-0-0	

10.0 Old Business Items

10.1 Sub-committee Updates

The Communication Subcommittee will draft a survey to see how School Committee can improve methods of communication. The survey will be distributed to community members attending the February 8, 2011 Community Outreach Forum. A completed survey will be given to School Committee members.

10.2 Acceptance of Donations

Motion: David Twombly **Second:** Marianne Harte

Move to accept the following donation:

\$5,000.00 to be used for funding:

- \$3,500.00 Athletic Program
- \$1,500.00 Theatre Arts Program

\$533.80 to be used for funding Hull Family Network

Vote: AYES: 4-0-0

11.0 Approval of Warrants

Motion: Kevin Richardson **Second:** David Twombly

Move to approve school warrants, 293 and 18S as presented.

Vote: AYES: 4-0-0

12.0 Correspondence to and Comments from School Committee Members

None

13.0 Executive Session

14.0 Adjournment

Motion: David Twombly **Second:** Marianne Harte

Move to go into Executive Session at 8:13 p.m. for the purpose of discussing union and non-union negotiation strategy and not to return to Open Session.

Roll Call Vote: David Twombly, Marianne Harte, Stephanie Peters, and Kevin Richardson.