

SCHOOL COMMITTEE  
HULL PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
HULL, MA 02045

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MINUTES  
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2011

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Stephanie Peters, Chair  
Marianne Harte, Vice Chair  
David Twombly, Secretary  
Kristen Evans, Member  
Eric Hipp, Member

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Kathleen I. Tyrell, Superintendent of Schools  
Maureen Robishaw, Secretary to the Superintendent

1.0 Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Stephanie Peters at 7:02 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  
**Vote:** AYES: 5-0-0

**Second:** Marianne Harte

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:** Marianne Harte

Move to approve the following School Committee minutes as presented:

- Monday, June 6, 2011 Community Outreach Forum
- Monday, June 20, 2011 School Committee meeting
- Monday, June 20, 2011 Executive Session
- Monday, August 15, 2011 School Committee Retreat
- Monday, August 15, 2011 Executive Session

**Vote:** 5-0-0

7.0 Business Items – Superintendent

7.1 School Nurse Retirement

Dr. Tyrell said the first order of business is the announcement and vote by School Committee to accept a retirement. Barbara Meschino has been a nurse at the L.M. Jacobs School since 1992 and has given her resignation for the purpose of retiring. Ms. Meschino is a dedicated, caring school employee and her retirement will be a great loss to the L.M. Jacobs School. Under the Educational Reform Act of 1993,

the employment of school nurses was kept with the School Committee. Therefore, it is appropriate for School Committee to make a motion to accept Ms. Mschino's retirement.

**Motion:** David Twombly

**Second:** Marianne Harte

Move to accept with regret the resignation of Ms. Barbara Meschino, L.M. Jacobs School Nurse, effective January 5, 2012.

**Vote:** 5-0-0

Dr. Tyrell said there might be some movement of school nurses within the district. This is an opportunity for the nurses currently employed to move to a different assignment. Once that is determined there will be a search committee for the nursing position depending on which school a nurse will be needed.

#### 7.2 Memorial Middle School Student Handbook

Dr. Tyrell said that due to the Memorial Middle School Principal turnover in the past three years, there was some lack of clarity, which was the official Memorial Middle School Student Handbook. Dr. Tyrell said she asked Anthony Hrivnak, Memorial Middle School Principal, to look at and combine the three versions of the handbook. At the School Committee Retreat in August School Committee members voted to approve the 2011-2012 Student Handbook. The handbook has been placed on the school website.

#### 7.3 School Opening

Dr. Tyrell announced that the Hull Public Schools had a wonderful opening on August 30, 2011. The staff was energized and students are looking forward to academic challenges. She said she would have the official enrollment after October 1<sup>st</sup> and would present it at a future meeting. It does appear there has been a slight drop in enrollment.

Dr. Tyrell thanked the following people for donating time to the Hull Public Schools:

- James O'Brien, and the O'Brien Family, Jake's Seafood Restaurant, for providing the lunch for new teachers on August 24, 2011
- Robert and Cathy Belyea, North River Bus Company, for donating the transportation for the tour of Hull for the new teachers
- Roger Jackson and Susan Ovans, *The Hull Times*, for the photographs of the new teachers and reporting positive news for the opening of the 2011-2012 school year
- Peter Nixon and his landscaping crew, who volunteered landscaping work at the Jacobs School.

Stephanie Peters said she heard from concerned parents regarding the combined mathematics classes at Hull High School. Michael Devine, Hull High School Principal, explained that Hull High School has two (2) sections of mathematics. All freshmen take one-half year of freshmen mathematics and one-half year of combined college prep and honors class. The senior class has a mixed honors and college pre-calculus class. The reason for this is there is not enough staff to offer honors calculus and college pre-calculus. It is differentiated instruction with different assessment tools and different criteria.

Marianne Harte thanked the custodial staff for how pristine the schools looked for the opening of the school year.

#### 7.4 District Goals

Dr. Tyrell said that Administrators and School Committee Members met at the School Committee Retreat in August to discuss the following 2011-2012 draft District Goals:

1. Continue to work collaboratively with the Hull Teachers Association in order to improve student

outcomes across all grade levels.

2. Continue to utilize the expertise of faculty to improve teaching and learning through peer observations and collaboration.
3. Host a successful NEASC visitation in November, and prioritize and begin to implement the recommendations identified in the Hull High School Self-study.
4. Reduce the drop-out rate by continuing to identify and support at-risk students in grades K-12.
5. Provide clear understanding of the school department's budget and financial needs to the community.
6. Move toward 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools Initiative benchmarks and report progress to community.
7. Assist Council on Aging with space needs and work collaboratively with other town and community groups.

**Motion:** Marianne Harte

**Second:** David Twombly

Move to approve the 2011 – 2012 District Goals as presented.

**Vote:** 5-0-0

School Committee requested an update on the District Goals at the December School Committee meeting and updates continuing throughout the school year.

School Committee asked if there was any opportunity for internships with senior citizens. Dr. Tyrell said she would get back to School Committee.

#### 7.5 Update on Senior Center

Dr. Tyrell noted that the senior center is undergoing a remodeling renovation and has moved into the Hull Family Network location at the Jacobs School. The move went very smoothly. The only drawback is the location for senior citizens who live at the other end of town. Transportation is being coordinated. The senior center will be temporarily housed at the Jacobs School until November. Dr. Tyrell thanked the staff and parents of the HFN for all the help during this move.

#### 7.6 Update on High School Roof Advertising Space

Michael Devine, Hull High School Principal, presented the following information:

- Communicated and contracted with Roofads.com in October
- Roofads.com prepared a feasibility study on the weather and flight patterns
- Report concluded advertising would be feasible but not be profitable due to:
  - Cloud cover
  - Fog
  - Flight patterns over high school
- Communicated and contracted with Eagleview Ads.
- Eagleview Ads did a feasibility and profitability study
- Reported that this is something we can look at doing, it is not going to make a lot of money
- Hull High School would be responsible for:
  - Lighting upkeep
  - Paint upkeep
  - Roof upkeep
  - They will try to find someone to rent the space
- The reality is that we do not have the resources or staff to light, paint and make sure the roof is in great condition

Mr. Devine said he would meet with Eagleview Ads for the final cost and then make a decision.

Dr. Tyrell thanked Mr. Devine for his work on the project.

8.0 New Business Items

Stephanie Peters said she spoke to John Reilly, Jr., Hull Board of Selectmen, regarding the Government Study Committee. Mr. Reilly indicated that this is something the Board of Selectmen would do in the fall. Ms. Peters also said the Board of Selectmen and School Committee would be having a joint meeting for a NEASC presentation and discussion on the additional \$300,000 in the school departments FY12 budget. James Canavan, Hull Advisory Board, has expressed interest in meeting with the School Committee to discuss what has been done with the additional \$300,000 in the school department budget. Ms. Peters said she would get back to the Committee and Superintendent with dates for these meetings.

Stephanie Peters asked Michael Devine to discuss the Hull High School Blog. Michael Devine, Hull High School Principal, explained the Blog is to keep the community informed on the positive things happening at Hull High School. It is connected to a facebook page and also connected to a twitter account. Mr. Devine said the address is: <http://hullhighschool.blogspot.com/> The goal at the high school is to go paperless.

Mr. Devine noted the following information has been posted on the high school Blog:

- Opening remarks
- Graduation ceremony
- Open house
- Winners of student council
- Winners of student government elections
- Class officers
- Links about September 11<sup>th</sup>

Mr. Devine also said there are a lot of positive benefits to facebook. Social network is here to stay and we need to teach students how to use technology appropriately. He suggested the following if a parent is concerned about facebook:

- Review facebook
- Have your child's password
- Look at your child's privacy settings
- Friend your child

Eric Hipp requested an athletic presentation for the 2011 – 2012 school year at a future meeting.

9.0 School Committee Policy Issues

None

Stephanie Peters requested adding the section of the policy on the School Committee agenda.

10.0 Old Business Items

10.1 Sub-committee Updates

Stephanie Peters said the subcommittee list was discussed and updated at the August retreat and requested a copy of the updated subcommittee list be placed in the next Committee packet.

10.2 Acceptance of Donations

**Motion:** David Twombly                      **Second:** Kristen Evans

Moved to accept the following donations:

\$ 600.00 to be used for funding Hull High School Athletic Program

\$ 568.00 to be used for funding Hull High School Athletic Program

\$3,586.20 to be used for funding Hull High School Theatre Arts Program

\$ 242.45 to be used for funding Hull Family Network Program

**Vote:** Ayes: 5-0-0

11.0 Approval of Warrants

**Motion:** David Twombly

**Second:** Kristen Evans

Move to approve school warrants 7S and 331 as presented.

**Vote:** 5-0-0

At the next meeting, School Committee will make a motion to approve warrants signed during the summer.

12.0 Correspondence to and comments from School Committee Members

Open house schedule is as follows:

- Hull High School, Tuesday, September 13, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.
- Memorial Middle School, Wednesday, September 14, 2011 at 6:30 p.m.
- L.M. Jacobs School, Thursday, September 15, 2011 at 6:00 p.m.

School Council elections will also be held at each school.

Marianne Harte requested all open house schedules begin at the same time.

13.0 Executive Session

14.0 Adjournment

**Motion:** Marianne Harte

**Second:** David Twombly

Move to go into Executive Session at 7:50 p.m. for the purpose of collective bargaining strategy and not to return to Open Session. Discussion could have a detrimental effect if discussed in Open Session.

Eric Hipp requested a description of the matter that will be discussed in Executive Session. Dr. Tyrell responded it is to discuss an open matter regarding collective bargaining with Hull Teachers Association. Mr. Hipp requested in the future a description of matters being discussed in Executive Session. After discussion it was decided that Stephanie Peters would contact Attorney James Lampke, Town Counsel, regarding how much detail should be provided prior to going into Executive Session

**Roll Call Vote:** David Twombly, Marianne Harte, Stephanie Peters, Kristen Evans and Eric Hipp.