SCHOOL COMMITTEE HULL PUBLIC SCHOOLS HULL, MA 02045

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MINUTES TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2014

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

David Twombly, Chair (present)
Marianne Harte, Vice Chair (present)
Eric Hipp, Secretary (present)
Michelle Lanner, Member (present)
Stephanie Peters, Member (present)

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Kathleen I. Tyrell, Superintendent of Schools Judith Kuehn, Assistant Superintendent of Schools Maggie Ollerhead, Secretary to the Superintendent

1.0 Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by David Twombly, Chair at 7:02 p.m. at Hull High School Second Floor Exhibition Room, 180 Main Street with the Salute to the Flag.

The Chair asked the audience to please share in a moment of silence for former teachers Mary Rose Welch and Catherine Howarth and parent Michael Shaffer.

2.0 Approval of Agenda

Motion: Stephanie Peters Second: Marianne Harte

Move to approve the February 11, 2014 agenda as presented.

Vote: 5-0-0

3.0 Input from Public on Agenda Items

None

4.0 Student Representative

Senior, Marco Capporatta informed the committee of the following:

- Volleyball game, sophomore vs. junior, sophomores won
- Class Cup honor roll challenge
- Semi formal 200 students run by juniors
- Green Gecko art fundraiser

5.0 Approval of Minutes

None

6.0 Business Items – Superintendent

6.1 Project 351

Mr. Anthony Hrivnak, Memorial School Principal, introduced Christian Olivieri, eighth grade student, discussed Project 351 in which 351 students from across the Commonwealth met with Governor Deval Patrick to participate in food, conversation and service to a needy program. Christian's group helped sort items at Cradles to Crayons. He is planning and will sponsor his next service project, which will be a clothing drive at Hull High School. The clothes will be donated to Cradle to Crayons.

6.2 Jacobs School Read-a-thon

Ms. Penta gave a presentation that was part of a larger presentation that was done during two rallies that were held at the Jacobs School at the beginning and end of the Jacobs School Read-a-Thon week. The theme of the presentation was catching people reading and included students and teachers reading. The names of the students, grades levels and prizes were also included.

Ms. Peters remarked that the Read-a-Thon was the work of everyone involved, the teachers, students and parents, and the PTO.

6.3 National Geographic Bee

Mr. Anthony Hrivnak, Memorial School Principal, gave an overview of the first National Geographic Bee that was held recently at Memorial School. Mr. Timothy Young, grade six science teacher, organized the event. The event went 7 rounds then double elimination for 4 rounds, finally the after school double elimination round. The winner was Jennifer Boyd. The winner then took a paper test and if her paper is picked she will advance to the next round in Nationals.

6.4 The Green Gecko Project

Ms. Amanda Held, Hull High School art teacher, introduced several students who are Art Club members. They discussed the Green Gecko Project, which supports children who previously lived and begged on the streets of Cambodia. Green Gecko provides security, education, love and opportunities for these children and their families. Each Art Club members was partnered with a Green Gecko student and they painted pictures of some of their favorite activities and then exchanged the pictures which each other and wrote to each other.

6.5 Friends of Hull High School Theatre Arts

Ms. Paula Whalen, member of Friends of Hull High School Theatre Arts, thanked everyone who has supported the theatre program. She talked about the fundraising activities that have been held to raise funds for the drama program. She discussed the enormous amount of donated time and energy from some of the parents and students. She said that because of the large senior classes graduating they have lost both those students and their parents and the pool of volunteer is much smaller, approximately ¼ of what they used to have. She stated that it will be near impossible to sustain the current level of fundraising with the number of volunteers that they currently have. Ms. Whalen stated that because all organizations are asking the same resources in town for help, her group feels it necessary to ask the School Committee for an increase in the drama funding to help alleviate some of the burden with regard to fundraising in order to maintain the theatre program at its current level.

6.6 Hull Boosters Club

Mr. Gregory Grey, President of the Hull Boosters Club, thanked everyone in town for all that they have done for the past five year in order to keep things going for the kids at the high school. He said that, unfortunately if more funding is not put into place the athletic department will be making cuts next year and the Boosters will not be able to help fund other extracurricular activities. He stated that the Boosters Club is dangerously low on funds with barely enough to get through the spring season. The fact that the Boosters and

other town organizations are continually asking for money the towns people are worn thin with donating time and money and because of that three of the fundraisers lost money this year. He asked the School Committee to make this subject one of the top priorities on the agenda. He said the Boosters will work closely with the School Committee and town government to search for solutions so the students at Hull High School get the experience they deserve.

The Committee members said they are trying to do everything they can. We also have to education students from pre-k through grade 12. These groups have the support of all of us. Parents need to step up and give their time, get involved. Mr. Hipp added that the only way to fix this problem in the near term is to have an override specifically geared to Hull High School co-curricular activities.

6.7 FY15 Budget Discussion

Dr. Tyrell told the Committee that the Town Manager is recommending 3.3% for the schools operating budget. She said the Town Manager is trying to help, but the increase is not enough with the things that are going on. She noted that we have lost a lot of money due to the federal sequestration, federal and state grant reductions, circuit breaker reduction of \$100,000, the fact that we have exhausted the money in tuition accounts and three unexpected large special education tuitions. Mr. Twombly added that he and the Superintendent met with the Town Manager, who started out with a 2.75% school budget and he is now giving the schools 3.3% plus \$20,000 more in capital. Mr. Hipp wants to focus on budget and suggested having an overall presentation on special education because it is not all understood. Then do the same for the rest of the departments, having discussions of priorities. Mr. Twombly added that he did not want to get into the nuts and bolts because the budget is a moving target and the numbers from the December budget have already changed.

7.0 New Business

Mr. Hipp told the Committee that Hull High School Theatre Arts spring play is *Oklahoma* and will be preformed the weekend of March 14 and 15.

8.0 School Committee Policy Issues

Motion: Stephanie Peters **Second:** Marianne Harte

Move to approve the following policies for second reading:

Policy GCIA Philosophy of Staff Development Policy GCJ Professional Teachers Status

Policy GCK Professional Staff Assignments and Transfers

Policy GCL Professional Staff Time Schedules
Policy GCMD Instructional Staff Extra Duty
Policy GCO Evaluation of Professional Staff
Policy GCO-R Evaluation of Professional Staff

Policy GCOA-E Evaluation of Professional Staff/Teachers

Vote: 5-0-0

9.0 Old Business Items

9.1 Sub-Committees

School Committee Minutes February 11, 2014 Page 4

School Choice – held meeting with Ms. Harte, Mr. Hipp, Mr. Gillis and Ms. Cathy Joaquim. Discussed how school choice works. The pros and cons. Each member has homework and will schedule a second meeting.

Budget Sub-committee met and discussed what was said in Superintendent Business Item 6.7 above.

Capital Planning Committee has set a meeting date with the School Committee for March 5, 2014.

9.2 Acceptance of Donations

Motion: Stephanie Peters Second: Marianne Harte

Moved to accept the following donations as presented:

• \$1,357.40 to Theatre Arts from Secret Santa, Ice Cream Night and Amazon

Vote: 5-0-0

10.0 Approval of Warrants

Motion: Stephanie Peters Second: Michelle Lanner

Moved to approve the following warrants as presented:

Warrant 19S, 538, 539 & 540

Vote: 5-0-0

11.0 Correspondence to and Comments from School Committee Members None

12.0 Adjournment

Motion: Stephanie Peters Second: Michelle Lanner

Motion to adjourn School Committee meeting at 8:52 p.m.

Vote: 5-0-0

Attachments:

1. The Green Gecko Project

These Minutes of a meeting of the Hull School Committee were approved and adopted by the Committee on March 10, 2014

Eric Hipp, Secretary Hull School Committee