

MINUTES OF THE HINGHAM SCHOOL COMMITTEE

February 11, 2016

1. Call to order

The meeting was called to order by Andy Shafter at 7:33 p.m.

Members Present: Aylene Calnan, Ray Estes, Carol M. Falvey, Cynthia Galko, Liza O'Reilly, Ed Schreier and Andy Shafter

Central Office Present: Dorothy Galo, Ellen Keane, John Ferris and Elizabeth Flynn

Visitors Present: Debbie Stellar, Chuck Cormier, Alec Porter, Linda Kutsch, Aisha Oppong, Carlos DaSilva, Nate Rand, Diane DeNapoli

2. Approval of Minutes

2.1 On a motion by Liza O'Reilly and seconded by Aylene Calnan,

It was

Voted: To approve the minutes of the School Committee Budget Work Session held on January 21, 2016.

2.2 On a motion by Liza O'Reilly and seconded by Aylene Calnan,

It was

Voted: To approve the minutes of the School Committee and the Education Subcommittee of the Advisory Committee Joint Meeting held on January 24, 2016.

2.3 On a motion by Liza O'Reilly and seconded by Aylene Calnan,

It was

Voted: To approve the minutes of the School Committee Meeting held on January 25, 2016.

3. Questions and Comments None

4. Superintendent's Report

- Good News. Dr. Galo showed a video on the WWII "Understanding Sacrifice" Project website and noted participant Chrissy O'Connor, HHS Social Studies teacher, for the second year.
Snow Day Update: Dr. Galo reviewed the decision making process involved in cancelling school for a snow day and the pros and cons involved.

5. Communications

5.1 Communications Received by the Superintendent: Dr. Galo noted the MASC Legislative Bulletin regarding the state budget and school funding issues.

5.2 Student Communications: None

5.3 Other Communications: None

6. New Business

6.1 The Committee held the annual Public Hearing on the proposed FY'17 School Department Budget. Dr. Galo reviewed a PowerPoint overview of "HPS Administration Budget Preliminary Proposal for FY17 (\$48,862,649 (7.59%)), and the

January 21, 2016 Update to Preliminary FY17 Operating Budget (\$48,777,766 (4.41%)).

Audience Comments and Questions: Diane DeNapoli spoke in favor of 1.0 Special Education teacher (.5 at East School and .5 at South School), and Special Education Administrator/Instructional position. Nate Rand spoke in favor of the Special Education Administrator/Instructional position. Tricia Burns spoke in favor of adding more in town Special Education programs to bring back students from out of district placements.

Dr. Galo reviewed the PowerPoint overview "February 1, 2016 Update to Preliminary FY17 Operating Budget (\$48,524,469 (6.85%)), including "Personnel Change Update," "Thinking About Other Changes and Potential Reductions or Possible Revenues," "Recommended Additions to Preliminary FY17 Budget," "Setting Priorities Among Needs," and "Outside the Box Thinking."

School Committee Comments and Questions: Life span of busses, possibility of ten year lease, choice between new bus lease versus one year extension; possibility of requesting Reading Adoption through the Capital Budget or through Reserve Funds Transfer; support for prioritizing categories; support for reading texts, HMS counseling position, secondary nursing position and Special Education Administrator/Instructional position; possibility of teachers filling tech support position at lower rate; support for secondary nurse, Special Education Administrator/Instructional position and 1.0 Special Education teacher at South and East; priority for Special Education Administrator/Instructional position, bus lease and Middle School Transition Room , and use of KIA Revolving Account, increase Athletic fees (+\$25) and field rental fee, possible savings from LOAs and more retirements; first priority for textbooks, Special Education Administrator/Instructional position; support for a second nurse if possibility for teaching health; Middle School Transition Room; support for two Special Education positions and Middle School Transition Room; concern about adding personnel costs but support for Special Education Administrator/Instructional position and 1.0 Physical Education/Health teacher; Middle School Transition Room; priority to fund reading texts another way as capital item; support for nurse position and both Special Education positions and Middle School Transition Room; defer bus lease and continue one year extension.

- 6.2 The Committee reviewed the proposed School Department Report for the 2015 Hingham Town Report. Dr. Galo invited Committee members to send comments to her.
- 6.3 The Committee did not acted on proposed Town Meeting warrant language for PRS SOI due to the vote of the Board of Selectmen. Andy Shafter thanked the Long Range Planning Subcommittee for their work on the PRS Statement of Interest.

On a motion by Ray Estes and seconded by Liza O'Reilly,

It was

Voted: To withdraw the PRS SOI article from the Town Warrant.

- 6.4 The Committee received notification of the overnight field trip of the boys lacrosse team to Summit, NJ on April 29 and 30, 2016.
- 6.5 The Committee received notification of the appointment of paraeducator Monique Dymont at East, effective January 26, 2016.
- 6.5 The Committee received notification of the resignations of Meghanne Graham, Special Education teacher at PRS, effective January 28, 2016; and paraeducator Kaitlyn Antonowicz of HMS, effective February 5, 2016.

7. Other items as may not reasonably be known 48 hours in advance of the meeting. None.

8. Subcommittee and Project Reports

Legislative Liaison Report: Liza O'Reilly reported on a recent meeting with Garrett Bradley regarding Chapter 70 and other key financial issues and the Accountability System outlined in the January 27, 2016 document.

Community Outreach: Cynthia Galko reported on the February 2, 2016 meeting.

Long Range Planning: Ray Estes thanked Cynthia Galko and Ed Schreier for their work on the PRS SOI and HAWC projects.

9. Adjournment

On a motion by Andy Shafter and seconded by Liza O'Reilly,

It was

Voted: To Adjourn to Executive Session not to return to Regular Session, to discuss strategy with respect to matters related to the collective bargaining agreement with the HEA, Unit A at 11:15 PM.

Respectfully Submitted by:
Aylene Calnan