

MINUTES OF THE HINGHAM SCHOOL COMMITTEE

April 11, 2016

1. Call to order

The meeting was called to order by Andy Shafter at 7:35 p.m.

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

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

Visitors Present: Tony Keady, Helaine Silva, Kathleen Jordan, Brad Patterson, Jennifer Newell, Donna Smallwood, Linda Kutsch, Lori Jacobs, Melissa Smith, Kay Praschma, Kristen Arute, Carlos DaSilva, David Jewett, Mary Eastwood, Paula Girouard McCann, Andrew Hoey, Katie Roberts, Debbie Stellar.

2. Approval of Minutes.

2.1 On a motion by Liza O'Reilly and seconded by Cynthia Galko,

It was

Voted: To approve the minutes of the School Committee Meeting held on March 28, 2016.

3. Questions and Comments. None**4. Superintendent's Report.** Dr. Galo noted:

- Good News: Kara Roth's national recognition and grant award by the Institute of International Education (IIE) and American Institute for Foreign Study Foundation.
- Update on Assistant Superintendent Search: Progress and next steps on search process to date, School Committee approval will be scheduled for the second meeting in May.
- SSEC Update
- February maintenance report submitted by Doug Foley

5. Communications

5.1 Communications Received by the Superintendent: None

5.2 Student Communications: Brad Patterson reported on Senior countdown, Breathe Out Week initiated to combat student stress, National Honor Society ceremony, National History Day L2 state winner, third term report card.

5.3 Other Communications: None

6. Unfinished Business

6.1 The Committee reviewed proposed changes to section 7.4 of the School Committee Policy Handbook, as recommended by the Policy Subcommittee. Liza O'Reilly reviewed the changes to the proposed policy.

On a motion by Liza O'Reilly and seconded by Cynthia Galko,

It was

Voted: To adopt the revised version of Policy 7.4, Use of School Property.

7. New Business

7.1 The Committee reviewed proposed new contracts with the Superintendent of Schools and the Director of Business and Support Services, as proposed by the Salary and Negotiations Subcommittee. Carol M. Falvey, Salary and Negotiations Subcommittee Chair, reviewed the contracts.

7.1.1 On a motion by Carol M. Falvey and seconded by Liza O'Reilly,

It was

Voted: To ratify the new contracts with the Superintendent of Schools and the Director of Business and Support Services. Carol M. Falvey, Aylene Calnan, Ray Estes, Liza O'Reilly and Cynthia Galko voted in favor. Andy Shafter voted in opposition.

7.1.2 On a motion by Carol M. Falvey and seconded by Ray Estes,

It was

Voted: To ratify the recommendations of the Salary and Negotiations Subcommittee, including the 2016-2017 salary noted and to authorize the Superintendent to sign the proposed contracts and the salary agreement documents for 2016-2017 contract extensions.

7.2 The Committee received proposed changes to Section 5 (5.1 – 5.5) of the School Committee Policy Handbook. (First Reading.) Liza O'Reilly, Policy Subcommittee Chair, reviewed the proposed changes and noted a vote at the next meeting.

School Committee Comments and Questions: Discussion about student enrollment bump up from K to grade 1.

7.3 The Committee heard an update on the proposed FY '17 Operating Budget. Dr. Galo provided a budget update and PowerPoint overview including "HPS FY17 Budget Update, April 11, 2016," "April 11 Update to Preliminary FY17 Operating Budget – Regular Ed (4.4%) and Special Ed (5.99%) – Total \$47,613,381," "What Remains of Proposed New Items (Total \$81,663)" and "Where Do We Go Next?"

Andy Shafter made a motion that was seconded by Liza O'Reilly, to act on the FY17 School Department Operating Budget of \$47,613,721.

Carol M. Falvey made a motion that was seconded by Ray Estes to amend the Operating Budget to \$47,641,006 to add the Middle School Transition Room Coordinator position.

School Committee Comments and Questions: Top priority to add Dr. Galo initiatives back into the budget, could we substitute this for another budget item, approve Middle School transition room if funds are available within Board of Selectmen approved budget amount, need to look at School Committee budget differently from rest of Town budgets, possible additional savings in personnel?

It was

Voted: Not to approve the amended motion. Carol M. Falvey voted in favor, Andy Shafter, Liza O'Reilly, Ray Estes, Cynthia Galko and Aylene Calnan voted in opposition.

Ray Estes made a motion that was seconded by Carol Falvey to adopt a budget of \$47,613,721 but to include language that if personnel funds become available to cover the net costs of Middle School Transition Room Coordinator within the total budget amount that the position would be added.

School Committee Comments and Questions: Prefer two separate motions.

It was

Voted: Not to approve the amended motion. Carol M. Falvey and Ray Estes voted in favor and Aylene Calnan, Cynthia Galko, Liza O'Reilly, and Andy Shafter voted in opposition.

It was

Voted: To approve the FY17 Operating Budget of \$47,613,721. Andy Shafter, Liza O'Reilly, Aylene Calnan, Ray Estes and Cynthia Galko voted in favor and Carol M. Falvey voted in opposition.

Ray Estes made a motion that if personnel funds become available to cover the net costs of Middle School Transition Room Coordinator within the total budget amount that the position would be added.

It was

Voted: To approve the motion and instruct the Administration that if personnel funds become available to cover the net costs of Middle School Transition Room Coordinator within the total budget amount that the position would be added.

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

It was

Voted: To direct John Ferris to provide the School Committee with updates on the FY16 budget at the May 23 School Committee meeting in order to determine if the funds are available to fund the entire cost of the new reading program rather than spreading it out over two years

Dr. Galo noted pie chart showing sources of revenue in Town Warrant. State aid in the last 5 years was 11%, 10.5%, 10.48%, 10.11%, 9.98% and tax levy in the last 5 years 75.68%, 75.99%, 75.72%, 75.06%, 74.37%.

Cynthia Galko asked about K enrollment. Dr. Galo noted that to date there is lower enrollment and slower to come in – 275 picked up packets and 100 were not returned by parents to date.

Dr. Galo requested that k parents return their registration packets as soon as possible.

7.4 The Committee received notification of the overnight field trip of HMS Adventure Club to Zoar Outdoor Adventures in Charlemont, MA on June 11 -12, 2016.

8. Other items as may not reasonably be known 48 hours in advance of the meeting.

On April 2, rain and windstorm created a leak in the science wing of HHS that penetrated down to the first floor and wind got under roof membrane with second claim – roof compromised, 18 years old.

9. Subcommittee and Project Reports

Andy Shafter noted that the School Committee can speak at Town Meeting about the HAWC project and he would like to provide a quick overview and PowerPoint to provide information.

School Committee Comments and Questions: Suggestion for not presenting at Town Meeting and putting proposal forward next year vs. support for presenting.

Community Outreach: Cynthia Galco reported on plans to go to PTO meetings in the spring and a SmartPhone app SchoolCNXT that Margaret Conaty is piloting.

School Building Committee: Ray Estes spoke noted a meeting in May.

Policy: Liza O'Reilly reviewed drafts of Section 5 Educational Program/Instruction which are under review.

10. Adjournment

On a motion by Carol M. Falvey and seconded by Liza O'Reilly,

It was

Voted: To Adjourn at 9:08PM.

Respectfully Submitted by:
Aylene Calnan