

MINUTES OF THE HINGHAM SCHOOL COMMITTEE

May 9, 2016

The Town Clerk, Eileen McCracken, administered the oath of office to the two new members of the School Committee, Carlos Da Silva and Kay Praschma.

1. Call to order.

The meeting was called to order by Ed Schreier at 7:35 p.m.

Members Present: Aylene Calnan, Carlos Da Silva, Carol M. Falvey, Cynthia Galko, Liza O'Reilly, Kay Praschma, and Ed Schreier.

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

Visitors Present: Alec Porter, Rita Da Silva, Kathy Jordan, Brad Patterson, Aisha Oppong, Kristin Arute, Marek Praschma

The Committee conducted its annual election of officers pursuant to ballots previously prepared and submitted. As one of the Committee's senior members, Ed Schreier conducted the election for Chair.

1.1. On a motion by Carlos Da Silva and seconded by Aylene Calnan,

It was

Voted: Liza O'Reilly was elected Chair of the School Committee.

1.2. On a motion by Ed Schreier and seconded by Carol M. Falvey,

It was

Voted: Aylene Calnan was elected Vice Chair of the School Committee.

1.3. On a motion by Ed Schreier and seconded by Aylene Calnan,

It was

Voted: Cynthia Galko was elected Secretary of the School Committee.

Ed Schreier acknowledged the six years of service of Ray Estes and Andy Shafter.

2. Approval of Minutes.

2.1 A vote on the minutes of the School Committee Meeting held on April 25, 2016 was deferred.

3. Questions and Comments. None

4. Superintendent's Report.

- Good News: Dr. Galo commented on "Understanding Sacrifice" Flyer.
- Suburban Coalition Meeting will be held on May 11, 2016,
- Kindergarten enrollment (currently 268) and projected 14 K sections for 2016-2017, and K-5 projected enrollment (3 fewer sections for 2016-2017).
- Summary of High School Transition Room data for April and year to date.
- HPS water testing conducted by Aquarion Water Company.
- HHS Newsletter.

5. Communications

- 5.1 Communications Received by the Superintendent: Dr. Galo commented on a letter from teacher Jennifer Driscoll summarizing a proposed DC trip for grade 8 students for spring, 2017, coordinated by "Close Up."

School Committee Comments and Questions: Concern about cost of trip, plans for students not participating, funding available for families who cannot afford cost of trip, good alternative to National Parks oriented trips, participation rate of schools in neighboring towns.

- 5.2 Student Communications: Brad Patterson congratulated Carlos Da Silva and Kay Praschma on their elections to the School Committee and the election of new officers, and thanked Ray Estes and Andy Shafter for their service. He reported on the AP tests, Drama Club "Shakespeare Unabridged," Teachers of the Month are Kate Tortola and Emily vanLeuvan, class officer election and the Junior Prom.
- 5.3 Other Communications: Dr. Galo noted Century Club Dinner invitation, HHS graduation and senior activities letter and MASC and MASS position papers.

6. New Business

- 6.1 The Committee considered approval of the proposed school calendar for 2016-2017. Dr. Galo reviewed the impact of presidential election of November 8th on school calendar and school day for HMS and HHS and exploration of options. Dr. Galo recommended closing HHS and HMS to students and staff on November 8th and holding school at elementary schools.

School Committee Comments and Questions: Possibility of getting money from state for extra busing costs, status of parking lots, schedule of School Committee meetings, reasons for not closing all schools on November 8th, support for Dr. Galo's recommendations.

On a motion by Aylene Calnan and seconded by Carol M. Falvey,

It was

Voted: To approve the 2016-2017 calendar with a start date of September 6, 2016 and end date of June 15, 2017 for elementary and June 16, 2017 for HMS and HHS.

- 6.2 The Committee discussed the School Committee subcommittee assignment process and timeline. Members should send preferences (in order of preference) to Liza O'Reilly by May 13, 2016. Liza O'Reilly noted that Committee meetings held during the summer of 2016 may include updates from Dr. Galo on various HPS issues. She asked Members to send her three to five ideas for issues about which they would like to learn more.
- 6.3 The Art Report Program Review was postponed.
- 6.4 The Committee considered a resolution withdrawing from participation in the state's School Choice program for 2016-2017. Dr. Galo reviewed the options and her recommendation to withdraw from the program for the 2016-2017 school year due to enrollment and space issues.

On a motion by Aylene Calnan and seconded by Carol M. Falvey,

It was

Voted: To opt out of MGL 76, Section 12B(d) School Choice Program.

- 6.5 The Committee reviewed the appointment of the district's representative to the South Shore Educational Collaborative's Board for 2016-2017. Dr. Galo commented that the appointment of Hingham's representative to the SSEC Board is now required by new legislation.

On a motion by Aylene Calnan and seconded by Carol M. Falvey,

It was

Voted: To appoint Dr. Dorothy Galo as Hingham Public School's representative to the South Shore Educational Collaborative's Board.

- 6.6 The Committee considered a bid for an East School air chiller. John Ferris reviewed a memo about the East School chilled water compressor replacement and his recommendation to award the bid to Healthy Air Solutions in the amount of \$19,000.

School Committee Comments and Questions: Prior experience with life of chiller, possibly expanding warranties, need to balance use of compressors.

On a motion by Aylene Calnan and seconded by Edward Schreier,

It was

Voted: To award the East School chilled water compressor replacement bid to Healthy Air Solutions in the amount of \$19,000.

- 6.7 The Committee considered a bid for the high school cafeteria renovation project. John Ferris reviewed a memo on the HHS Cafeteria Renovation bid and his recommendation to award the bid to Kneeland Construction in the amount of \$78,400.

On a motion by Aylene Calnan and seconded by Cynthia Galko,

It was

Voted: To award the bid for the HHS Cafeteria Renovation to Kneeland Construction in the amount of \$78,400.

- 6.8 The Committee received notification of a field trip to Europe for HHS students, "The Future of Food," on June 29 through July 10, 2017.
- 6.9 The Committee received notification of the appointment of Nancy Cronin as Payroll Supervisor at Central, effective March 22, 2016.
- 6.10 The Committee received notification of the appointments of paraeducators Alyssa DeGeorge at HMS, effective March 2, 2016 and Basiliki Ryan at Foster, effective April 25, 2016.
- 6.11 The Committee received notification of the appointment of bus/van drivers Paul Lynch, effective March 9, 2016 and Leslie Killeen, effective February 18, 2016.
- 6.12 The Committee received notification of the resignation of Kerry Donaghey, paraeducator at Foster, effective May 11, 2016; Emily Fowler, paraeducator at HHS, effective March 15, 2016; John O'Donnell, paraeducator at HHS, effective April 5, 2016; and Seema Sgobbo, paraeducator at Foster, effective April 15, 2016.

6.13 The Committee received notification of the retirement of Michael Tierney, bus driver, effective December 31, 2015.

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

Dr. Galo reported on site visit schedules for the 3 finalists for the Assistant Superintendent with School Committee vote tentatively scheduled for June 6, 2016. Visits to Hingham are scheduled for the end of May.

8. Subcommittee and Project Reports

Drug Prevention Coalition: Ed Schreier noted a meeting on May 18, 2016.

Special Education: Ed Schreier noted a visit to Weymouth Special Education Olympics.

SNAP: Liza O'Reilly noted a SNAP fashion show fund raiser to be held on May 19, 2016.

HEF: Carol M. Falvey noted HEF grant meetings took place last week with notifications to come.

10. Adjournment

On a motion by Aylene Calnan and seconded by Carol M. Falvey,

It was

Voted: To Adjourn at 9:07PM.

Respectfully Submitted by:
Cynthia Galko