

MINUTES OF THE HINGHAM SCHOOL COMMITTEE
November 20, 2017 7:30 PM
SCHOOL DEPARTMENT CONFERENCE ROOM

1. Call to order.

The meeting was called to order by School Committee Chair Liza O'Reilly at 7:31 p.m.

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

Central Office Present: Dorothy Galo, James LaBillois, John Ferris, Elizabeth Kurlan

Visitors Present: Emma Quilty, Kevin Quilty, Mary Eastwood, Aisha Oppong, Melissa Goldman, Andrew Hoey, Kathryn Roberts, Mary Andrews, Charleen Fabrizio, Melissa Smith, Carol Falvey, Meghan Rowan, Mary Power, Courtney Orwig, June MK Gustafson, Rick Swanson, Kerry Ni, Jaime Kenney, Deb Stellar, Katie Gaughen, Wendy Driscoll.

2. Approval of Minutes.

2.1 On a motion by Aylene Calnan and seconded by Kay Praschma,

It was

Voted: To approve the minutes of the School Committee meeting held on October 23, 2017.

2.2 The Committee discussed a revision to section 6.3 of the minutes of the meeting held on November 6, 2017 to reflect that the final evaluation contained components of all seven individual evaluations.

On a motion by Aylene Calnan and seconded by Michelle Ayer,

It was

Voted: To approve the minutes of the School Committee Meeting held on November 6, 2017 with the revision to section 6.3.

3. Questions and Comments. None.

4. Superintendent's Report.

Dr. Galo provided an update of the two Community Forums held last week regarding the issue of Kindergarten Entrance Age. Dr. Galo noted that both forums were well attended and that they allowed members of the community to get some information from the district and then provide feedback relative to any possible revisions to the current policy on school entrance age. Dr. Galo noted future collaborative opportunities between the district and the local preschools and encouraged those in the community to express their opinions on the issue.

Dr. Galo provided an update of the all-town PTO meeting held last week and noted the fundraising efforts of all of the PTOs from each of the schools. With Thanksgiving coming up, Dr. Galo thanked all of the district's PTOs for their efforts.

5. Communications

5.1 Dr. Galo directed the Committee's attention to a letter in the packet relative to a positive parent experience with a PreK teacher.

School Committee Chair Liza O'Reilly noted that the community reporter from the *Patriot Ledger*

has retired and the new reporter for the Community is Ms. Mary Whitfill. Liza O'Reilly welcomed Ms. Whitfill and noted that Dr. Galo and Ms. Whitfill met earlier in the day.

- 5.2 Student Communications: Student Representative Emma Quilty was in attendance and offered the Committee an update on the HHS Holiday Fair, athletics, and student activities at HHS. Ms. Quilty noted that it is spirit week at HHS, leading up to the school rally on Wednesday afternoon prior to the Thanksgiving football game against Scituate at Fenway Park.
- 5.3 Other Communications: Numerous e-mail communications were received about the Kindergarten enrollment age discussion from a number of parents who did not attend the forums, but also from some parents who were at the sessions on November 13th and 15th. Dr. Galo noted that all correspondence received by her office on this issue is available for the School Committee members to review.

6. New Business

- 6.1 The Committee acted on the ratification of the proposed Memorandum of Agreement with the Administrator's Association. Salary and Negotiations Subcommittee Chair Aylene Calnan presented the proposed Memorandum of Agreement between the Committee and the Administrator's Association. The new agreement will be in effect for FY2018 – FY2020 and includes an equity adjustment and a 2% ATB increase for each year. The new agreement also establishes a Bachelor column and contains parental leave language consistent with the HEA, Unit A contract. Selectman Mary Power joined the Committee for the vote.

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

It was

Voted: To ratify the Memorandum of Agreement with the Administrator's, Association. All Committee Members and Mary Power, Board of Selectmen, voted in favor.

- 6.2 The Committee received the Plymouth River School School Improvement Plan for 2017-2018 and an update of the 2016-2017 plan progress. Ms. Melissa Smith, Plymouth River School Principal, presented the 2017-2018 PRS School Improvement Plan. Ms. Smith began her presentation by presenting the PRS Mission Statement and then reviewed the progress made on the 2016-2017 School Improvement Goals. Ms. Smith reviewed PRS's progress on the Journey's Adoption Program goal, the STEAM and Next-Generation Science Standards goal, and the targeted math instruction in grade 2 goal. Ms. Smith then reviewed the 2017-2018 PRS School Improvement goals that included: addressing achievement gaps within PRS, focusing on the social-emotional skills of PRS students, and then focusing on the home-school-community connection. The Committee asked questions relative to priorities for resources at PRS and receiving feedback from the work done on the PRS website pages. School Committee Chair Liza O'Reilly noted that PRS was named a Commendation School in 2016 by the DESE for high progress on the MCAS (along with South School), and the Committee thanked Ms. Smith for her presentation.
- 6.3 The Committee heard a report on MCAS testing from Spring 2017. Dr. LaBillois, Assistant Superintendent of School, presented to the Committee a comprehensive overview of the district's performance on the 2017 next-generation, as well as the legacy, MCAS examinations. Dr. LaBillois began with a review of 2017 Accountability levels for the district, and noted that due to the changes to the MCAS system, only HHS received a rating. HHS is a Level 1 school performing at the 95th percentile of similarly structured high schools in the Commonwealth. Dr. LaBillois then reviewed the new MCAS structure, as well as the revised performance ratings. Results for all students, students in the "high needs" subgroup, and students in the "students with disabilities" subgroup were

presented in English and Math for all grades 3-9, and then again for science in grades 5, 8, and high school. Results were also compared against all 20 benchmark communities.

Dr. LaBillois then reviewed the areas of strength and those areas for improvement for each subgroup and explained the next steps the district would be taking to ensure that educators receive the necessary information to support the learning of all of our students. Given that this is a new MCAS structure, the information will be used as a new baseline of student performance to track improvements over time.

6.4 The Committee received a draft of proposed Superintendent Goals for November 2017 through October 2018. Dr. Galo presented her initial draft of proposed goals for the duration of her current evaluation cycle. Dr. Galo reviewed each of the goals and discussion with the Committee ensued. The Committee will follow-up with Dr. Galo regarding the proposed goals and will vote on their adoption at the next School Committee meeting.

6.5 The Committee received and discussed a proposed resolution for the Town to ban recreational marijuana establishments. Kay Praschma shared with the Committee the draft that she penned, following the last Committee meeting. Discussion ensued and the Committee made several revisions to the working draft. The revisions were as follows:

- Take out quotes around “safe and supportive” in the first paragraph
- Change “will” to “may” in the third paragraph
- Take out “easier” in the third paragraph
- Add “retail, recreational” before “marijuana in the sixth paragraph
- Add “to” in the sixth paragraph between “order” and “ensure”
- Add “retail,” before each mention of recreational marijuana in the document

Once the revisions were completed, the Committee voted on the draft. School Committee Chair Liza O’Reilly said that she would send the final version to the Hingham Planning Board in time for their discussion and vote on Monday.

On a motion by Cynthia Galko and seconded by Ed Schreier

It was

Voted: To approve the revised resolution for the Town to ban recreational marijuana establishments.

6.6 The Committee considered the homeschool application of Hayden (Grade 9) and Pierce (Grade 8) Bromley from January through June, 2018.

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

It was

Voted: To approve the homeschool application of Hayden (Grade 9) and Pierce (Grade 8) Bromley from January through June, 2018.

6.7 The Committee received notification of the overnight field trip of High School French students to Montreal on March 15-17, 2018.

6.8 The Committee received notification of the appointment of Amanda Harding, Special Education teacher at South School, effective October 30, 2017; Kathleen Koenen and Ashley Elliott, Title I Math Tutors at HMS, effective November 6, 2017; and Deborah Fasl, Bus Driver, effective November 13, 2017.

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

8. Subcommittee and Project Reports

Policy: The last meeting was on November 16, 2017. Members of the subcommittee attended the Kindergarten Entrance Age Community forums held last week and have listened to all feedback received. At this time they are not recommending a policy change, but will be looking at the wording of Policy 6.2 (Age Requirements) to ensure that the expectations of the district are clear.

Salary & Negotiations: No updates. The next meeting scheduled for the week after Thanksgiving.

Special Education: Attended the SEPAC meeting where Officer Dan Murphy was introduced as the new Special Needs officer and heard a report from Heather Rodriguez on the revised Section 504 manual.

Community Outreach: No updates. The next meeting will be on November 28, 2017.

Long-Range Planning: The last meeting was on November 8, 2017 and at the next meeting the agenda will be to review the capital budget for the coming year, as well as to review the Master Plan.

9. Adjournment

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

It was

Voted: To adjourn to Executive Session at 10:22 p.m., not to return to regular session.

Michelle Ayer - yea
Aylene Calnan - yea
Carlos Da Silva - yea
Cynthia Galko - yea
Liza O'Reilly - yea
Kay Praschma - yea
Ed Schreier – yea

Respectfully Submitted by:
Cynthia Galko

Documents Included in Meeting Packet

Email Communications from residents about Kindergarten Entry Age

 11-20-17 Agenda.pdf 
 11-20-17 Annotated.pdf 
 Item 2.1 10-23-17 Minutes.pdf 
 Item 2.2 11-6-17 Minutes.pdf 
 Item 6.1 AA MOA.pdf 
 Item 6.1 AA Salary Scales.pdf 
 Item 6.2 PRS School Improvement Plan 2016-2017.pdf 
 Item 6.2 PRS School Improvement Plan 2017-2018.pdf 
 Item 6.3 MCAS Presentation.pdf 
 Item 6.3 MCAS Report.pdf 
 Item 6.4 Proposed Superintendent's Goals for 2017-2018.pdf 
 Item 6.5 Marijuana resolution.pdf 
 Item 6.6 Homeschool.pdf 
 Item 6.7 Montreal Field Trip.pdf 
 Item 9.1 10-23-17 Minutes Executive Session.pdf 
 Item 9.2 11-6-17 SC Executive Session Minutes .pdf 
 Item 9.3 HEA Unit B MOA.pdf 
 SC FYI.pdf 