# MINUTES OF THE HINGHAM SCHOOL COMMITTEE

## **April 9, 2018 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 7:32 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

Visitors Present: Emma Quilty, Kevin Quilty, George Danis, Aisha Oppong, Libby Lewiecki, June MK Gustafson

School Committee Chair Liza O’Reilly thanked Cynthia Galko for her three years of service to the community and the School Committee.

**2.** **Approval of Minutes**. None

**3.** **Questions and Comments.**  None.

**4. Superintendent’s Report**.

Dr. Galo informed the Committee of the selection of Dr. Elizabeth Wilcox as the next principal of Foster Elementary School. Dr. Galo noted that she met with Dr. Wilcox last week and is currently working to negotiate an employment contract. Dr. Galo and Dr. LaBillois then updated the Committee on the status of the search process for the Director of Student Services. The finalists have been named and an external site visit is scheduled for April 25, 2018, with an internal site visit scheduled for May 17, 2018.

Dr. Galo provided an update relative to Kindergarten and 1st Grade enrollments for the fall of 2018 and then provided an update on materials to be prepared for Annual Town Meeting. Specifically, a PowerPoint presentation consisting of pictures relative to the high school windows project. John Ferris will prepare and the Committee will have this, if needed, at Town Meeting.

Dr. Galo informed the Committee of an upcoming School Building Committee Meeting scheduled for Wednesday, April 11, 2018. At the meeting, a representative from NESDEC will be in attendance to discuss the enrollment projection project.

**5.** **Communications**

5.1 Communications Received by the Superintendent: Dr. Galo shared a thank-you note received by Foster from a school in Texas who was the recipient of donations from the Foster Community, following the hurricane. Dr. Galo further congratulated Hingham Middle School for their work in the building of a well. This initiative began with the all-school read: “A Long Walk to Water” by Linda Sue Park. Dr. Galo then congratulated HHS teacher Christina O’Connor for being selected for the second time to participate in the Fallen Heroes project as part of National History Day.

5.2 Student Communications: HHS Student Council representative Emma Quilty updated the Committee on HHS fundraising efforts, School Council effort to support the Hingham Food Pantry, the presentation on mental health for students, a screening of a movie coming up later in the week and an upcoming “pajama day.”

5.3 Other Communications: School Committee Chair Liza O’Reilly reminded the Committee of the upcoming program at East School entitled “DEAR” (Drop Everything And Read) scheduled for this coming Thursday. She also thanked the HHS Student Council regarding a recent presentation focused on the dangers of vaping.

Dr. Galo noted that we received word that the Commonwealth has increased funding of Circuit Breaker from 65% to 72%.

**6. New Business**

6.1 The Committee received a draft resolution on school safety. School Committee Chair Liza O’Reilly noted that at the last meeting there was discussion of a possible resolution from the Committee relative to school safety. The Committee reviewed the draft and then discussion and revisions ensued. Following discussion, the Committee agreed to fine-tune the draft. Kay Praschma and Michelle Ayer will work together to develop a draft for review at the next Committee meeting.

6.2 The Committee received a new Policy Section 6.7 (Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment Program), as recommended by the Policy Subcommittee. Cynthia Galko began by reviewing the discussions that have occurred within the Policy Subcommittee and then presented the first reading of the policy. The policy addresses the DPH-mandated opioid screenings occurring at grades 7 and 9.

* 1. The Committee received Spring 2018 Coaching Assignments.
  2. The Committee heard an update from the Long Range Planning Subcommittee on the FY’19 Capital Budget Allocation of $1,023,962 recommended by the Capital Outlay Committee and the Advisory Committee. Ed Schreier noted that the LRP subcommittee met earlier in the evening to discuss the capital budget that was recommended by the Advisory Committee versus what was requested. Following review and consultation with Doug Foley and Katie Hartman, the LRP subcommittee determined that the recommended allocation was sufficient.

On a motion by Ed Schreier and seconded by Carlos Da Silva,

It was

Voted: To accept a Capital Budget for FY’19 of $1,023,962.

Dr. Galo provided a brief update regarding the proposed budget that addressed a revision to a previous leave of absence request and the increase to circuit breaker funding.

School Committee Chair Liza O’Reilly noted that Advisory Committee Chair Lucy Hancock will be in attendance at the May 7 meeting to review revisions made to the financial policy and to answer any questions the School Committee may have.

* 1. The Committee received notification of the appointment of Nancy Gardner, Food Service technician at Plymouth River School, effective March 26, 2018.
  2. The Committee received notification of the full year FY’19 leave of absence of Laura Hyman, teacher at East School.

6.7 The Committee received notification of the resignations of Gabrielle Pound, English teacher at HHS, effective June 30, 2018; Kathleen Doyle, Central Office administrative assistant, effective April 13, 2018; Elizabeth Redmond, Central Office receptionist, effective March 23, 2018; Susan Murphy, bus monitor, effective April 6, 2018; and Erin Campbell, food service technician, effective March 26, 2018.

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

**8**. **Subcommittee and Project Reports**

Fees Update: Michelle Ayer and Dr. Galo gave a brief update on the process used to begin this research. Michelle Ayer will be working with Maryellen Holler to look at participation rates and discuss some other fees; Dr. Galo has been in discussion with the Athletic Director, who is in the process of collecting data from others in the league regarding fees.

Special Education: There was a SEPAC Meeting on Wednesday. New officers will be elected before the next meeting.

Long Range Planning: As discussed prior in the meeting

Community Outreach: The Communications Survey is off and running and has been posted in the *Hingham Journal*, the district’s website, and Facebook. Response has been excellent so far.

Salary and Negotiations: The subcommittee will meet on Wednesday and for bargaining and to finalize the template for administrative contracts.

Policy: The subcommittee met last week to discuss the SBIRT Policy and to take another look at the Epi-pen policy after several community questions regarding the issue. No future meeting has been scheduled.

Dr. Galo noted that the Annual Orientation for newly elected School Committee members will take place on April 30, 2018.

The Committee was reminded that on Friday April 27, 2018 there will be a free movie screening event at HMS documenting the 50th Anniversary of METCO. The movie will begin at 6 p.m.

**9.** **Adjournment**

On a motion by Ed Schreier and seconded by Michelle Ayer,

It was

Voted: To adjourn the School Committee meeting at 9:04 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Cynthia Galko

Documents Included in Meeting Packet

