

# MINUTES OF THE HINGHAM SCHOOL COMMITTEE

June 5, 2017

## **1. Call to order.**

The meeting was called to order by School Committee Chair Liza O'Reilly at 7:30pm.

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: Aisha Oppong, Kevin Quilty, Brad Patterson, Jen Dean, Alec Porter, Lisa Patterson, Stu Patterson, Evan Sheehan, Ted Hirsch

## **2. Approval of Minutes.**

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

It was

Voted: To approve the minutes of the School Committee meeting held on May 22, 2017.

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

It was

Voted: To approve the minutes of the Executive Session of the School Committee meeting held on May 22, 2017.

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

## **4. Superintendent's Report.**

- Dr. Galo updated the Committee on the status of the Athletic Director search. The job description has been revised and the position has been posted both internally and externally. We have received approximately 40 applicants thus far in the process. Dr. Galo further updated the committee on the formation of the Athletic Director Search Committee and the proposed composition of this group.
- Dr. Galo outlined several recent developments with some budget impact – the retirement of an elementary teacher and no vocational applications. Dr. Galo expressed her positive feelings relative to the budget.
- Dr. Galo shared a letter from Katie Roberts, Director of Science, regarding first graders at South School field-testing some new Computer Science lessons, in partnership with the Museum of Science.

## **5. Communications**

5.1 Communications Received by the Superintendent: None.

5.2 Student Communications: Brad Patterson provided a comprehensive report to the Committee regarding the events leading up to the Class of 2017's graduation. Brad reviewed the Senior Prom, Senior Night, and the Graduation festivities. The Committee thanked Brad for his service to the Town.

Representative Joan Meschino was on hand and presented Brad with a signed citation commemorating his service. Likewise, Brad received citations presented by Paige Halloran, Legislative Aide to Representative James Murphy, and Mike Murphy, Legislative Aide to Senator Patrick O'Connor.

Carlos DaSilva asked if a new student representative has been identified for next year. Brad Patterson responded that one has not, but that it is being looked in to.

5.3 Other Communications: None.

## **6. New Business**

6.1 The Committee received the High School roof repair bid recommendation. John Ferris, Director of Business and Support Services, reviewed the process for soliciting bids for the High School roof repair. Bids were opened on May 22, 2017 and five bids were received. Following extensive reference checking by Habeeb and Associates, Mr. Ferris recommended that the bid be awarded to Capeway Roofing in the amount of \$86,200.

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

It was

Voted: To award the High School roof repair bid to Capeway Roofing in the amount of \$86,200.

6.2 The Committee heard an update on the financial report for the FY'17 Operating and Capital Budgets. John Ferris, Director of Business and Support Services, provided a budget update to the Committee. Mr. Ferris reviewed expenditures to date and provided a status update on a number of key items impacting the budget. The Committee then engaged in a question and answer session with Mr. Ferris covering topics such as bus mileage, budgeting special education transportation, special education placement costs, elevators and plant maintenance issues. Mr. Ferris reported that there is \$4828 remaining in the FY'17 operating budget and \$34,203 remaining in the capital budget. These numbers may change as P.O.'s close out at the end of the fiscal year. School Committee Chair, Liza O'Reilly asked the Committee to review and bring any questions to the next meeting. At this next meeting, too, the Committee will be voting on what end-of-year projects to fund with any budget surplus.

6.3 The Committee discussed potential dates for long range goals community feedback forums and surveys. School Committee Chair, Liza O'Reilly, reminded the Committee of the discussion of dates at the last meeting relative to summer meetings. On this list was also a series of School Committee Feedback Sessions/Community Forums to be held the week of June 12, 2017. The Community Outreach Subcommittee will work on the details of these sessions at their next meeting.

6.4 The Committee discussed declaring as surplus the following boats: 1) Austin Doc Rounds 2005 2) 1983 Eastern Sprint Champions 2006 3) Blaster (Vespoli 4+) 2005 and 4) Mimi 2008 and selling the boats to the highest bidder, highest offered price, or otherwise dispose of the boats. The funds from the sale of these boats shall be remitted to the Hingham High School Rowing Association to be used for maintenance or replacement of existing equipment.

John Ferris, Director of Business and Support Services, reported to the Committee that he has spoken with the President of the Hingham High School Rowing Association (HHSRA) and he would like to declare the boats surplus so HHSRA can dispose of them. The approximate value was reported to range from \$500 to \$2,000 per boat. The Memorandum of Understanding that is in the process of being finalized between the HPS and HHSRA specifies that the proceeds from the sale of the boats be given back to HHSRA for the purpose of equipment maintenance and repair.

School Committee Chair, Liza O'Reilly, stated that she would prefer that the Memorandum of Understanding between the School Committee and the HHSRA be in place before any materials are declared surplus. Cynthia Galko stated that she would like to have a record that the HHSRA Board voted to declare the boats surplus before the School Committee takes any action.

Edward Schreier made a motion to declare the boats as surplus. The motion was not seconded.

- 6.5 The Committee discussed declaring as surplus used and outdated literacy books that are no longer used by Hingham Public Schools and that have no value to Hingham Public Schools and to authorize the Director of Business and Support Services to donate such books to other public schools that may have a need first, or charities, or otherwise dispose of such books at the least cost to Hingham Public Schools. John Ferris, Director of Business and Support Services, updated the committee on the status of a number of used and outdated literacy books that are no longer of use to the district.

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

It was

Voted: To declare as surplus used and outdated literacy books that are no longer used by Hingham Public Schools.

- 6.6 The Committee discussed declaring as surplus up to one hundred (100) 3-year-old Chromebooks used by Hingham Middle School's eighth graders in the one to one program and offer the Chromebooks for sale to the middle school student at a price of not less than \$35 and not greater than \$50 on a first-come, first-served basis. Funds received from any such sale shall be first come first served and deposited into the Town's General fund. John Ferris, Director of Business and Support Services, reviewed the plan to sell the current eighth grade Chromebooks back to the student and families, if they are interested. A student would only be allowed to purchase the Chromebook that he/she has used for the past three years. The Committee proposed that the schools determine the number of Chromebooks needed to supplement the district supply, as well as the idea of increasing the total number of Chromebooks available for sale to the total enrollment of the 8<sup>th</sup> grade (360), in case more than 100 families are interested.

A motion was made by Aylene Calnan and seconded by Cynthia Galko.

There was discussion regarding the appropriate price for the Chromebooks, and it was determined that the information gathered from the survey currently being completed by 8<sup>th</sup> grade families could be used help determine the price. Chair Liza O'Reilly asked that the School Department exercise some discretion in the pricing of the Chromebooks for families who may need some financial assistance.

It was

Voted: To declare as surplus up to 360 3-year old Chromebooks at the discretion of the Hingham Public Schools Business Director and Superintendent based on the determined needs of the Hingham Public Schools, and to offer any Chromebooks that are determined to not be so needed by the Hingham Public Schools for sale to the middle school student at a price of not less than \$35 and not greater than \$50. Funds received from any such sales shall be deposited into the Town's General Fund and any such sale shall be done on a first-come, first-served basis.

In Favor: 6

Opposed: 1 (Carlos DaSilva)

- 6.7 The Committee received notification of the overnight field trip of Grade 8 French students to Quebec City on May 4 - 6, 2018.

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

**8. Subcommittee and Project Reports**

Policy Subcommittee: The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, June 9, 2017.

Salary & Negotiations Subcommittee: The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 6, 2017.

Community Outreach Subcommittee: The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 6, 2017.

Special Education Subcommittee: A meeting will be held during the week of June 19 or June 26, 2017.

**9. Adjournment**

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

It was

Voted: To adjourn the School Committee meeting at 8:56pm.

Respectfully Submitted by:  
Cynthia Galko