

MINUTES OF THE HINGHAM SCHOOL COMMITTEE
December 4, 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 7:34 p.m.

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

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

Visitors Present: Rick Swanson, Heather Rodriguez, Dan Coughlin, Emma Quilty, Kevin Quilty, June MK Gustafson, Bev Vernon, Cindy Shea.

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 November 20, 2017.

3. Questions and Comments. None.

4. Superintendent's Report.

K Enrollment Next Steps: Dr. Galo presented an overview of the steps in progress relative to kindergarten enrollment. The policy subcommittee has chosen to not recommend a change in policy to the full School Committee. Dr. Galo explained that while the policy is still in effect, there will be revisions relative to district practice. Dr. Galo reviewed the steps the district will be taking regarding the communication of these revisions, and further noted that a parent forum will be scheduled to share these revisions with the community.

All-Town Forum on January 31, 2018: Dr. Galo shared that the PTO presidents, in collaboration with administration, will be hosting a parent forum on January 31, 2018. This forum will be moderated by the PTO presidents and community members will be asked to submit questions in advance. The district and school leadership will be in attendance to answer questions and/or provide information, as requested. Dr. Galo further noted that her "Education Matters" column will be returning this school year and requested that anyone with topics for this series to let her know.

5. Communications

5.1 Communications Received by the Superintendent. None

5.2 Student Communications: HHS student council representative Emma Quilty was in attendance and provided an update of HHS activities. The Committee was updated relative to programming being run and organized by members of STUCO, the gingerbread competition hosted by the mentor program, fundraising efforts, the upcoming holiday breakfast, and an update on winter sports.

5.3 Other Communications: Dr. Galo shared the updated weather related notice procedures and reviewed associated procedures.

6. New Business

6.1 The Committee received the High School Improvement Plans. Hingham High School Principal Rick Swanson presented an overview of the progress made toward the 2016-2017 HHS School

Improvement Plan, as well an overview of the 2017-2018 School Improvement Plan goals. HHS worked on five school improvement goals focusing on examination of the calculation of the GPA, student leadership and community service opportunities, the NEASC self-study, support for students who may be struggling academically, and work to participate in the US-China Climate Change Leaders' Summit. All goals were met, with the last goal (focused on the US-China Climate Change Summit) being modified as the summit was cancelled. This year HHS will be working on four goals focused on expansion of service-learning opportunities for HHS students, expansion of community-building opportunities, examination of renewable energy options, and review of school disciplinary policies. The Committee thanked Principal Swanson for his presentation.

- 6.2 The Committee received the report and presentation for the class of 2017 College Testing and Placement. Heather Rodriguez, Director of Counseling, presented the Testing and Placement Report for the Class of 2017. Director Rodriguez began by reviewing the post-graduation plans for the class of 2017, with 96.3% of the grade going on to continue their education. SAT and ACT performance for the class of 2017 was presented, as were the comparisons between HHS, state, and national performance on the measures. Student performance on Advanced Placement examinations was also presented, along with both historical and state and local comparisons. The Committee thanked Director Rodriguez for her presentation, and it was noted that a more comprehensive report was included in the School Committee packet and will be made available on the HPS website.
- 6.3 The Committee received a draft of proposed Superintendent Goals for November 2017 through October 2018. Dr. Galo presented the final draft of her 2017-2018 goals. Dr. Galo noted a productive meeting with the Community Outreach Subcommittee of the School Committee and informed the committee that some revisions to goal 3 were made following that meeting. She explained those revisions and noted that they are represented in the current version of the document.

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

It was

Voted: To approve the Superintendent Goals for November, 2017 through October, 2018.

- 6.4 The Committee discussed the process for review and establishment of tuition fees for KIA, HPS Integrated Pre-K and FDK for 2018-2019 and for 5 Year Financial Vision. School Committee Chair Liza O'Reilly noted that last year there was a 2% increase in all fees. The Committee discussed the background relative to kindergarten tuition rates and how they were initially established. Liza O'Reilly explained the initial work that was done to set the tuition rates. Dr. Galo noted that she would look for the initial tuition presentation from when FDK was established and would forward it on to the committee.
- 6.5 The Committee received the Winter 2017-2018 Coaching Assignments.
- 6.6 The Committee received notification of the overnight field trip of High School Business students to DECA Conference at the Boston Marriott Quincy on January 4 – 5, 2018.
- 6.7 The Committee received notification of the appointment of Daniel Whelan, paraeducator at Hingham Middle School, effective November 15, 2017.

7. Other items as may not reasonably be known 48 hours in advance of the meeting. Members of the School Committee noted receiving a survey from UMASS Medical School regarding the district policies relative to

wellness. Dr. LaBillois asked Liza O'Reilly to forward the email on to him and he would ensure that the survey is completed.

8. Subcommittee and Project Reports

Policy: The next meeting will be held on 12/11/17 to review Section 4 of the Policy Manual and to discuss the wording of the Kindergarten entrance age policy.

Community Outreach: The last meeting was on Friday to discuss the 10/16/17 meeting with Stackr (Stirling). Stackr is a company who met with the subcommittee to discuss a discovery period relative to the district website. The subcommittee received word that Stackr is able to begin this work in the winter/spring of 2018. Dr. Galo and John Ferris will review the FY18 budget and determine if there are funds available to conduct the discovery.

Salary & Negotiations: Nothing to report.

Special Education: The subcommittee is working to schedule a meeting in December to review the Special Education budget. It was noted that there will be a SEPAC meeting on 12/13/17.

Long-Range Planning: The next meeting will be on 12/20/17 at 5:15pm, followed by a meeting of the Foster Building Committee at 7:30pm.

The Committee was reminded that there will be a meeting with the ACES subcommittee of the Advisory Committee on Tuesday, December 12, 2017 at 6:30pm.

HEF: Dr. LaBillois reported that the "Code Red" initiative has been launched, and that the goal is to raise \$180,000 in 180 days to support Digital Literacy / Computer Science in our schools. More information is available on the HEF website. Dr. Galo noted that this initiative will take the place of the usual HEF grant program this year.

9. Adjournment

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

It was

Voted: To adjourn to Executive Session at 9:48 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

Respectfully Submitted by:
Cynthia Galko


Documents Included in Meeting Packet

12-4-17 Agenda.pdf 

12-4-17 Annotated Agenda.pdf 


Item 2.1 11-20-17 Minutes.pdf 

Item 6.1 HHS School Improvement Plan1617.pdf 

Item 6.1 HHS School Improvement Plan1718.pdf 

Item 6.2 CEEB report 2017.pdf 

Item 6.3 Proposed Superintendent's Goals for 2017-2018.pdf 

Item 6.5 Winter 17-18 CoachingAppointments.pdf 

Item 6.6 DECA Field Trip.pdf 

Item 8 CO Subcommittee - SOW#1.pdf 

Item 8 CO Subcommittee - Discovery Presentation.pdf 

Item 8 CO Subcommittee Swampscott.pdf 

Item 9.1 11-20-17 SC Executive Session Minutes .pdf 

SCFYI No School Press Release 2017.pdf 