

HOPKINTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE
OCTOBER 6, 2011 REGULAR SESSION
MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

The following are highlights of the October 6, 2011 School Committee meeting. They are not meant to be a replacement for the minutes. The minutes will be voted and posted within a few weeks of the October 6 meeting.

For further information on any topic, please watch a live stream of the meeting on HCAM.tv, or contact any member of the School Committee.

School Committee Recognitions:

1. HS Varsity Volleyball Team was featured on a local television station as the team of the week. The television clip was shown.
2. Safety Committee – Members of the safety committee were present. The members discussed their work and the success of their collaboration. Special thanks were given to Asst. Superintendent Mary Colombo for her leadership.
3. Introduction of High School Students who will be student representatives on School Committee. They each shared their thoughts and concerns on the schools with the committee. Introduction of High School Students who will be student representatives on School Committee. They are Victoria Munger, Anna MacDonald, Josh Perez, Catherine Cote, and Sydney Emerson. They each shared their thoughts and concerns about the High School with the Committee.
- 4.

Highlights of Key Discussions/Actions Taken:

1. *Center School gym floor* – damaged because of Irene. The repairs are covered under insurance. Repairs will take 2-3 weeks, so the gym will be offline for some time. The district will look into FEMA money for help in paying cost of deductible.
2. *Late bus* - Mr. Dumas has been investigating the possibility of bringing back the late bus. This service was discontinued due to high cost and low ridership, partly due to timing of the bus. The buses used as late buses can only get to school when they have finished the last bus run. Estimated cost is \$37,000/year per bus. Mr. Dumas and Dr. Landman will develop a survey for parents to estimate potential ridership. The results will be presented at a future School Committee meeting.
3. *Asst Superintendent search* - Dr. Landman has announced two finalists. A Public Forum will be held on Oct 19th for the community to meet the candidates.

4. *Oct 1 Enrollment numbers were reviewed. District wide enrollment is down 40. These figures are 17 lower than NESDEC projections.*

5. *Facility Management Studies-* Mr. Dumas presented the following information:

- a. *Habeeb Report* - Overall look at all school buildings for structural repairs. The cost is \$12,000 - if the work started now, it would be completed by January 1. The Permanent Building Committee needs to establish study guidelines. If the School Committee wants to have information to place capital articles on the Annual Town Meeting warrant, the School Committee will need to vote by next meeting.
- b. *ADA Considerations-* If the value of proposed work is 30% or more of Equalized Assessed Value (EAV) of the building, then the work triggers a requirement to make the entire building ADA compliant. The EAV of Center School is \$2,892,500. 30% of Center School's EAV is \$867,750.
- c. *Gale Associates* – The cost to study the Center School window repairs is \$9,000. Funds are available from the Facilities Use revolving account.
 - i. Question about replacing windows if building may soon be renovated.
The architect has said that unless the plan will be to knock down the building, then window replacement is ok to do.
 - ii. Since Center School is in the historic district, the possibility of using CPA funds was discussed. Mr. Dumas and Mrs. Burdick will investigate this further with the CPC and Historic District Commission.
 - iii. ADA - windows are exempt from 30 % trigger, but if the cost of windows is \$500,000 plus, then partial ADA compliance is required. This includes accessible entrance/toilets/water fountain, telephone.
- d. *HVAC upgrade* – The estimated cost of this work would trigger complete ADA compliance – replant and rebuild toilets, door access, sinks, base cabinets, door hardware, elevator controls, access to third floor, braille signage, ramp at side entrance, etc.

This information will be reviewed by the School Committee in further detail at the next School Committee meeting.

6. *SBAC Update*

- a. A Joint SC/BOS meeting was held. Members of the SC and BOS met with our local legislators, Representative Carolyn Dykema and Senator Karen Spilka. The Senator and Representative have both reached out to the MSBA to discuss how to move forward. Recommend next step is to set up a meeting with MSBA and members of the SC and BOS in the next few weeks.
- b. Community feedback – public forums are being scheduled. The first forums will be for listening to what the public wants. The following months, public forums will be held to report out what was learned.

- c. First Public Forum - Agenda development is underway.

Action Items

1. *ESL teacher* – The School Committee voted to approve .5 FTE for an English as a Second Language teacher to work with students who have moved into district over the summer.

2. *Policy Review* - All policies under review are posted on the district website for community feedback.

1. *Facilities Use* – First reading. Further discussion of this policy has been postponed until current work with user groups regarding procedures has been completed.

2. *Safety and Security* policy approved unanimously as written.

3. *Students on Non-Immigrant Visas* –Second Reading. Changes were discussed, and the policy will be on the next agenda for a third reading and vote.

4. *Transportation Policy* - approved as written by a 3-2 vote. The changes made are:

- The deadline for registration for daycare routes has been extended to June 15.
- Students will be allowed (with a note from parents) to get off at a different stop on their regular bus route.

Public Comments:

One community member commented on the transportation policy and requested flexibility on the June 15th deadline to list day care providers, or the ability to make changes later in the year if space on the bus allows.