

**HOPKINTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE**  
**SEPTEMBER 15, 2011 REGULAR SESSION**  
**MEETING HIGHLIGHTS**

The following are highlights of the September 15, 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 September 15 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:**

- High School Drama Club – Performance at the Fringe Festival in Edinburgh, Scotland. Proudly represented the school both on and off the stage.
- The Decina family for their gift to the HMS Music Department of a Bose Sounddock Station, in recognition of Jeremy Dodge.
- The Haroian family for their gifts of a Bach TR300 Trumpet; a Bundy 2 Alto Saxophone; and a Manhasset Music Stand to the HMS Music Department.

**Highlights of Key Discussions/Actions Taken:**

1. More than 40 candidates applied for the Assistant Superintendent position. A Screening Committee has been formed to conduct first round interviews.
2. The district has opened a Request for Proposal to evaluate the HVAC system at Center School. The School Committee will also evaluate the opportunity to refresh a 2006 study of the windows and doors. In addition, the School Committee will evaluate the opportunity to complete a facilities study of all school buildings.
3. Director of Technology, Kathy Dooley, updated the Committee on technology work and upgrades completed during the summer. The district will be moving to a new website in January.
4. The School Committee approved its Communications Plan for 2011-2012, the School Committee Goals for 2011-2012, and the Superintendent's Goals for 2011-2012. They will be posted on the website
5. A plan for reviewing and refreshing the Strategic Plan was discussed. The administrators, representative teachers and two School Committee members will focus on this work at an all day workshop on September 19. A plan to bring the document back to the School Committee and to staff and the community for input will be developed.
6. There was no response from the MSBA prior to the meeting regarding clarifying what compromises, if any, can be made to the project presented to the town in March. The School Committee will meet with the Board of Selectmen and Elementary School Building Committee

to discuss next steps. The School Building Assessment Subcommittee will create a proposed communications plan and timeline for moving forward.

7. Planning for a joint effort with town leadership to develop a comprehensive town-wide plan for facilities needs and maintenance continued.
8. The following policies were reviewed. All policies under review are posted on the website for community feedback.
  1. Transportation Policy; third reading - October 6, 2011 meeting.
  2. Disposal of Surplus Equipment Policy - Approved.
  3. Safety and Security Policy; out for review by parents/staff/public safety officials; second reading October 6, 2011
  4. Students on Non-Immigrant Visas Policy; second reading October 6, 2011

**Public Comment:**

Several members of the public commented on the Center School situation.

Comments included:

- Requesting information on costs and practicalities involved in potentially renovating Center School.
- Concerns regarding the costs associated with continuing to utilize Center School and an interest in discussing a compromise to longer grade spans.
- A request to make interim repairs to Center School, rather than a full renovation or new building, in light of the current economy.
- An interest in compromising on the grade spans, and suggestions to form a Party Committee, Transportation Committee, and Districting Committee prior to a vote on the next building project option.
- A request to explore options other than a districted school on Fruit Street.