

HOPKINTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Thursday, April 16, 2015
Executive Session 6:45 PM
Regular Meeting 7:00 PM
Middle School Library
MINUTES

School Committee Chair Jonathan Graziano opened the regular meeting at 6:45 PM with the following present:

Members:

Mr. Jonathan Graziano, Chair
Ms. Ellen Scordino, Vice Chair
Ms. Jean Bertschmann, Member
Ms. Kelly Knight, Member
Ms. Lori Nickerson, Member

Also Present:

Dr. Cathy MacLeod, Superintendent
Mr. Robert Berlo, Assistant Superintendent

I. Call to Order in Open Session

II. Executive Session

On a motion made by Mr. Graziano seconded by Ms. Knight the School Committee voted to enter into an Executive Session for the purpose of conducting strategy in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel, being the Director of Student Services and for the purpose of strategy as it relates to collective bargaining with the HTA unit A. A roll call vote was taken:

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|----------------------------|-------|
| Jonathan Graziano, Chair | - yes |
| Ellen Scordino, Vice Chair | - yes |
| Jean Bertschmann, Member | - yes |
| Kelly Knight, Member | - yes |
| Lori Nickerson, Member | - yes |

The School Committee discussed the salary and potential offer to a candidate for the Director of Student Services position. The School Committee further discussed the current status of the collective bargaining with the HTA Unit.

On a motion made by Mr. Graziano seconded by Ms. Nickerson the School Committee voted to go out of Executive Session at 7:02 PM. A roll call vote was taken:

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| Jonathan Graziano, Chair | - yes |
| Ellen Scordino, Vice Chair | - yes |
| Jean Bertschmann, Member | - yes |
| Kelly Knight, Member | - yes |
| Lori Nickerson, Member | - yes |

III. Pledge of Allegiance

IV. Public Comments: None at this meeting

V. Reports to the School Committee

- A. High School Student Advisory Council Representative – None at this meeting
- B. Superintendent's Report

- The High School Honors Art Exhibition is on display at the Hopkinton Center for the Arts, a concert was given by the Middle School Band and acappella group, and Literacy Night was held at the elementary school.
- Middle School Assistant Principal Maryellen Grady was recognized by the Goldin Foundation for Excellence in Education.
- Elmwood School held 2 fundraisers, Jump Robe for the Heart and Kenyan Runners Day.
- School Performance Overview – Dr. MacLeod and Mr. Berlo presented an overview of the Hopkinton School District students’ performance. More detailed information, particularly about tracking grade levels, will be available in the fall when the MCAS results are known. Hopkinton High School was ranked 24 by Boston Magazine of the best public schools in the greater Boston area and was ranked 12 in the 2015 Niche Rankings. The percentage of high needs and non-high needs students who are at the advanced/proficient level in ELA and Math were reviewed. Dr. MacLeod observed that some results are exciting and some show areas of concern. Mr. Berlo explained that this information also indicated where additional teaching training or professional development would be beneficial.

The impact on learning of the four Strategic Plan Initiatives, Co-Teaching, Data Analysis, Student Success Plans and Full Day Kindergarten, was presented and showed positive learning results by both High-Needs and non-High Needs students . Data is not only defined as numbers but also includes observation and less formalized information. School Committee members asked clarifying questions.

C. School Committee Chair Report

- A number of letters were received from Hopkins School students suggesting ideas for improvement at the Hopkins School.
- Capital Improvements Committee met on April 13, 2015 and supported the revised number for the roof article, but did not support the basketball/tennis court resurfacing.
- The Appropriation Committee voted 5 to 0 to not support the Joint Safety Article. The school’s portion of the article received support and the Appropriation Committee understood that parts of the plan could not be discussed publicly.

D. ESBC – At the Board of Selectmen (BOS) meeting on Tuesday, April 7, 2015 the BOS and School Committee voted to support the ESBC’s recommendation of the preferred site for the elementary school as the Irvine property on Hayden Rowe. The preferred schematic option was submitted to the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA). The next step is a meeting with the MSBA Facilities Sub-Committee on April 29, 2015. An Article to purchase the Irvine property will be on the Warrant for Town Meeting and a presentation will be given at Town Meeting by the ESBC.

VI. New Business

A. School Committee Policy *JJIF* Concussions and *JJIF-R* Concussions Regulations – Dr. MacLeod welcomed Athletic Director Eric Karjel and Athletic Trainers Jean Emerson and Maura White who were part of group that crafted the regulations. The School Nurse and School Physician have endorsed these regulations. The policy was posted for public comment. School Committee members asked clarifying questions and offered suggestions for clarity.

On a motion made by Ms. Bertschmann, seconded by Ms. Nickerson, the School Committee voted to approve Policy *JJIF* Concussions as amended.

Vote: Favor: 5 Oppose: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 0

B. Recommendation for Appointment of Director of Student Services – Dr. McLeod reviewed the hiring process ending with the unanimous endorsement of Dr. Karen Zaleski for the Director of Student Services position. Dr. MacLeod recommends that Dr. Karen Zaleski be appointed as the Director of Student Services for the Hopkinton School District.

On a motion made by Ms. Scordino, seconded by Ms. Bertschmann, the School Committee voted to appoint Dr. Karen Zaleski as the Director of Student Services effective as of July 1, 2015 pending successful contract negotiations and passage of CORI and fingerprint background checks.

(Voted to accept 2/4/16)

Vote: Favor: 5 Oppose: 0 Absent: 0 Abstain: 0

On a motion made by Ms. Scordino, seconded by Ms. Bertschmann, the School Committee voted to authorize the Superintendent to enter into contract negotiations with Dr. Zaleski for the position of Director of Student Services.

Vote: Favor: 5 Oppose: 0 Absent: 0 Abstain: 0

VII. Old Business

- A. Superintendent's Summative Evaluation Report – Mr. Graziano reviewed the process that has taken place up to tonight. Each School Committee member sent their individual ratings for the Superintendent's goals and the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education's (DESE) standards to Mr. Graziano. Additional evidence was provided by Dr. MacLeod in response to School Committee members' questions which were sent to her. From this information Mr. Graziano drafted a cumulative summative report. The School Committee is required to discuss, approve, and submit one report to the DESE. Final approval of the report is scheduled for the meeting of May 14, 2015.

The School Committee and Dr. MacLeod discussed the cumulative summative report. Ratings were discussed and adjusted based on the discussion. How to establish goals for next year and how to help the Superintendent gather evidence for the 43 standards were addressed. The Superintendent Evaluation process is subjective and difficult, but extremely important. Mr. Graziano will make the changes to the cumulative summative report supported by the Committee. The new version will be distributed to School Committee members and a vote to approve and adopt the document as the Superintendent's Evaluation will take place on May 14, 2015.

VIII. Public Comments:

- Dr. MacLeod thanked the Bose Corporation for their generous donation of 325 headsets and for their continued support of the Hopkinton School District. The headsets were distributed across the district.

IX. Items by Consensus:

- A. The Superintendent recommends the School Committee vote to approve the Operating Budget & Other Funds Warrant #15-052 in the amount of \$200,517.55 and Operating Budget & Other Funds Warrant #15-054 in the amount of \$67,629.09.
- B. The Superintendent recommends the School Committee vote to approve the High School Student Activities Warrant #15-053 in the amount of \$11,759.46.
- C. The Superintendent recommends the School Committee vote to accept a gift in the amount of \$440.58 from the Hopkinton Marathon Committee to be placed in the Elmwood School Gift Account to be used for the "Marathon Fitness Challenge" program as indicated in the agenda materials.
- D. The Superintendent recommends the School Committee vote to approve \$171.00 from the "Hannaford Helps Schools" fundraiser to be placed in the Elmwood School Gift Account as indicated in the agenda materials.
- E. The Superintendent recommends the School Committee vote to accept a gift in the amount of \$100.00 from Long Subaru and \$200.00 from Elizabeth Pinto & Kathleen Almanzor to be placed in the Middle School Gift Account to be used for the "Desire to Inspire" program as indicated in the agenda materials.
- F. The Superintendent recommends the School Committee vote to approve \$750.00 from the "The Sky's the Limit" fundraiser to be placed in the Middle School Gift Account as indicated in the agenda materials.
- G. The Superintendent recommends the School Committee vote to accept a donation from Bose of 325 headsets for student use throughout the district.

On a motion made by Ms. Scordino, seconded by Ms. Knight, the School Committee voted to approve items IX. A – G.

Vote: Favor: 5 Oppose: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 0

X. Adjournment

On a motion made by Ms. Nickerson, seconded by Ms. Bertschmann, the School Committee voted to adjourn the meeting.

Vote: Favor: 5

Oppose: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

The meeting was adjourned at 10:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jonathan Graziano, Chair
Ellen Scordino, Vice Chair