

HOPKINTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE
Thursday, January 7, 2016
Regular Meeting 7:00 PM
Middle School Library
MINUTES

School Committee Chair Ellen Scordino opened the regular meeting at 7:02 PM with the following present:

Members:

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

Also Present:

Dr. Cathy MacLeod, Superintendent
Mr. Robert Berlo, Assistant Superintendent
Mr. Ralph Dumas, Director of Finance

I. Pledge of Allegiance

II. Public Comments: None at this meeting

III. Public Hearing: FY17 Budget

Dr. MacLeod presented highlights of the FY17 Budget. The presentation will be available on the district's website. Mr. Dumas reviewed the enrollment projections for Hopkinton Schools and out of district special education placements. The budget development process was explained by Dr. MacLeod. The collaborative work on the part of principals and staff was credited for the reduction in the budget number during the process. The FY17 Budget Recommendation is \$40,849,426 which is an increase of 4.35% over FY16. Payroll makes up 82% of the budget with Expenses at 18%. Per the School Committee's request, the impacts to the budget of the reduction in parking, transportation and athletic fees, and the elimination of the bus fee for K – 6 students were calculated and included in the presentation.

Motion: Move to open the Public Hearing on the FY17 Budget was made by Ms. Bertschmann, seconded by Ms. Knight.

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

- A question was raised about the focus of the budget increase on elementary schools. Dr. MacLeod reviewed the budget highlights that impact students at the high school and throughout the district, and explained that the increases in the budget will impact all Hopkinton schools.

Motion: Move to close the Public Hearing on the FY17 Budget was made by Mr. Graziano, seconded by Ms. Knight.

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

IV. Reports to the School Committee

A. Student Council – None at this meeting

B. Liaisons Reports

- The first meeting of the town charter review committee has been scheduled for January 14, 2016. Ms. Bertschmann will attend and requested that any questions be emailed to her.
- The Elementary School Building Committee will meet on January 20, 2016 and will continue discussing design development.

C. SC Chair Report

- Additional communications were received in support of the Alpine Ski Team.
- A question about the procedure to change the awarding of diplomas was raised by Ms. Scordino. There is not a policy that governs this topic; discussion under New Business at a future meeting was suggested.
- Exit interviews with administrators – by general consensus the Committee supported continuing the practice, having standardized questions, and creating a document to guide the process.

D. Superintendent's Report

- Teachers and students returned from the holiday break with renewed energy and excitement.

V. New Business – Session I

A. **Superintendent's Budget Recommendation:**

For Consideration: Request and recommendation following individual budget reviews and discussions of the Superintendent's FY17 budget.

Recommended Motion: Move to approve the FY17 budget recommendation of the Superintendent.

Discussion: By general consensus the Committee supported waiting to vote on the budget number until all members are present at the next meeting. Mr. Graziano, Ms. Knight and Ms. Scordino supported the elimination of the bus transportation fee for K – 6 students living within 2 miles of their school. Dr. MacLeod clarified that between now and the next meeting, the budget recommendation will not be revised. If additional financial information is received from the town, it will guide discussion after the budget number is submitted on February 1, 2016.

Dr. MacLeod reported on the Capital Improvement Committee meeting with the following results: Not supported were the feasibility study for a turf field and the feasibility study for a storage building; tabled were the bus parking lot and scoreboard; and passed were the new water heater at the Middle School, boiler replacement, system-wide technology upgrades, repairs to the bleachers, building and grounds equipment, and the auditorium upgrades.

No motion was made.

B. **Request to Appoint Designer Selection Board for Hopkins and High School Roof Project: 1:00**

For Consideration: Request and recommendation that the Superintendent be authorized to appoint members to serve on the Designer Selection Board for this project.

Motion: Move to approve the Superintendent to appoint the following individuals to serve as members on the Designer Selection Board for the Hopkins and High School Roof projects was made by Mr. Graziano, seconded by Ms. Knight...

Dr. Cathy MacLeod, Superintendent of Schools
Mr. Ralph Dumas, Director of Finance and Operations
Mr. Al Rogers, Director of Buildings and Grounds
Mr. Tim Kearnan, Hopkins School Principal
Mr. Evan Bishop, High School Principal

Mr. Dave Daltorio, Town Engineer

Vote: Favor: 4 Oppose: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 1 (Nickerson)

VI. Old Business

A. **First Approval of International Travel 2016** – Dr. MacLeod

For Consideration: Request and recommendation of the Superintendent following submission of Final Approval Forms and discussion with families and tour leaders.

Motion: Move to recommend Peru, Belize, and China for final School Committee approval was made by Ms. Knight, seconded by Mr. Graziano.

Vote: Favor: 4 Oppose: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 1 (Nickerson)

B. **School Committee Policy: JH Student Attendance** (amendment to adopted policy)

For Consideration: Request and recommendation of the Superintendent to revise the adopted policy to be reflective of current state law. Policy *JH* was adopted in October 2015.

Motion: Move to adopt Policy *JH* as amended in the agenda materials was made by Ms. Knight, seconded by Mr. Graziano.

Vote: Favor: 4 Oppose: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 1 (Nickerson)

VII. Public Comments: None at this meeting

VIII. Items by Consensus:

- A. The Superintendent recommends the School Committee vote to approve the Operating Budget & Other Funds Warrant #16-030 in the amount of \$496,380.94.
- B. The Superintendent recommends the School Committee vote to approve the Middle School Student Activities Warrant #16-031 in the amount of \$34,959.34.
- C. The Superintendent recommends the School Committee vote to approve the Hopkins School Student Activities Warrant #16-032 in the amount of \$5,550.00.
- D. The Superintendent recommends the School Committee vote to approve \$380.00 from the “The Sky’s the Limit” fundraiser to be placed in the Middle School Gift Account as indicated in the agenda materials.
- E. The Superintendent recommends the School Committee vote to accept a gift of \$500 from the Hopkinton Running Club for the Elmwood Marathon Fitness Challenge Program to be placed in the Elmwood School Gift Account.

Motion: Move to approve items VIII. A. – E .was made by Mr. Graziano, seconded by Ms. Knight.

Vote: Favor: 4 Oppose: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 1 (Nickerson)

IX. Executive Session

Motion: Move to go into Executive Session pursuant to Open Meeting Law (Chapter 30A, Section 21 (a)) was made by Ms. Bertschmann, seconded by Ms. Knight in order to:

- Discuss strategies with respect to collective bargaining or litigation, specifically to ratify the MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) with respect to collective bargaining with the Hopkinton Teachers’ Association (HTA) (Section 21 (a)(3));
- Conduct strategies in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with nonunion personnel, specifically the Superintendent’s contract (Section 21 (a)(2));
- Consider the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property, specifically to consider negotiation of a lease agreement with the Boston Athletic Association and the 26.2 Foundation (Section 21 (a)(6));

A roll call vote was taken:

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

Motion: Move to go out of Executive Session pursuant to Open Meeting Law (Chapter 30A, Section 21 (a)) was made by Ms. Bertschmann, seconded by Ms. Knight to enter back into the regular meeting:

A roll call vote was taken:

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

X. New Business – Session II

A. Vote to Ratify the MOU with the Hopkinton Teachers’ Association (HTA):

For Consideration: Request and recommendation of the Superintendent that the School Committee vote to ratify the MOU with the HTA.

Recommended Motion: Move to approve the MOU with the HTA and authorize the Chair to sign on the School Committee’s behalf.

Motion: Motion was made by Ms. Bertschmann, seconded by Mr. Graziano.

A roll call vote was taken:

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

XI. Adjournment

Motion: Move to adjourn the meeting was made by Mr. Graziano, seconded by Ms. Knight.

Vote: Favor: 4 Oppose: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 1

The meeting was adjourned at 9:37 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen Scordino, Chair
Lori Nickerson, Vice Chair