

HOPKINTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE
Thursday, December 1, 2016
Regular Meeting 7:00 PM
High School Library
MINUTES

Call to Order in Open Session

School Committee Chair Lori Nickerson opened the regular meeting at 7:03 PM with the following present:

Members:

Ms. Lori Nickerson, Chair
Ms. Kelly Knight, Vice Chair
Mr. Jonathan Graziano, Member
Ms. Jean Bertschmann, Member
Ms. Nancy Cavanaugh, Member

Also Present:

Dr. Cathy MacLeod, Superintendent
Dr. Carol Cavanaugh, Assistant Superintendent
Mr. Ralph Dumas, Director of Finance

I. Pledge of Allegiance

II. Recognitions: None at this meeting

III. Public Comments: None at this meeting

IV. Reports

- A. Student Council – None at this meeting
- B. Liaisons Reports
 - a. ESBC – Footings for the new building will be poured tomorrow.
 - b. Charter Review – The proposed revisions are being finalized and a public forum will be held on Wednesday, December 7, 2106. The Special Town Meeting is tentatively scheduled for January 30, 2017.
- C. SC Chair Report – One message was received concerning the budget on tonight’s agenda. The message was forwarded to School Committee members.
- D. Superintendent’s Report
 - a. Budget Recap – Mr. Dumas reviewed the reductions made in the proposed budget which were identified after the discussion during last week’s School Committee meeting.
 - b. Planning Board – Dr. MacLeod and Ms. Cavanaugh attended the Planning Board meeting to discuss the draft Master Plan. The Planning Board was very receptive and welcomed the suggestions and proposed changes submitted by the School Committee. Changes included removing the reference to declining enrollment over the next ten years, adding the Hayden Rowe traffic calming initiative, updating the awards given to the district, and including capacity along with square footage of school buildings. Dr. MacLeod noted the importance, to the entire town, of monitoring and planning for an increase in enrollment.
 - c. SEPAC/ACCEPT Follow-up – The list of concerns was discussed during the recent meeting and ACCEPT offered to attend the SEPAC meeting scheduled for December 13, 2016, to address these concerns.
- E. Preliminary Budget Reports (taken out or order, after V. A.) – Mr. Herr and Mr. Manning were welcomed to the meeting.
 - a. SPED – Director of Student Services Dr. Zaleski presented the overview of the budget noting that the largest increases are due to transportation, salaries, and private school tuition. In response to Ms.

Nickerson's questions, a detailed explanation of the transition process and the rationale for the Transition Specialist as a stipend position in this budget was provided by Dr. Zaleski. The School Committee requested that as data is collected over the year, it will continue to be shared with the School Committee throughout the year. Further information on special education transportation will be provided at a future School Committee meeting. The inclusion of social-emotional support for students to determine the best interventions led to zero restraints this year.

School Committee members and Mr. Herr posed questions and offered comments.

- b. Curriculum & Professional Development – Dr. Cavanaugh presented the overview which included an increase in funding for professional development. The district's EL students increased by 17 students for the past two years and the higher standards for reclassification may mean that fewer students will exit the EL designation. To meet these needs one additional FTE is included in this budget. New science textbooks to meet the new STE standards are included for some grades. The School Committee requested additional information about how the F1 Visa and other Revolving Account funds are used.

School Committee members, Mr. Manning, and Mr. Herr posed clarifying questions.

V. New Business

- A. **Middle School Handbook Amendment** – Mr. Keller (taken out of order, after IV.D.c.)

For Consideration: based on a change to the student information system (Power School) it may be necessary to change the way in which honor roll designation is determined.

Recommended Motion: move to approve the recommended changes to Middle School honor roll designation and the subsequent change to the handbook. Motion made by Mr. Graziano seconded by Ms. Bertschmann.

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

For Consideration: to allow 6th grade participation on the Middle School Wrestling team.

Discussion: Mr. Keller explained that this proposal is a trial for this year and is not anticipated to require additional coaches or practice space.

Recommended Motion: move to approve 6th grade participation on the Middle School Wrestling team and the subsequent change to the handbook.

Motion: move to approve 6th grade participation on the Middle School Wrestling team for the 2016-2017 school year as outlined in the agenda materials. Motion made by Ms. Cavanaugh seconded by Ms. Bertschmann.

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

- B. **HCA Parking Agreement** – Dr. MacLeod (taken out of order, after IV.B.e.)

For Consideration: a request from the Hopkinton Cultural Arts to formalize a parking agreement with the Hopkinton Public Schools. This agreement has been reviewed by Town's legal counsel.

Discussion: Mr. Herr briefly explained the status of the HCA's alcohol permit and rental agreement with the Town. Suggestions to change and/or add language to meet school district concerns were discussed. The HCA will be asked for feedback on the changes, and then the agreement will be brought back at a future School Committee meeting.

Recommended Motion: move to approve the parking agreement between the HPA and HPS.

No motion was made.

VII. Public Comment: None at this meeting.

VIII. Items by Consensus

Recommended Motion: move to approve the Items by Consensus as outlined below,

- A. The Superintendent recommends the School Committee vote to approve the Hopkins Student Activities Warrant #17-032 in the amount of \$4,700.83.
- B. The Superintendent recommends the School Committee vote to approve the Middle School Activities Warrant #17-033 in the amount of \$34,022.60.
- C. The Superintendent recommends the School Committee vote to approve the High School Student Activities Warrant #17-034 in the amount of \$6,941.55.
- D. The Superintendent recommends the School Committee vote to approve the Operating Budget & Other Funds Warrant #17-035 in the amount of \$106,260.52.
- E. The Superintendent recommends the School Committee vote to accept the gift in the amount of \$1,382.60 from the Target "Take Charge of Education" program to be deposited into the Center School Gift Account.
- F. The Superintendent recommends the School Committee vote to accept the gift in the amount of \$105.00 from Sager Sports Corporation to be deposited into the Center School Gift Account.

Motion made by Mr. Graziano seconded by Ms. Cavanaugh.

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


IX. Adjournment

Motion: move to adjourn the meeting. Motion made by Ms. Bertschmann seconded by Mr. Graziano.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 9:47 PM.

Respectfully submitted,


Lori Nickerson, Chair
Kelly Knight, Vice Chair

