

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MINUTES

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2020

David Twombly, Chair (present)
Lucas Patenaude, Vice Chair (present)
Jennifer Fleming, Secretary (present-arrived @ 7:03pm)
Eric Hipp, Member (present)
Stephanie Peters, Member (present-arrived @ 7:55pm)

Judy Kuehn, Assistant Superintendent
David DeGennaro, Business Administrator
Maggie Ollerhead, Secretary to the Superintendent

There was a moment of silence for 35 year retired teacher James Ridge, whose daughter Kathleen Sullivan is a current Memorial School mathematics teacher.

Motion: Lucas Patenaude **Second:** Eric Hipp
Move to approve the February 11, 2020 as presented.
Vote: 3-0-0

None

None

Motion: Lucas Patenaude **Second:** Eric Hipp
Move to approve the following minutes as presented:

- December 9, 2019 Executive Session
- January 10, 2020 Budget Subcommittee
- January 13, 2020 Regular Meeting
- January 13, 2020 Executive Session

Vote: 4-0-0

Mr. Twombly spoke to the community, stating that the Committee doesn't have anything to add to the recent press release regarding Mr. Devine. He said that will be an investigation and

he will try to share the outcome if possible but it may not be possible. He thanked Ms. Kuehn for helping out and stepping up during this time. Mr. Patenaude added that he hopes the community can recognize that the School Committee is not hiding anything and when they can comment they will. He added that they are taking the proper steps. Mr. Hipp commended Mr. Twombly for all he did. Making calls and everything he did to help manage the situation. Ms. Fleming seconded both Mr. Hipp and Mr. Twombly's comments. She stated that she attended the Nation Honor Society and knows that our school system has great heart and bones.

6.0 Superintendent's Business Items

6.1 John and Abigail Adams Scholarship – Additional Recipient

Ms. Kuehn informed the Committee that every once in a while there are additional recipients that were not on the original list of John and Abigail Adams Scholarships and this has happened again. The student that was recently awarded the scholarship is John Iversen.

6.2 Student Opportunity Act

Ms. Kuehn shared the PowerPoint about the Student Opportunity Act given by Commissioner Riley at the January 23, 2020 Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents (MASS) Mid-winter Meeting, which included the following:

- Student Opportunity Act (SOA) headlines
- Four statutory requirements for district evidence-based plans
 - Evidence based practices
 - Parent/community engagement
 - Resource allocation plan
 - Outcome metrics
- DESE's approach to the district SOA plans
- Guiding principles for district SOA plans
- DESE is using a bifurcated approach for the SOA plans based on new Chapter 708 funds received in FY21
- Key dates this year for SOA plans
- More information coming late next week

Mr. DeGennaro informed the Committee that we are not really receiving additional funds. The funding we receive from the towns appropriations takes all money into account and since we already are above foundation we will not see an increase in funding.

6.3 FY21 Budget Discussions

- Athletics

Mr. David DeGennaro, School Business Administrator, presented the athletic program overview and budget, which included the following:

- Student participation
- Current participation fees
- FY20 sports teams
- FY20 co-op sports teams
- Funding sources
- Hull Boosters Club, gate receipts and other donations
- Details of Hull Boosters club, gate receipts and other donations
- User fees

- Detail of user fees
- Town appropriation
- FY19 breakdown of funding sources
- Total cost to run our athletic program

Mr. DeGennaro told the Committee that the new mini bus is helping keep transportation costs down. He explained that the bus is also used for mock trial, band trips and other trips that don't require a full size bus.

- Maintenance

Mr. David DeGennaro, School Business Administrator, presented the Maintenance of Facilities portion of the budget, which included the following:

- Expenditure history and FY21 proposed maintenance budget
- Use of school property revolving account – Expenditure History
- Protecting Town of Hull's Assets
- Recent Maintenance Projects
- FY19 Maintenance Expenditures by Cost Center

Committee members and audience members commented on the cleanliness of the buildings and the importance of maintaining the buildings, grounds and field.

- Revolving Funds

Mr. David DeGennaro, School Business Administrator, presented the Revolving Funds portion of the budget, which included the following:

- What is a Revolving Fund
- Integrated Preschool
- School Lunch Program
- Lost Book Fund
- KidsCare/Adult Education
- JASPER After School Program
- Jacobs Math League
- Hull High School Activity Fees
- Summer Music Program
- Summer Fitness Program
- HHS Turf Field – Rental
- HHS Turf Field – Advertising

The Committee asked questions about revolving funds to be clear on what can be spent.

7.0 School Committee Business Items

7.1 Request by Whitman Hanson Regional to Join SSEC

Mr. Twombly read the letter that the South Shore Educational Collaborative would like signed so they can admit Whitman Hanson to the list of members of the Collaborative.

Motion: Stephanie Peters

Second: Eric Hipp

Move to admit Whitman Hanson to the list of members of the South Shore Educational Collaborative.

Vote: 5-0-0

7.2 Appointment of Interim Superintendent

Mr. Twombly stated that Ms. Judith Kuehn has been in the district for 12 years and she

stepped right up when needed. He asked for a motion to appoint Judy as Interim Superintendent.

Motion: Stephanie Peters

Second: Lucas Patenaude

Move to appoint Judith Kuehn as Interim Superintendent of Schools until further notice.

Vote: 5-0-0

Committee members spoke of Ms. Kuehn's work and her willingness to step up in the last few weeks. Ms. Kuehn said she is very grateful to be in the Hull Public Schools and will lead with integrity and honesty and is grateful for the opportunity. She also said that she is dedicated, she follows through and gets back to people and is happy to serve as Interim Superintendent.

7.3 Building Committee Members

Mr. DeGennaro informed the Committee that two new members need to be appointed to the School Building Committee. He said their needs to be a replacement for Mr. Devine and another for Mr. Patenaude. The meetings are held at 5:00 pm and Mr. Patenaude will not be able to attend. Mr. Hipp told the Committee that he went to the last meeting as would be happy to replace Mr. Patenaude.

Motion: Stephanie Peters

Second: Lucas Patenaude

Move to appoint Interim Superintendent Judith Kuehn as a member of the School Building Committee.

Vote: 5-0-0

Motion: Stephanie Peters

Second: Lucas Patenaude

Move to replace Lucas Patenaude with Eric Hipp as a member of the School Building Committee.

Vote: 5-0-0

8.0 School Committee Policy Issues

None

9.0 Old Business Items

9.1 Sub-committees

- MSBA met on January 16, 2020 and discussed a new schedule that MSBA wants us to follow. Mr. DeGennaro stated that the \$46,000 that was appropriated at Town Meeting is not enough and it should be \$400,000. The costs have gone up and MSBA wants us to go back to Town Meeting in May and ask for the rest. Mr. Hipp stated that the Town Manager has floated the possibility of the town paying for the entire project and bond it. He advised having two warrant articles. One asking for the remainder of the \$400,000 for MSBA and another for the town to do the project. Mr. Hipp said there are no final decisions at this point and the School Building Committee, the School Committee still needs to discuss and then Town Meeting could have final say. The next meeting is scheduled for February 25, 2020. Mr. Twombly asked to keep the School Committee posted.
- The Clean Energy Task Force met yesterday. The Memorial School Green Team wants to show the movie "The Human Effect" in May. The team and advisor Joanna Frazier, Memorial School science teacher also want to come to a School Committee meeting around that time to present.

9.2 Acceptance of Donations

Motion: Stephanie Peters

Second: Lucas Patenaude

Move to accept the following donations.

- \$4,000 from Booster for HHS Field Advertisement
- \$75,500 from Boosters from various donors thru Plum Fund for HHS field maintenance

Vote: 5-0-0

Mr. Twombly reiterated the importance of donating, not just money but volunteering time and going to games.

10.0 New Business

Mr. Patenaude would like to explore parking options at the high school. He said he knows people had looked into it a few months ago but would like it added to the next agenda for discussion.

11.0 Approval of Warrants

None

12.0 Correspondence to and Comments from School Committee Members

Mr. Patenaude said he saw a lot of comments on Facebook regarding the locked gate at the Turf Field and Walking Track on Friday and Saturday. He also received direct communication from a community member, which he suggests anyone with a concern contact School Committee members directly. Mr. DeGennaro stated that the gate was locked because of the high winds and the visitors bleachers blew across the field. The gate was reopened when a custodian come in for basketball.

13.0 Executive Session

Motion: Stephanie Peters

Motion to go into Executive Session at 8:32 pm pursuant to M. G. L. c. 30A, Section 21(a)(2) – To conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with nonunion personnel – Interim Superintendent. An open meeting may have a detrimental effect. The Committee may reconvene in Open Session.

Roll call vote: Ayes Lucas Patenaude, Stephanie Peters, David Twombly, Jennifer Fleming and Eric Hipp

14.0 Adjournment

Attachments

1. Athletics presentation
2. Maintenance presentation
3. Revolving Funds presentation

These Minutes of a meeting of the
Hull School Committee were
approved and adopted by the
Committee on February 24, 2020

Jennifer Fleming, Secretary
Hull School Committee