

SCHOOL COMMITTEE  
HULL PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
HULL, MA 02045

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MINUTES  
MONDAY, JUNE 17, 2019

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

David Twombly, Chair (present)  
Lucas Patenaude, Vice Chair (present)  
Jennifer Fleming, Secretary (present)  
Eric Hipp, Member (absent)  
Stephanie Peters, Member (present)

HULL PUBLIC SCHOOLS REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT

Michael Devine, Superintendent of Schools  
Judith Kuehn, Assistant Superintendent  
Dave DeGennaro, School Business Administrator  
Maggie Ollerhead, Secretary to the Superintendent

1.0 Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Michael Devine, Superintendent at 7:00 p.m. at Hull High School Second Floor Exhibition Room, 180 Main Street with the salute to the Flag.

There was a moment of silence for former elementary school teacher, Frances Keyes.

Ms. Fleming said that she would like to make a few comments before the meeting starts. She stated that she is speaking to belatedly address a few comments from the meeting a couple of weeks ago but was not trying to undo or challenge anything. She continued, stating after comments were made to her she re-watched the meeting and realized some comments were rather derogatory towards her. She stated that she was referred to as “low man on the totem pole” but after serving three years on the Committee then recently being reelected for another three year term I don’t consider myself or anyone else on this Committee “low man on the totem pole” and that going forward Mr. Twombly should refer to the MASC guide to show how we should act and work together as a team and support each other and have a level of respect despite any personal feelings anyone has toward each other. Ms. Fleming said that she will happily serve in the role of secretary, although the comments were a little derisive about the secretary role and that as an attorney, she realizes the importance of keeping accurate public records. Mr. Twombly said he feels badly that Ms. Fleming feels this way. It was not the board’s intent. He continued by saying that Ms. Fleming adds a lot to the School Committee, and he has always had a good working relationship with her. He said that he values your input and can see her being chair in the very near future. He apologized for how she is feeling. Ms. Peters said she agreed with Mr. Twombly’s remarks, stating that whatever was said was probably said in jest, but she apologized if it was taken differently. We’ll be more cognizant moving forward. Mr. Patenaude said he hopes the tradition of the Committee working well together will continue.

2.0 Approval of Agenda

**Motion:** Stephanie Peters

**Second:** Lucas Patenaude

Move to approve the June 17, 2019 agenda as presented.

**Vote:** 4-0-0

3.0 Input from Public on Agenda Items  
None

4.0 Student Representative  
None

5.0 Approval of Minutes

**Motion:** Stephanie Peters

**Second:** Lucas Patenaude

Move to approve the following minutes as presented:

- Monday, June 3, 2019 regular meeting
- Monday, June 3, 2019 executive session

**Vote:** 4-0-0

6.0 Superintendent's Business Items

6.1 Conservation Research Trip to Belize

Hull High School science teacher, Sheila Blair, presented information related to a Marine and Rainforest Ecology Program in Belize, which is run by Ecology Project International. The travel dates for the trip are Friday, February 14, 201 to Saturday, February 22, 2020. The course will include monitoring dolphin and manatee populations in the coral reef and monitoring large mammals in the Belizean rainforest. Committee members asked questions regarding the trip.

**Motion:** Stephanie Peters

**Second:** Lucas Patenaude

Move to approve the research field trip to Belize from February 14, 2020 to February 22, 2020.

**Vote:** 4-0-0

6.2 PHI 2020 Service Trip

Samantha Collier, student and president of Project Humanitarian International (PHI), discussed a PHI service trip to Peru after the recent success of the service trip to the Dominican Republic that the students reported out on at the last School Committee meeting. She stated that the dates have not been set yet but the group would like to get started on fundraising. The trip will either take place during February or April school vacation or the Summer of 2020. They need to see how many students would like to participate and the weather and prices for each time frame. Committee members asked questions to Samantha and PHI Advisor, Mr. Timothy MacKenzie.

**Motion:** Stephanie Peters

**Second:** Jennifer Fleming

Move to approve the PHI service trip to Peru in 2020.

**Vote:** 4-0-0

6.3 Jacobs School Handbook

Ms. Christine Cappadona, Jacobs School Principal, summarized the changes to the Jacobs School Handbook. She said the dates, names, times and other routine edits that do not affect the meaning of the handbook have been made. She also made revisions to the mission, vision and added district core values; early release time; the cancellations, delayed openings and emergency dismissal section; included report card with parent/teacher conferences; language for security cameras; replace transfer of student records with Memorial School language; add the phrase, one trimester of health class; change school discipline policy to code of conduct' add section called iPad/Chromebook initiatives and Google's' G-suite for

Education notice; and delete HASC.

**Motion:** Stephanie Peters

**Second:** Lucas Patenaude

Move to approve the Jacobs School Handbook as presented.

**Vote:** 4-0-0

#### 6.4 Jacobs School – School Improvement Plan

Ms. Christine Cappadona, Jacobs School Principal, presented the L.M. Jacobs School Improvement Plan, which includes the following objectives and strategic plan for improvement:

- Goal 1 – to improve instructional practices to challenge and support all learners
- Goal 2 – to provide positive learning experiences for students during and beyond the academic school day to strengthen the Jacobs Community
- Goal 3 – create joint opportunities for partnerships between parents, community and school

#### 6.5 Memorial School Handbook

Mr. Anthony Hrivnak, Memorial School Principal, summarized the changes to the Memorial School Handbook. He said the dates, names, times and other routine edits that do not affect the meaning of the handbook have been made. He also made revision to the new mission and core values; removed “continued violation may lead to suspension from school”; removed redundant reference to the CRA process; added the security camera statement; listed clubs and activities’ added lunch charging policy’ lost and found; social media website updates; records release when school owned items are returned; updates to accelerated placement guidelines; promotion/retention procedures; dress code updates and updated legal language prohibiting hazing.

**Motion:** Stephanie Peters

**Second:** Lucas Patenaude

Move to accept the Memorial School Handbook as presented.

**Vote:** 4-0-0

#### 6.6 Memorial School – School Improvement Plan

Mr. Anthony Hrivnak, Memorial School Principal, brought forward his School Improvement Plan, which includes the following objectives and strategic plan for improvement:

- Improvement Area One: Family and Community Engagement
  - Objective: Improve communication between parents/guardians, the school and the community.
- Improvement Area Two: Curriculum and Instruction
  - Objective: Continue the implementation of best practices to address the academic needs of students.
- Improvement Area Three: Assessment
  - Objective: To use assessment data to inform instruction.
- Improvement Area Four: School Culture
  - Objective: Incorporation of skills and techniques associated with Social and Emotional Learning.

#### 6.7 Hull High School Handbook

Mr. Daniel Mastrogiacono, Hull High School Assistant Principal, summarized the changes to the Hull High School Handbook. He said the dates, names, times and other routine edits that do not affect the meaning of the handbook have been made. He also made revision to the bell schedules and lunch schedules; remove statement about Honors credit if not taking

AP Exam; update AP registration fees due date; extended add/drop period for students in AP classes; graduation requirements to align with program of studies; update diploma B language; promotion requirements for grade 10 social studies and wellness; ad in advisory homeroom; remove office detention and add progressive discipline measures; add/delete/change language in discipline section; change language under dances section; add security policy; add senior privilege language; change wording form semester to 3 and 4<sup>th</sup> terms.

**Motion:** Stephanie Peters

**Second:** Lucas Patenaude

Move to approve the Hull High School Handbook as presented.

**Vote:** 4-0-0

Mr. Devine congratulated Mr. Mastrogiacomo for a successful first year as assistant principal at Hull High School.

#### 6.8 Hull High School – School Improvement Plan

Ms. Nicole Nosek, Hull High School Principal, brought forward her School Improvement Plan, which includes the following objectives and strategic plan for improvement:

- Improvement Area One: School Achievement
  - Objective: Improve the academic transition to the high school for all freshmen and also increase the percentage of students who are in good academic standings as they progress through the grades at Hull High School
- Improvement Area Two: Student Achievement
  - Objective: Improve the students' college and career readiness with community outreach and involvement
- Improvement Area Three: School Culture
  - Objective: Continue to develop and expand an advocacy-based advisory program in order to promote our school's core values and build positive relationships with students
- Improvement Area Four: Instruction
  - Objective: Develop Curriculum Guides for all course offerings at Hull High School that align with the Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks to prepare for the upcoming NEASC visit and support the goals outlined in the Hull Public Schools Strategic Plan
- Improvement Area Five: School Culture
  - Objective: Continue to increase parental awareness and involvement at Hull High School

Mr. Devine stated that we are lucky to have three great principals and for them all to stay in a district for as long as they have is uncommon. He thanked them all.

#### 6.9 FY19 Budget Discussion

Mr. David DeGennaro, School Business Administrator, told the Committee that every year we bring forward items for the Committee to approve but this year the only item on the list is the annual prepayment of special education tuition expenses. Mr. Devine added, for the public's information, prepaying special education has been our practice for as long as he has been here and it is a good practice. Mr. DeGennaro explained that it creates a safety net in the budget. He also stated that because there has been no end of year purchase there has not been any need for the Budget Subcommittee to meet.

#### 6.10 Best Educational Use of Facilities Study

Mr. DeGennaro stated that he incorporated the additions/edits/chances that were discussed

for the Best Educational Use of Facilities Study RFP during the subcommittee meeting and that he received from other Committee members via email. Committee members discussed additional changes and additions at the meeting. Mr. DeGennaro said that he would make those changes before sending out the final RFP.

**Motion:** Stephanie Peters

**Second:** Lucas Patenaude

Move to approve the Best Educational Use of Facilities Study RFP with the edits discussed.

**Vote:** 4-0-0

## 7.0 School Committee Business Items

### 7.1 Hull Community Walking Track and Turf Field

Ms. Peters suggested that at this point this agenda item should be moved up to Superintendent's Business Items. Mr. Devine said that the trucks that are going through town are filled with dirt from the high school field and are headed to the DPW barn for their projects around town. He stated that every Tuesday morning a meeting with Gale Associates will be held at the high school to touch base. As of now the project is on track and they are hoping for good weather to keep it that way. When asked, Mr. Devine said that he and Scott Paine are coordinating fundraising and advertising activities. He said that people should check out the Hull Boosters webpage for more information on contributing. He also stated that there has been talk on social media about the memorial flag area being taken down. That rumor is not true. The memorial will remain where it is. This summer we will work on facilities usage policy for approval in September.

## 8.0 School Committee Policy Issues

None

## 9.0 Old Business Items

None

## 10.0 New Business

None

## 11.0 Approval of Warrants

None

## 12.0 Correspondence to and Comments from School Committee Members

Ms. Fleming stated that Judith Van Hamm reached out to her to see if a School Committee member would be willing to sit on the 100% Efficiency working group. Mr. Twombly asked if Ms. Fleming wanted to be the School Committee representative and she said yes. She also stated that the group asked Mr. Patenaude if he was interested too. Mr. Patenaude said that he did go to a meeting to see if students are available and invited to be part of the group. He then said that maybe he and Ms. Fleming could tag team. Mr. Twombly stated that they could share the position.

## 13.0 Executive Session

Adjournment

**Motion:** Stephanie Peters

**Second:** David Twombly

Motion to go into Executive Session at 8:43 p.m. to discuss negotiation strategy with respect to collective bargaining (HTA Teachers) and negotiation strategy with non-union personnel including the Superintendent of Schools. An open meeting may have a detrimental effect.

The Committee is not expected to reconvene in Open Session.

**Roll Call Vote:** Ayes: Stephanie Peters, David Twombly, Jennifer Fleming and Lucas Patenaude.

These Minutes of a meeting of the  
Hull School Committee were  
approved and adopted by the  
Committee on September 16,  
2019.

Jennifer Fleming, Secretary  
Hull School Committee