

HAMPTON BOARD EDUCATION
HAMPTON CT 06247
MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, MAY 22, 2013
6:30 PM
HAMPTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL LIBRARY

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 6:35pm. In attendance Joan Fox, Carol Misak, Ann Gruenberg, Catherine Wade, Lisa Siegmund, John Burnham, Rose Bisson and Maryellen Donnelly, arrived at 6:45. **Rose Bisson made a motion to enter into executive session for discussion concerning evaluation of public officer or employees. Joan Fox seconded the motion.**
2. **Leadership Team Evaluation: Executive session ended at 7:05pm.**

Present were Superintendent Dr. Paul Graseck, Principal Elise Guari and Business Coordinator/Administrative Assistant Sally Lehoux.

3. **Audience for Staff:** Maryellen Kania had nothing to report at this time.
4. **Audience for Citizens :** None
5. **Written Communications to Board:** None
6. **Approval of Minutes 04/24/13:** Maryellen Donnelly made a motion to approve the minutes with the amendment to adjust line item 9C to reflect that Rose Bisson voted no. Lisa Sigmund seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
7. **Superintendent Reports/Recommendations:**
 - a. **2012/2013 Financial Report:** Dr. Graseck reported that the budget is on target. They have also met with the board of finance and fielded questions. He then went over different line items of the budget.
 - b. **Other:** Dr. Graseck brought it to the attention of the board that the Principal's evaluation is going well and they based the evaluation on the Common Core Standards. Dr. Graseck touched base on the positions open in the school and also brought it to the attention to the board that the IRS audit is in process. Dr. Graseck shared information from M&J on length of bus rides if number of busses were reduced down to 2 as well as necessary starting times for runs. The board had a lengthy discussion about this and they decided that John Burnham and Principal Elise Guari will work on a survey to be sent out to parents regarding the bus issue. Dr Graseck went on to inform the board about building and grounds maintenance that has occurred including the fence around the new air conditioning unit and server move.
8. **Principal Reports:**
 - a. **Upcoming Events:**
 - i. 5/24 Professional Development half day
 - ii. 5/27 Memorial Day
 - iii. June 4th Spring Concert will be held at 7:00pm and dress rehearsal will be that day on 9:30am.
 - iv. June 6th - Rainforest Animals (In place of Australian Animals)
 - v. June 13th Field Day (rain date June 14th)
 - vi. June 14th PTO Block Party 5:30-8:00pm
 - vii. June 17th 3rd graders are going to a field trip in Hartford
 - viii. June 19th Grade Six Class night at 7:00pm
 - ix. June 20th Volunteer Appreciation Time and Location TBD
 - x. June 21st Last Day of school
 - b. **Preschool Transition:** On May 15th we held a Kindergarten Orientation for those students and parents who will be transitioning to Kindergarten next year.
 - c. **Building Security:** May 22, 2013 we held an all staff lockdown practice with no students in the building. On Friday, May 31st the last of the locks will have been installed and we are now going to begin practice drilling with our updated procedures with students in the building.
 - d. **Teacher Evaluation:** The Professional Educators Learning and Evaluation Plan was sent into the State Department of Education for review on Thursday, April 11, 2013. We received feedback from the State which was largely positive. We have two areas that were partially met and we will need to review those areas and provide some clarifications as to how those two areas help to create the final summative rating.

- e. **Curriculum Update:** The Professional Development Committee will be meeting shortly to review the professional development activities we had this year which was mostly curriculum revision for Common Core. The plan will be around the updating of the second half of the year for math common core and begin to really look at unit assessments that can be used for check-ups on common core standards and skills.
 - f. **PTO Update:** The block party will be held on June 14th from 5:30-8:00pm. The PTO has many fun activities planned for this community event.
 - g. **Other News:**
 - i. The Reading Committee scheduled a school wide field trip to culminate all of the reading that we did this year around the theme “reading around the bases.” As you know each base was a different genre and the students learned during each assembly what the genre was and how to identify it from the other genres. Many thanks to our active reading committee (Ms. Leavens, Mrs. Nass, Mrs. Pasquarelli, Mrs. Kania and Mrs. Steinruck) for this hard work.
 - ii. Author Barbara Carins will be coming to speak to grades 3-6 about her work as an educator and author. She is a Hampton Elementary School graduate and will be in town May 29th to visit and sign her book for our students. We are all very excited to hear all about how she loves being an author. Many thanks to Catherine Wade for helping to facilitate this wonderful event.
9. **Addition to the Agenda:** Dr Graseck asked that delay in school opening, school readiness grants, and revision on the wage and benefit grandfathering be added to the agenda. Rose Bisson asked that setting up meetings concerning elementary education be added to the agenda. **Ann Gruenberg made the motion that these be added to the agenda as item 14, 15, 16 and 17. Lisa Siegmund seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**
10. **Policies: The Committee:**
- a. **Recommends Recission of Policies 4117, 5111.1 and 6010. Ann Gruenberg made a motion to rescind policies 4117, 5111.1 and 6010. Joan Fox seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**
 - b. **Recommends approval of policies 6141.11, 6144 and 5121, and rescinding previous versions of each. Ann Gruenberg made a motion to approve 6141.11, 6144 and 5121 and rescind all previous versions. Joan Fox seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**
 - c. **Recommends reapproval of policies 4150, and 5000. Ann Gruenberg made a motion reapprove policy 4150 with a date change. Maryellen Donnelly seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Ann Gruenberg made a motion to reapprove policy 5000 with a date change. Lisa Siegmund seconded the motion and it passed with the following vote: Yes: Joan Fox, Ann Gruenberg, Catherine Wade, Lisa Siegmund and John Burnham. No: Rose Bisson, Maryellen Donnelly and Carol Misak.**
 - d. **Presents Policy 3532, 3541.5, 5010, 5111:** Ann Gruenberg presented these policies to the board and the board had a lengthy discussion on the different policies.
11. **Well & Pump System:** Dr. Graseck touched on this topic of the well and pump system that had been brought up at prior board of education meeting. Alan Cahill addressed the board on the information that he had on this topic. The board discussed the information that both Mr. Cahill and Dr. Graseck presented.
12. **Wages & Benefits:**
- a. **Business Coordinator:** Rose Bisson reported to the board about health insurance coverage for two positions within the school. The board had a lengthy discussion on the topic. **Rose Bisson made a motion that compensation for premium cost share approved on February 27, 2013 will not be given to any non-union employee who does not currently qualify for health insurance. Carol Misak seconded the motion. The motion did not pass with the following vote: Yes: Joan Fox, Carol Misak, John Burnham and Rose Bisson. No: Ann Gruenberg, Catherine Wade, Lisa Siegmund and Maryellen Donnelly.**
13. **Review of Legally Required Holidays- Good Friday Holiday:** The Board had a detailed discussion on this topic. This topic was brought up when the board was discussing make up days.
14. **School Delays and Openings:** Dr Graseck brought it to the board’s attention that it has been brought to his attention that the board might want to consider changing the 90 minute snow delay to a two hour delay. The board had an open discussion on the topic.
15. **School Readiness Grants:** Dr Graseck brought to the board’s attention that the school normally applies for two grants and that they would need a formal endorsement from the board to apply for these grants. **Ann Gruenberg made a motion to endorse the school readiness council applying for the FY 2014-FY2015 competitive school readiness grant and the FY 2014 Quality Enhancement Grant. Catherine Wade seconded the motion and it passed with one abstention by Rose Bisson.**

- 16. Revision on Wage and Benefit Grandfathering:** Dr Graseck gave the board a revised copy of the chart noting that the new draft corrects typographical errors not philosophy. **Maryellen Donnelly made a motion to approve the corrected health benefits for non-union employees hired 1985 or before. Lisa Siegmund seconded the motion and it passed with one abstention by Rose Bisson.**
- 17. Setting up meetings concerning elementary education:** Rose Bisson brought it to the board's attention that in light of recent public comments on education in Hampton, she thinks that public hearings need to be set up to discuss the future of education in our town. The board had a lengthy discussion. John Burnham will touch base with the school Attorney and poll the BOE members for possible hearing dates.
- 18. Committee and Representative Reports/Recommendations:**
- a. CAFE:** Ann Gruenberg reported to the committee about a meeting she attended and about upcoming events that they are having.
 - b. EASTCONN:** Catherine Wade had nothing to present at this time.
 - c. Finance:** Rose Bisson reported that everything discussed in committee has been covered during tonight's meeting.
 - d. Policies:** Ann Gruenberg had nothing more to present from the committee.
- 19. BOE Communication to the Public:** None
- 20. Next Agenda Planning:** Teacher Evaluation, Wages and benefits
- 21. Audience for Citizens:** Alan Cahill addressed the board about an RFP the town has put out for energy. He also stated that he did not think that the burden of legal issues regarding the future of education in Hampton should be completely on the board of education and that he would be willing to have the town attorney collaborate so that it would help shoulder some of the burden.
- 22. Adjournment:** Ann Gruenberg made a motion to adjourn at 10:16pm. Maryellen seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted 05-28-13
By Rachel Linkkila