

**HAMPTON BOARD OF EDUCATION  
HAMPTON, CT**

**REGULAR MEETING**  
**December 16, 2010**

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 PM by Board Chair John Burnham. Members present were Rose Bisson by electronic means through a skype connection, Maryellen Donnelly, Doug Stewart, Catherine Wade, Dan Savino, Carol Misak and Ann Gruenberg. Also present were Superintendent/Principal Marsha Willhoit and Financial Assistant Sally Lehoux. Unable to attend was board member Lisa Siegmund.

**2. Audience for Teachers:** None

**3. Audience for Citizens:**

- Michelle Mlyniec voiced her support for the preschool program and would like the board to consider returning the program to 3 mornings/week next year.

- Sue Hochstetter commented on item 9.d. and would like the current board membership to stay intact.

**4. Written Communications to the Board:** None

**5. Additions to the Agenda:** None

**6. Approval of Minutes:**

**Dan Savino moved to approve the minutes of 11/18/10. Carol Misak seconded the motion. The minutes should be amended as follows:**

- Item 5: Rebecca should be spelled "Rebeca";
- Item 8c: the concert was at 7:00 p.m.;
- Item 9g: the solarthermal system is operating, but the software is not operating.
- Item 10E: The minutes should reference "Mr. Burnham" instead of Mrs. Willhoit.
- The minutes were respectfully submitted by Melissa Savino.

**The minutes, as amended, passed with the following vote:**

**YES: J. Burnham, R. Bisson, C. Misak, A. Gruenberg, C. Wade, M. Donnelly, D. Savino**

**ABSTAIN: D. Stewart**

**7. Superintendent/Principal Report/Recommendations:**

**a. Financial Report:**

The financial statements are on track with the budget thus far. Building and grounds continue to be monitored since they are subjects of new contracts. A metal door on the building will be replaced and incur a \$2075.75 expense and technical services under professional/technical services will see increased activity.

**b. Eastconn presentation on Regionalism:**

Paula Colen, executive director of Eastconn, would like more information on what HES is looking for so she can focus a presentation. Ms. Willhoit will speak with Ms. Colen to help focus a presentation.

**c. Other:**

ConnCAN – the Connecticut Coalition for Achievement Now, has ranked HES in the top 10 for schools showing improvement.

**8. Committee and Representative Reports/Recommendations:**

**a. CABA:**

The convention was held in November and was well received and well attended. CABA is sending representatives to Washington to talk to legislators. CABA continues to offer workshops to interested board members and administrators. Nick Caruso will meet with the board on January 12, 2011 at 6 PM.

**b. Community and Staff Relations:** None.

**c. EASTCONN:** They had the groundbreaking ceremony for the conference center. They hope to be in the building in October of next year. The conference center is going to be used by the EASTCONN tenants in the Windham Mills.

- d. **Finance:** The committee did not meet, but Mr. Burnham alerted the board that the selectmen have started the budget process for the town and would like to explore opportunities to share services, if possible, to increase efficiencies in town services.
- e. **Physical Plant and Operations:** None
- e. **Policies:** The committee has not met this month. The committee will make recommendations for final approvals under 9.b. Ms. Willhoit is comparing recommended vs. required policies on CABE's website.
- f. **Hampton Green Energy Commission:** Ms. Donnelly reported about a grant opportunity from the CT Clean Energy Fund. The committee will apply for the grant, but if turned down, the Fund will give good feedback on the grant application of what's missing.

**9. BUSINESS: (Action anticipated on All Items)**

a. **Request to establish sick bank for a non-certified staff member:** Nothing to report.

b. **Policies:**

**Ann Gruenberg moved to give final approval to policy 5131.911—Hazing/Bullying. Rose Bisson seconded the motion.** Ms. Gruenberg and Ms. Donnelly reviewed the proposed policy for the board. **The motion to give final approval passed unanimously.**

**Ann Gruenberg moved to give final approval to policy 5123—Promotion/Acceleration/Retention. Catherine Wade seconded the motion.** Ms. Gruenberg and Ms. Donnelly reviewed the revisions to the policy and the board discussed it. **The motion to give final approval to policy 5123 passed with the following vote:**

**YES: C. Misak, A. Gruenberg, C. Wade, J. Burnham, D. Stewart, M. Donnelly, and D. Savino.**

**NO: R. Bisson**

c. **Establish Regular Meeting Time and Dates for 2011 with Budget Worksessions included:**

Mr. Burnham recapped the meeting schedules of committees and boards in Hampton. After a discussion of the availability of days and times and necessary reports for meetings, **Dan Savino moved to hold regular meetings of the Hampton Board of Education on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month at 7 PM. Carol Misak seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**

**Budget workshops:**

Ms. Willhoit will present a 2011-12 budget draft in January. The board will present a budget draft in February.

d. **Ordinance pertaining to Number of Board of Education Members:**

The board discussed the provenance of the current number of members to the Board of Education. There was no recommendation for change.

e. **Designate Additional Check-Signer:**

**Catherine Wade moved to designate Maryellen Donnelly as additional check-signer. Dan Savino seconded the motion and it passed with the following vote:**

**YES: C. Misak, A. Gruenberg, C. Wade, J. Burnham, D. Stewart, D. Savino, R. Bisson**

**ABSTAIN: M. Donnelly**

f. **2011-2012 Budget Discussion:**

The Board discussed next year's budget. Topics of consideration included, but are limited to:

- Foreign Language Instruction;
- Adding a day to preschool;
- Raise for non-certified personnel;
- Certified personnel positions to support SRBI/CALI initiatives.

School readiness grants are not awarded until June.

g. **BOE Communications to the Public:** Nothing new to report. Will continue to discuss the best possible uses for electronic means of communications.

h. **Audience for Citizens:** Kate May asked about communications with the non-certified staff.

**i. Next Agenda Planning:**

- Budget;
- Regionalism discussion;
- Policies;
- Roof

**j. Collective Bargaining Strategy/Negotiations Discussion:**

**Catherine Wade moved to enter into executive session at 8:30 p.m. for the purpose of discussion of negotiation strategy with respect to collective bargaining and to invite the superintendent to remain. Dan Savino seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**

The Board reentered public session at 8:47 pm.

**k. Superintendent/Leadership Team Evaluation**

Ms. Willhoit reported on the progress she has made on her goals so far this year. She discussed the progress of the lunch committee, the training for Positive Behavioral Interventions and Support, and the bullying program. Ms. Willhoit also reported on the steps she has taken to review BOE policies.

**Doug Stewart moved to enter executive session for discussion concerning performance and evaluation of a public officer or employee at 9:10 pm. Rose Bisson seconded. The motion carried unanimously.**

The Board returned to regular session at 9:40 pm.

**Doug Stewart moved to adjourn at 9:42. Dan Savino seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Nelson  
Recording Secretary

*Note: Per C.G.S. 10 – 218, Board of Education meeting minutes are provided in a draft format within 48 hours of the date the meeting was held. With the exception of motions and votes recorded, these minutes are unofficial until they have been read and approved by a majority vote of the Board. Should edits be necessary, they will be made at the next regularly scheduled meeting, noted in the meeting minutes, and voted upon.*