

**HAMPTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
HAMPTON, CT**

REGULAR MEETING

April 15, 2010

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 PM by Board Chair John Burnham. Members present were Carol Misak, Rose Bisson, Maryellen Donnelly, Doug Stewart, Dan Savino, Dr. Ann Gruenberg, and Lisa Siegmund. Also present was Superintendent/Principal Marsha Willhoit and Financial Assistant Sally Lehoux. Unable to attend was board member Dr. Catherine Wade.

Before the floor was opened for comments, Mr. Burnham reminded the public that this was a meeting held in public and complaints concerning specific staff members should be directed to the executive's office as names should not be given in public.

2. Audience for Teachers/Citizens:

Jean Romano asked if the board had received a packet of letters from parents yet. Mr. Burnham replied he had not.

4. Written Communications to the Board: None

5. Additions to the Agenda: None

6. Approval of Minutes:

Doug Stewart moved to approve the minutes of 3/18/10. Maryellen Donnelly seconded the motion. The correct spelling of the name "Laura Petix" was noted. The motion to pass the minutes passed with the following vote:

**YES: J. Burnham, C. Misak, M. Donnelly, D. Stewart, D. Savino, A. Gruenberg and L. Siegmund
ABSTAIN: R. Bisson**

Doug Stewart moved to approve the minutes of 3/23/10. Lisa Siegmund seconded the motion and it passed with the following vote:

**YES: J. Burnham, C. Misak, M. Donnelly, D. Stewart, D. Savino, A. Gruenberg and L. Siegmund
ABSTAIN: R. Bisson**

Doug Stewart moved to approve the minutes of 3/30/10. Lisa Siegmund seconded the motion. The minutes should be amended as follows:

Reference to Sharon Wakely should be removed. Mrs. Wakely is not a member of the Green Energy Committee. The board discussed the proposal.

The motion, as amended, passed with the following vote:

**YES: J. Burnham, C. Misak, M. Donnelly, D. Stewart, D. Savino, A. Gruenberg and L. Siegmund
ABSTAIN: R. Bisson**

Doug Stewart moved to approve the minutes of 4/6/10. Dan Savino seconded the motion and it passed with the following vote:

**YES: J. Burnham, C. Misak, M. Donnelly, D. Stewart, D. Savino, A. Gruenberg and R. Bisson
ABSTAIN: L. Siegmund**

7. Superintendent/Principal Report/Recommendations:

a. Financial Report:

The superintendent presented the current financial report. It is on target for this year's budget.

b. Other:

- Mrs. Willhoit has been approached regarding a homework club. This will be addressed with the school planning committee. There is a homework club on Tuesdays.
- The school is in the middle of Earth Week celebration.
- The science fair had a high participation rate.
- The board also discussed PTO participation.

8. Committee and Representative Reports/Recommendations:

a. CABE:

Dr. Gruenberg reported the Board of Directors will be meeting soon and there will be a legislative wrap-up as this is a short session for the state legislature. Mr. Burnham gave Mrs. Willhoit a National School Climate Survey and offered this may be a resource.

b. Community and Staff Relations:

The committee met earlier this evening. The committee discussed community involvement and ways to keep the community involved, including residents without children in the school.

c. EASTCONN:

Dr. Gruenberg reported she has been invited to present the CABE appreciation award to EASTCONN.

d. Finance:

No meeting.

e. Physical Plant and Operations:

Discussed 5-year plan and the RFP for roof. Bids for architectural services will be closed 4/27/10.

f. Policies: To be presented in item 9.a.

9. BUSINESS: (Action anticipated)

a. Policies:

Dr. Gruenberg discussed the proposed policies.

Ann Gruenberg moved to rescind policies 5140 Student Welfare and 5117.2 Inter-district Choice. Maryellen Donnelly seconded the motion. The board discussed the rationale for the rescission. **The motion passed unanimously.**

Ann Gruenberg moved to grant tentative approval to changes in policies 1212 – School Volunteers, 5131.62 Steroid Use, 5131.81 Use of Beeper (Paging Devices)/Cellular Telephones. Rose Bisson seconded the motion. The board then discussed the proposed policies. They will be edited by Mrs. Lehoux as dictated.

Ann Gruenberg moved to amend the motion to remove policy 5131.81 from the motion. Rose Bisson seconded the motion to amend.

The motion to grant tentative approval, as amended to include only policies 1212 and 5131.62, passed unanimously.

Ann Gruenberg moved to grant tentative approval to policies 4127 Teacher in Charge/Asst Teacher in Charge and 3160 Spending Funds in Excess of Budgeted Line Item Amounts. Lisa Siegmund seconded the motion. The board discussed the proposed policies. Policy 4127 will be sent back to committee for revisions.

Ann Gruenberg moved to amend the motion to remove policy 4127 from the original motion and to add the word “next” in policy 3160. Lisa Siegmund seconded the motion.

The motion, as amended, passed unanimously.

b. Discussion of Town Ordinance Pertaining to Number of BOE Members:

The board discussed the rules of BOE membership and rules for change, as established by state statute. **Doug Stewart moved to make a recommendation to the Board of Selectmen to reduce the number of members of the Hampton Board of Education from nine(9) to seven(7). Ann Gruenberg seconded the motion.** The board discussed the proposal.

Doug Stewart moved to amend the motion to include the request “to study a reduction of” the number of members... Ann Gruenberg seconded the motion. The motion, as amended, passed unanimously.

c. Budget 2010/2011

i. Superintendent/Principal Compensation & Furlough Agreement:

Mrs. Willhoit declined the need for executive session. The board discussed the furlough agreement. It includes furloughs of 4.21 days for the principal and .94 for the superintendent with a 0% increase for the 2010/2011 year.

Doug Stewart moved to accept the furlough agreement for the 2010/2011 school year for the superintendent/principal. Ann Gruenberg seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

ii. Status of Hampton Elementary Association Concession Request:

The HEA declined to respond to the request.

iii. Status of Early Retirement Option:

One member of the staff has expressed an interest in the option. After a discussion of the staff member's request, **Ann Gruenberg moved to accept the offer of the early retirement package with an amendment to drop the reference to single insurance coverage. Lisa Siegmund seconded the motion and it passed with the following vote:**

YES: J. Burnham, C. Misak, A. Gruenberg, L. Siegmund, D. Stewart, D. Savino

NO: R. Bisson

ABSTAIN: Maryellen Donnelly

iv. Review Draft Budget

The board discussed the current draft budget for the 2010/2011 year. Mr. Burnham opened the discussion of the proposed budget to the floor. Jean Romano and Alan Cahill commented on the budget proposal.

v. Finalize 2010/2011 Budget

This proposal does include changes due to early retirement and a reduction to technical services. After a brief discussion of the final draft, **Maryellen Donnelly moved to send the 2010/2011 budget proposal of \$2,236,346 to the Board of Selectmen. Ann Gruenberg seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**

d. PK/Kindergarten Start of School Year-Staggering Start Dates:

After a brief discussion of the rationale for this proposal, the board decided to defer any decisions to executive prerogative.

e. Superintendent/Leadership Team Evaluation: To be held at the end of the public portion of the meeting.

10. BOE Communications to the Public:

Mr. Burnham noted the *Gazette* is holding space for one(1) week for a budget explanation and documentation.

11. Audience for Citizens

Gay Wagner discussed area towns budget discussions and staff concessions; discussed purchased services within budget (i.e. – propane, gas, electric.)

First Selectwoman Kate Donnelly requested a future discussion and examination of efficiency of the full lunch program.

12. Next Agenda Planning:

- Policies
- Budget
- Bylaws
- Reopen discussion with neighboring towns

Maryellen Donnelly moved to enter into executive session at 9:18 P.M. for the purpose of the discussion concerning performance and evaluation of a public officer or employee with an invitation to Mrs. Willhoit to remain. Ann Gruenberg seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mrs. Willhoit left the session at 9:54 P.M.

The board came out of executive at 10:10 P.M.

Maryellen Donnelly moved to adjourn at 10:13 P.M. Rose Bisson seconded the motion and it 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.