

**HAMPTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
HAMPTON, CT**

MEETING MINUTES

July 2, 2013

The meeting was called to order at 7:31 PM by Board Chair John Burnham. Members present were Joan Fox, Rose Bisson, Maryellen Donnelly, Carol Misak, Ann Gruenberg, Catherine Wade, and Lisa Siegmund. Also present were Superintendent of Schools Paul Graseck, Principal Elise Guari and Business Coordinator Sally Lehoux. Unable to attend was board member Doug Stewart.

2. Audience for Staff: None

3. Audience for Citizens: Dayna McDermott questioned various scheduling of specials including the media specialist schedule, gym scheduling and preK utilization, the Art program, guidance, and various aspects of the certified staff contract language.

4. Written Communications to Board: The board received a letter of resignation from Diane Becker. Ms. Becker has been with the school for 28 years. Dr. Graseck commented the school is losing a pillar of the school community and was asked to convey the board's thanks and appreciation. The board will take action at the next regular meeting.

The board received a letter from Candace Morrell seeking information on existing before and after school care programs and the possibility of tri-town programs. The board will address this at a future meeting as this is a special meeting and they cannot add items to the agenda.

5. 2013/2014 Budget: The board reviewed the previous action taken. At the last regular meeting, the board approved the following cuts:

\$10,500—Cafeteria Account;
\$ 7,500—Heating Oil Purchase;
\$ 2,270 (x2)—reduction of grandfathered paraprofessional's spousal insurance premium share;
\$ 8,323—half (1/2) of executive secretary spousal insurance premium share.
\$30,863

The board had a lengthy discussion of the directive of the Board of Finance and their obligation to the elementary school program, as well as the final will of the voters. Mrs. Bisson distributed a list of possible areas to consider to achieve the Board of Finance's target of a cut of \$34,600.

Joan Fox moved to reduce the budget by \$5,544 by utilizing REAP grant funds to offset 2013/14 expenses. Catherine Wade seconded the motion. The board discussed the utilization of REAP funds and the conditions and restrictions placed on the grant. **The motion failed with the following vote:**

YES: J. Fox, A. Gruenberg, C. Wade, M. Donnelly

NO: C. Misak, L. Siegmund, J. Burnham, R. Bisson

Maryellen Donnelly moved to eliminate the Non-Certified pay increase covering the premium share, levy a 0% premium share, and include the stipend of \$2,132 for the employee who has received the stipend in the past for a total savings of \$10,609. Lisa Siegmund seconded the motion and it failed with the following vote:

YES: J. Fox, A. Gruenberg

NO: L. Siegmund, J. Burnham, R. Bisson, M. Donnelly, and C. Misak

ABSTAIN: C. Wade

The board discussed the implications of each premium share option regarding the non-certified insurance coverage.

Maryellen Donnelly moved to eliminate the Non-Certified pay increase covering the insurance premium share, levy a 2% premium share, and fund 98% of the previous stipend for a total savings of \$10,971. Rose Bisson seconded the motion and it passed with the following vote:

YES: A. Gruenberg, J. Fox, C. Wade, M. Donnelly, J. Burnham

NO: L. Siegmund, C. Misak, R. Bisson

After a discussion of the business coordinator position, the scope of the job and responsibilities, **Lisa Siegmund moved to set the business coordinator hours to 30 hours/week to realize a savings of \$2,775. Maryellen Donnelly seconded the motion and it passed with the following vote:**

YES: J. Fox, A. Gruenberg, C. Wade, L. Siegmund, M. Donnelly

NO: J. Burnham, R. Bisson, C. Misak

Maryellen Donnelly moved to restore \$3500 to the oil line item. Rose Bisson seconded the motion and it passed with the following vote:

YES: J. Fox, C. Misak, A. Gruenberg, C. Wade, R. Bisson, J. Burnham, M. Donnelly

NO: L. Siegmund

The above actions result in cuts to the 2013/14 budget of \$41,109 for a new bottom line of \$2,215,079.

Ann Gruenberg moved to set the 2013/2014 at \$2,215,079. Lisa Siegmund seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Rose Bisson moved to authorize the superintendent to insert exact budget numbers to reflect the intent of the board action. Maryellen Donnelly seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

6. July Meeting Date: The next regular meeting will be July 24, 2013.

7. Audience for Citizens:

- First Selectman Allan Cahill confirmed the total cuts made were \$41,109.
- Mark Becker appreciated all the duties the teachers assume during the year and thought the actions of the board tonight were reasonable, and trusted the board would remain

vigilant regarding the impact of the actions. Mr. Becker also wanted to ensure as much publication of the upcoming vote as possible and asked what the timeline was for the next vote. The board responded the Board of Finance will set a date for a public hearing and then the Board of Selectmen will set a date for a town meeting and then a vote.

- Ms. McDermott commented the purpose of a contract was to honor language.

Rose Bisson moved to adjourn at 10:05 PM. Lisa Siegmund seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Nelson, recording clerk

Note: Per C.G.S. 10 – 218, Board of Education meeting minutes are provided in a draft format. 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.