

**Hampton Board of Education**  
**Hampton, CT 06247**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**Wednesday, July 28, 2021**  
**7:00 pm**  
**BoE Zoom Meeting**

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81434670624?pwd=MlhXRmpOWHJNUWNacjlxU0ZxeHRldz09>

- 1. Call to order** - Chairperson Rose Bisson called the meeting order at 7:02 pm. Members present: Mark Becker, Susan Lovegreen, Maryellen Donnelly, Russ Moffitt, Juan Arriola, Neal Moon, Matthew Flegert and Ann Gruenberg. Also, present Superintendent Frank Olah, Business Coordinator Sally Lehoux, Special Education Director Judy Benson-Clarke.
- 2. Audience for Staff and Citizens:** None.
- 3. Correspondence to the Board** - A letter of resignation from classroom teacher Rachel Porter and a letter of resignation from board of education member Neal Moon were read.
- 4. Approval of the 6/23/2021 minutes:** *Juan Arriola motioned to accept the June 23, 2021 minutes with the following amendments: Business Coordinator Sally Lehoux was not present at the meeting. Under item #3, the correspondence was from Robert Rader. Under item #8 it should reflect that there was discussion on critical race theory in CT schools and that there were views that supported and views that opposed this theory from the board. Mark Becker seconded. Motion carried with 6 votes in favor with 2 abstentions.*
- 5. Superintendent's Report:** Superintendent Frank Olah discussed the ESSER III (ARP) Grant. He reports that administration has met with the HEA to discuss what should be included in the grant, and the list presented in the board packet was agreed upon by both parties as being the most important. Frank will get back to the board about the cost of the AC/heating units for individual classrooms. A question on the board's policy on grants arose, Sally will forward the information.
- 6. Principal's Report:** Frank Olah reported in Sam Roberson's absence. Frank updated the board on tuition numbers and how many paraprofessional positions were currently open. He will make sure the 2021-2022 school year calendar is online.
- 7. Business Coordinator Report:** Business Coordinator Sally Lehoux asked for questions from the board regarding her report, there were none.
- 8. Discussion and possible action on the resignation of Rachel Porter:** *Mark Becker motioned to accept the resignation of Rachel Porter with appreciation of her service to HES. Seconded by Susan Lovegreen. Motion carried unanimously with 8 votes in favor. The position has been posted on the usual sites: CT Reap, Indeed, CEA site, HES site.*

**9. Discussion and possible action on reductions to the BoE's approved 2021-2022 budget:**

The board must cut \$110,000 from the budget; these cuts must be made to an already tight budget. There was much discussion on where the reductions could be made and on the reduction of a bus. Superintendent Frank Olah gave his recommendations to the board that the following reductions should be made to the budget: 1. Reduce by One Bus from Three to Two Busses 2. Reduce Art from .5 FTE to .4 FTE 3. Reduce PE/Health from .8 FTE to .7 FTE 4. Do Not Fill One Open Para Position 5. Health Insurance adjustment 6. Liability Insurance Adjust to Renewal Premium 7. Worker's Compensation Insurance, Adj to Renewal 8. Instructional Equipment - Supplant to ESSER 3. All of these adjustments would reduce the budget by the necessary \$110,000. *Juan Arriola motioned for an up and down vote on the Administrations suggested reductions for the 2021-2022 approved Hampton Board of Education Budget in the amount of \$110,000. Seconded by Susan Lovegreen.* There was much discussion on what might still be in the budget that we could have taken from. Many on the board express their concern of the long bus rides that might arise from cutting a bus. *Motion carried with 6 yes votes and 2 abstentions.*

**10. Discussion and review of the ESSER III grant proposals and timeline as required for the grant application process:** Frank Olah reiterated his report from earlier and spoke again of the ESSER III grant. *Ann Gruenberg motioned to support the ESSER III grant as presented by the Superintendent. Seconded by Susan Lovegreen. Motion carried with 8 yes votes.*

**11. Discussion of new policy requirements as requested by Dr. Gruenberg:** Ann Gruenberg addressed the board about the continuing pandemic and our responsibility to adhere to executive orders. It is noted that we often go above and beyond when it comes to required safety measures.

**12. Discussion and possible action on the continued remote Zoom BoE meeting:**

Rose Bisson suggests that the board continue to conduct meetings via Zoom for the next three months and asks if we can change the day of the meeting. *Susan Lovegreen motioned to continue to conduct Hampton BOE meetings via Zoom for the next three months and that the meetings will be held on the last Monday of each month. Seconded by Juan Arriola . Motion carried with 8 yes votes.*

**14. Committee and Liaison Representatives' Reports/Recommendations from Board:**

**Committees :**

- **Communications:** Nothing to report.
- **Finance & Operations:** Mark Becker reports that the committee met last week. The first item for the new playscape has been ordered. Mark reports that although there are municipal funds left, the town does not want to pave the front parking lot.
- **Policies:** Ann Gruenberg reports that she held a meeting on June 30th. She also reports that office staff will assist in keeping the policy postings up to date.
- **Ad Hoc: Minority Recruitment:** Juan Arriola met with Frank Olah on July 23rd. Juan has spoken with many community members and continues to gather resources.

- **Ad Hoc Committee on Superintendent's Evaluation:** Nothing to report.
- **CABE:** Ann Gruenberg reported that CABE has an upcoming event in Westbrook and encourages anyone to go.
- **EASTCONN:** Maryellen Donnelly reported that they have been evaluating the board and executive director and that changes to the bylaws are being mailed out.

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

**16. Audience for Citizens and Staff:** Kathy Donahue comments that there is \$40,219.79 in the capitol fund and comments on paving the front parking lot; she also requests a copy of the ESSER III grant budget.

**17. Adjournment:** *Susan Lovegreen motioned to adjourn at 9:18 pm. Seconded by Juan Arriola. Motion carried unanimously with 8 yes votes.*

Respectfully Submitted  
Matthew Flegert 7/31/2021