

**HAMPTON BOARD OF EDUCATION  
HAMPTON, CT**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**June 17, 2010**

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM by Board Chair John Burnham. Members present were Carol Misak, Rose Bisson, Maryellen Donnelly, Doug Stewart, Dan Savino, Ann Gruenberg, Lisa Siegmund and Catherine Wade. Also present were Superintendent/Principal Marsha Willhoit and Financial Assistant Sally Lehoux.

**2. Peer Mediation Presentation:**

The students at Hampton Elementary School participate in a Peer Mediation Program to facilitate discussions among and assist their classmates in resolving disputes and differences. Emma Burnham, Hanna Meisler, and Sara Danielson have worked with the school counselor, Sam Roberson, throughout the year during recess to learn the process and to help fellow students. Emma Burnham gave a brief presentation to the board regarding the program and Mrs. Willhoit presented Emma with a certificate of appreciation for her participation on behalf of the Hampton Elementary School community.

**3. Audience for Teachers:** Linda Sanchini spoke on behalf of the teachers expressing their reasons for additional classroom support for the 4<sup>th</sup> grade as it moves to 5<sup>th</sup> grade and appreciation for their inclusion on the wellness committee.

**4. Audience for Citizens:** Susan Hochstetter asked for clarification regarding the solar hot water heater project. Tara Murphy also advocated for classroom support for next year's 5<sup>th</sup> grade.

**5. Written Communications to the Board:** John Burnham received a letter from Education Commissioner Mark McQuillan expressing his thanks for HES participation in the Race to the Top application, a notice for the Board of Mediation and Arbitration regarding the timeline for contract negotiations, and a letter from the First Selectperson regarding the solar hot water heater project

**6. Additions to the Agenda:**

**Rose Bisson moved to add discussion of special education services for home-schooled students to the agenda under item 10 immediately preceding the policies agenda item 10a. Lisa Siegmund seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**

**7. Approval of Minutes:**

**Maryellen Donnelly moved to approve the minutes of 5/27/10 as submitted. Dan Savino seconded the motion and it passed with the following vote:**

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

**ABSTAIN: D. Stewart**

Approval of the minutes of 5/20/10 was tabled until the next meeting.

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

**- Financial Report:**

There will be a surplus of approximately \$27,000 due to savings realized in electricity, diesel, and fuel costs and a spending freeze due to a possible unexpected cost to special education.

**- Other: None**

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

**a. CABE:**

Ann Gruenberg reported the Board of Directors met. Steve Simmons gave a presentation on efforts to reduce the achievement gap. They board also passed their budget. CABE will continue to host workshops and membership fees were not increased. The convention will be held in November.

**b. Community and Staff Relations:**

The committee did not meet.

**c. EASTCONN:**

EASTCONN held its anniversary meeting in May and the board will be meeting in June to sign papers for the addition to be built at the Route 6 facility in Hampton as they are moving out of the Windham Mills complex.

**d. Finance:**

The finance committee reviewed the budget v. actual expenditure report and the physical plant and operations recommendations for year end expenditures.

**e. Physical Plant and Operations:**

The committee reviewed roof repairs and replacement specifications as architectural bids are due June 25<sup>th</sup> and discussed the solar hot water project.

**f. Policies:**

The committee discussed the policies to be presented under business and continued the discussion of the review of the bylaws with anticipated recommendations for the end of the summer.

**10. BUSINESS: (Action anticipated)**

The board discussed the school policy 6127.3 regarding specials offered to home-schooled children as it may apply to special education services. **Maryellen Donnelly moved to provide speech services, as requested. Catherine Wade seconded the motion.**

**The vote was tabled until the July meeting.**

**a. Policies:**

*i.* **Ann Gruenberg moved the BOE give final approval to policy 4127, Teacher in Charge and Asst. Teacher in Charge and that the previous versions of the same policies be rescinded. Lisa Siegmund seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**

*ii.* **Ann Gruenberg moved to recommend the BOE grant tentative approval to policy 5131.81, Use of Cell Phones, Pagers, Laser Pointers, and Attachments or Other Electronic Devices. Dan Savino seconded the motion. After discussion of the proposed policy, the vote was tabled until the July meeting.**

**b. Healthy School Certification:**

This is an annual certification administered by the state. HES has participated in this program. **Rose Bisson moved to certify all sold food items will meet CT nutritional standards. Maryellen Donnelly seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**

**c. Solar Hot Water Project:**

To be considered with end of year expenditures.

**d. Consideration of End of Year Expenditures:**

The PPO committee has met with the green energy committee. After a discussion of the priorities for end of year expenditures, **Maryellen Donnelly moved to allocate \$1,900 from the 09-10 budget for the solar hot water project. Ann Gruenberg seconded the motion.**

After additional discussion of end of year projects, the motion was withdrawn. Doug Stewart reviewed the PPO committee's most recent discussions. Rose Bisson reviewed the finance committee's most recent discussions.

**Doug Stewart moved to allocate \$18,900 for the following projects:**

- Repair drainage and gully near playground steps	\$ 7,000
-Wiring/mounting classroom projectors/grades 4-6	4,500
-Tile classrooms 110/111	5,500
<u>-Hot water solar project</u>	<u>1,900</u>
	<b>\$18,900.</b>

**Rose Bisson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**

After additional discussion of project priorities, **Doug Stewart moved to allocate the remaining monies of the 09-10 budget to the following projects (in this order):**

- Classroom reading books, grades 4-6;
- 4 computers for Media Center;
- tile and area rug for the staff lounge;
- remaining balance to cafeteria deficit.

**Lisa Siegmund seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**

**e. Non-Certified Staff Appreciation:**

Non-certified staff was not included in this year's discussions of expenditures and freezes. This unit includes many staff members at HES. The board discussed the communications breakdown during this year's deliberations and will try to improve next year.

**f. School Lunch Program:**

The lunch program will run a deficit of approximately \$1,000-\$2,000 this year. The board requested data regarding the program and Mr. Burnham requested Mrs. Willhoit form an advisory committee to review the lunch program and options to provide food services at HES that may be more cost effective. The board anticipates this is a wellness issue as well as financial issue.

**g. Review Letter From School Attorney Finalizing Withdrawal From COC Compact:**

Mrs. Willhoit reviewed the letter to confirm Hampton's final understanding of HES withdrawal from the Central Office Compact and to close out any obligations of HES to COC. Mrs. Willhoit was asked to send out the correspondence to Christina Moore, chairperson of the Central Office Committee.

**h. Collaboration with Other Towns:**

Chaplin continues to express interest. To be revisited in the fall.

**i. Budget 2010-2011 School Readiness/Preschool Configuration:**

HES will continue to receive 100% of the school readiness grant. After discussion of the result of this, **Maryellen Donnelly moved to establish a .2 HES preschool position. Ann Gruenberg seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**

**j. BOE Communications to the Public:**

Mr. Burnham noted the *Gazette's* deadline is hard to meet, but the superintendent can continue to submit articles and happenings to the paper and the board will look into putting updates on the town's website for local access.

**k. Audience for Citizens**

Michelle Mlyniec expressed her opinion that the school needs a good and functioning website and supports the board's continued discussion of the project.

**l. Next Agenda Planning:**

- Special Education Request
- Policies
- 5/20 Minutes
- Executive Session re: Negotiations
- Appointment of Negotiations Committee
- Discussion of sessions with Nick Caruso – CABA representative/board roles and responsibilities

**m. Superintendent/Leadership Evaluation**

**Dan Savino moved to enter into executive session at 9:47 PM for the purpose of discussion concerning performance and evaluation of a public officer or employee. Rose Bisson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**

The board returned to public session at 10:37 PM.

**Maryellen Donnelly moved to adjourn at 10:37 PM. Doug Stewart 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.*