

**HAMPTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
HAMPTON, CT**

**REGULAR MEETING
August 26, 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, Catherine Wade, Dan Savino 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: None

4. Written Communications to the Board: Mr. Burnham passed around an invitation from our auditors, Marien & Company, for classes they are holding.

5. Additions to the Agenda:

Rose Bisson moved to add discussion of the Federal Jobs Fund Program to the agenda before BOE communications with the public (item 9.i.) Catherine Wade seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

6. Approval of Minutes:

Rose Bisson moved to approve the minutes of 7/25/2010 as submitted. Dan Savino seconded the motion.

The minutes should be amended, as follows:

- ✍ Under item 6, Mr. Stewart's comments should be limited to the signatories of the communication from the non-certified staff;
- ✍ Under 9.i., Mrs. Bisson reviewed the 2 lowest bids;
- ✍ Under 9.i., the motion was made by Doug Stewart.

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

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

ABSTAIN: D. Stewart

Doug Stewart moved to approve the minutes of 8/2/2010. Ann Gruenberg seconded the motion and it passed with the following vote:

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

ABSTAIN: R. Bisson, D. Savino

7. Superintendent/Principal Report/Recommendations:

a. Financial Report:

The financial statements reflect an 8% expenditure thus far and are on track for this fiscal year.

b. Class size/Distribution of Teachers & Staff:

The pre-school was noted separately as its funding source is the school readiness grant. Ms. Willhoit also discussed the class sizes, teacher and aide assignments and the total hour expectations of para support as stipulated by IEPs.

c. CMTs

Ms. Willhoit distributed the current CMT report for HES with breakdowns for grades 3-6 as well as results for 2009 for longitudinal growth purposes. Parents have not received the individual student results yet.

d. Roof and Solar Panel Update:

The solar panels are being installed. The roofing project has been registered with the state. The school's attorney is reviewing the contract and the project will require approval through the town meeting. A building committee can be appointed at that time.

e. Other:

The state has received an entitlement grant from the federal government to support education jobs. There is a glitch though in the distribution because it was awarded based on ECS formulas and those formulas do not include regional districts. The state is conferring with the federal government to determine the best equitable distribution to towns that are served by regional districts for a portion of the educational opportunities of the students. Hampton has been awarded \$78,209. The school is ready to open.

8. Committee and Representative Reports/Recommendations:

a. CABE:

CABE plans to host another conference on bargaining and negotiations similar to the conference held in the spring. The board of directors will meet in September and the association is getting ready for November's convention and moving forward with creating resolutions.

b. Community and Staff Relations: None

c. EASTCONN:

The building project has not started. Paula Colen, the executive director of EASTCONN, is always willing to come to board meetings to discuss services offered by EASTCONN.

d. Finance: None

e. Physical Plant and Operations: None

f. Policies:

Recommendations will be made and discussed under 9.b.

g. Hampton Green Energy Commission:

The commission would like to investigate total building efficiency while the roof replacement project is moving forward. They would also like to know what is the charge for the architect of the roof replacement project and are the solar panels part of the charge. The selectman's office is in communication with a company offering solar panels for no charge as long as they are installed to predetermined specifications. Mrs. Lehoux will provide the commission with the most recent energy audit and the architect charge.

9. BUSINESS: (Action anticipated on All Items

a. Preschool Program Size and Staffing:

All students who were on a waiting list have been accepted. There are 18 students in the 5 day/week program; 14 are full day, 4 are half day. Six students will be coming in 2 mornings/week. The board discussed staffing.

b. Policies:

Ann Gruenberg moved the BOE give final approval to policy 5131.81-Use of Electronic Devices. Maryellen Donnelly seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Ann Gruenberg moved the BOE give tentative approval to the CABE version of policies (bylaws) 9000, 9010, 9272, 9300, 9312, 9314 change ratio to $\frac{3}{4}$, 9330, 9400. Dan Savino seconded the motion.

The board discussed the proposed updates to the current bylaws. After reviewing proposed updates and wording of policies, the board tabled tentative approval to policies 9314 and 9330, pending discussed revisions and review by consensus. **The motion to give tentative approval to policies (bylaws) 9000, 9010, 9272, 9312, and 9400 passed unanimously.**

c. Review of Special Education Services for Private Home-Schooled Child:

Ms. Willhoit received clarification of conflicting opinions from the state. The district is under no obligation to provide services to home-schooled children. There was no additional information regarding setting precedent. Ms. Willhoit does not recommend providing services at this time. **Catherine Wade moved to provide speech/language services as requested by parent to be performed in the school building at the convenience of the school. Doug Stewart seconded the motion.** The board then discussed the request and the obligation of the school. **The motion to provide services as requested did not carry with the following vote:**

YES: C. Wade, M. Donnelly

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

ABSTAIN: D. Stewart, A. Gruenberg

d. Discussion of School Website:

Ms. Willhoit got a quote from EASTCONN of \$1095 to develop a website and \$100/year to host the website. She will continue to investigate the development of a site.

e. Schedule meeting with N. Caruso, CABE representative:

Mr. Caruso is on vacation.

f. Before and Afterschool Care:

The committee has found before school care has been identified as a need. Current before/after school care is sporadic. The board discussed various opportunities and needs of such a program. A survey will be sent home to focus a potential program.

g. Discussion of Superintendent/Principal Model:

The board discussed the current administrative model that is employed by HES at this time. This same administrative model is used by HES, Scotland, and Eastford. Ms. Willhoit will collect data from her colleagues and this can be a topic of discussion with Mr. Caruso. This discussion is in no way a reflection of the performance of the current administrator at Hampton Elementary School.

h. Discuss Forming and Charge of Cafeteria Study Committee:

The board would like to explore a study committee in light of the fact the school has a school wellness committee, has approved healthy school certification, and the cafeteria currently runs a deficit that is annually funded by the school budget. After a continued discussion Ms. Willhoit was directed to send a notice to the Gazette, school families, and the administrative assistant at the selectmen's office to gauge interest in a possible committee.

i. Discussion of Education Jobs Fund Program:

Ms. Willhoit prioritized her preference when any funds are received and the associated costs. **Catherine Wade moved to authorize the hiring of a .2 certified teacher to staff the 2 day/week preK program. Ann Gruenberg seconded the motion.** After a continued discussion of the nature of the program, **the motion failed with the following vote:**

the motion failed with the following vote:

YES; C. Wade

NO: C Misak, R. Bisson, J. Burnham, D. Stewart, M. Donnelly, D. Savino

ABSTAIN: A. Gruenberg

j. BOE Communications to the Public:

Ms. Willhoit is still providing press releases to the Gazette. The town has not started operating a website yet.

k. Audience for Citizens: Alan Cahill asked if the CMT performance results were gender equitable and commented that upcoming negotiations should be mindful of residents who are struggling with finances.

Ms. Willhoit responded she didn't find any discrepancies in the test results that were gender specific.

Sue Hochstetter commented she had read an article that would require towns to fund any positions renewed by the Education Jobs Program after the program was finished.

Renee Cahill asked what was the formula for federal funds and wanted to know how it would be divided between the elementary school and regional district.

Elizabeth Lindorf applauds the current after school program for its flexibility in meeting the community's needs.

l. next agenda items:

- ☞ school website;
- ☞ meeting with N. Caruso;
- ☞ policies;
- ☞ invitation to P. Colen to discuss regionalism and cooperative arrangements;
- ☞ Mrs. Donnelly wanted it noted that there will be an energy fair in the gym and parking lot on September 25th
- ☞ Negotiations will commence on September 22nd.

m. Collective Bargaining Strategy/Negotiations Discussion & Committee Formation:

Rose Bisson moved to enter into executive session at 9:45 p.m. for the purpose of discussion of negotiation strategy with respect to collective bargaining and a discussion concerning the performance and evaluation of a public officer or employee and to invite the superintendent to remain. Dan Savino seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

The Board returned to public session at 11:00 pm.

Maryellen Donnelly moved to replace Ann Gruenberg with Doug Stewart on the negotiation committee. Catherine Wade seconded. The motion carried unanimously with Doug Stewart and Rose Bisson abstaining.

Maryellen Donnelly moved to enter executive session at 11:02 pm for the purpose of discussion of negotiations/strategies with respect to collective bargaining. Dan Savino seconded. The motion carried unanimously with Ann Gruenberg and Catherine Wade abstaining.

The Board returned to public session at 11:25 pm.

n. Superintendent/Leadership Team Evaluation: The board discussed the Superintendent evaluation.

Ann Gruenberg moved to adjourn at 11:25. Doug Stewart seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Nelson
Recording Secretary