

**Hampton Board of Education**

**Hampton, CT 06247**

**Meeting Minutes**

**Monday, August 30, 2021**

**7:00 pm**

**BoE Zoom Meeting**

<https://www.hamptonschool.org/board-of-education/board-records/#1606960948378-f178d74c-415b> **Zoom Recordings**

**1. Call to order** - Chairperson Rose Bisson called the meeting order at 7:02 pm. Members present: Susan Lovegreen, Maryellen Donnelly, Russ Moffitt, Juan Arriola, Neal Moon, Matthew Flegert and Ann Gruenberg. Also, present Superintendent Frank Olah, Principal Sam Roberson, Business Coordinator Sally Lehoux, Special Education Director Judy Benson-Clarke.

**2. Audience for Citizens and Staff:** Dayna McDermitt reported that the latest issue of the Gazette features back to school and that she had asked administration for updates. Dayna also hopes communication between the teachers at HES and the Gazette continues.

**3. Correspondence to the Board - Letters of resignation of Chandler Johnson and Gary Swartz:** Also Tammy King, all paraprofessionals. Will address under agenda item 14, Additions to the Agenda.

**4. Approval of the Minutes from 7/28/2021:** *Ann Gruenberg motioned to accept the July 28, 2021 minutes. Susan Lovegreen seconded.* Upon discussion it was noted that minutes were sent out earlier in August and not with the board packet, thus some people missed them and would prefer to review them before voting on them. Motion and second were withdrawn.

**5. Discussion and Possible Action on the employment of Julia Cackowski as faculty member:** Julia was present on the meeting and fielded questions from board members. *Maryellen Donnelly motioned to hire Julia Cackowski as a HES classroom teacher on a bachelors step 2 scale with employment beginning August 24, 2021. Seconded by Ann Gruenberg.* Motion carried with six votes in favor of and one abstention.

**6. Superintendent's Report:** Frank Olah reported that he has ridden the buses to gather information on ride times, stops, etc; he will be meeting with EASTCONN soon to work on eliminating bus turnarounds and explore other options to shorten the length of time students are on the bus. Frank also reports that HES is responsible to pick up every student in town with a Hampton address. Frank also reported that he sent the board the latest Covid related guidance and informed us that students are all masked and continue to frequently wash their hands. Frank also explained his recent weather related decisions. Lastly, Frank Olah reported that there is an \$80,449 surplus from the last fiscal year due to back orders on supplies that have yet to be delivered thus we have yet to receive an invoice, and a larger than expected School Readiness Grant last year. He is still in discussions with people to rectify this situation.

**7. Principal's Report:** Sam Roberson discusses the busy start to the school year. Faculty have been reviewing math scores this year in hopes of improving them. The year's professional development is being planned. Sam also noted that the numbers on the report submitted have changed and Team K1 has 16 students while Team A has 15.

**8. Director of Special Education's Report:** Judy Benson-Clarke went over her written report and fielded questions; we do not currently provide services to special education students who are homeschooled and not enrolled in HES.

**9. Business Coordinator's Report:** Sally Lehoux went over her written report and answered questions.

**10. Discussion and possible action on the replacement of Neal Moon for two months (September and October, 2021):** It was pointed out that we cannot act on this until September 1. After discussion it was decided that a precedent has been set where we did not fill a vacancy for a period of time before the next town election when the seat would be filled by vote; the same will happen in this case.

**11. Discussion and possible action on the line item transfers for the 2020-2021 budget:** The following requests for two transfers are made from the business office:

1. \$62,000 from (300) Purchased Professional Services to (500) Other Purchase Services
2. \$10,000 from (200) Benefits to (400) Purchased property services

*Ann Gruenberg motioned to make the following line item transfers in the 2020-2021 budget: \$62,000 from (300) Purchased Professional Services to (500) Other Purchase Services and \$10,000 from (200) Benefits to (400) Purchased property services. Seconded by Maryellen Donnelly. Motion failed with a vote of three no, two yes, and two abstentions.*

**12. Discussion and possible action on the finalized 2020-2021 budget report:** We will revisit this item in the September meeting.

### **13. Committee and Liaison reports**

**Communications:** Nothing to report

**Finance and Operations:** Nothing to report

**Policies:** Ann Gruenberg reported that she met with Lisa in the office to review online policy updates.

**Ad-Hoc Minority Recruitment:** Frank Olah reported that we have hired a paraprofessional from Guatemala.

**Ad-Hoc Superintendent's Evaluation:** Nothing to report

**CABE:** Maryellen Donnelly reported that there is a meeting on August 31 to plan for the November conference.

**EastConn:** Ann Gruenberg reported that Eastconn's bylaws will be changed at the end of September and that they are working on a plan for capital improvements.

**14. Additions to the Agenda:** *Maryellen Donnelly motioned to add the resignations of Chandler Johnson, Gary Swartz and Tammy King to the agenda . Seconded by Ann Gruenberg . Motion carried unanimously.*

*Juan Arriola motioned to accept the resignations of Chandler Johnson, Gary Swartz and Tammy King with regret. Seconded by Ann Gruenberg . Motion carried with a vote of four yes, two no, and one abstention.*

*Maryellen Donnelly motioned to add the adjustment of the payscale of Diane Holmes from masters step 12 to sixth year step 12 to the agenda. Seconded by Ann Gruenberg . Motion carried with a vote of six yes and one no.*

*Maryellen Donnelly motioned to adjust the payscale of Diane Holmes from masters step 12 to sixth year step 12. Seconded by Ann Gruenberg . Motion carried with a vote of five yes, one no and one abstention.*

*Maryellen Donnelly motioned to add forming an Ad Hoc Committee to explore shared services with Chaplin to the agenda. Seconded by Susan Lovegreen. Motion carried with a vote of six yes and one no.*

*Maryellen Donnelly motioned to add an ad hoc committee to explore shared services with Chaplin to the board. Seconded by Susan Lovegreen. Motion carried with a vote of four yes and three no. Anyone interested in being a part of the committee please contact Rose.*

*Neal Moon motioned to add having a discussion as a board on critical race theory before it would be added to HES curriculum, if that were ever to happen in the future to the agenda. Seconded by Russ Moffitt. Motion carried with a vote of five yes, two no, and one abstention.*

*Russ Moffitt motioned to have a discussion as a board on critical race theory before it would be added to HES curriculum, if that were ever to happen in the future. Seconded by Neal Moon. Motion carried unanimously.*

**15. Audience for Citizens and Staff:** Juan Arriola thanked Neal Moon for his service and wished him well in retirement. Kathy Donahue asked for the year end June reports and mentioned a correspondent she shared with administration in regards to the town's capital account. Kathy also inquired about birth to 3 numbers in the Special Education Director report and the bus counts. Kathy also thanked Neal Moon for his services.

**16. Adjournment:** *Juan Arriola motioned to adjourn at 9:14 pm. Seconded by Susan Lovegreen.  
Motion carried unanimously.*

Respectfully Submitted  
Matthew Flegert 8/31/2021