

HAVERHILL SCHOOL COMMITTEE
Regular Meeting of January 13, 2011

This meeting was recorded.

Mayor James Fiorentini opened the meeting at 7:03 p.m. Present were: Mr. Shaun Toohey, Attorney Paul Magliocchetti, Mr. Scott Wood, Mr. Joseph Bevilacqua, Mr. Raymond Sierpina, Mrs. Susan Danehy, Mr. James F. Scully, Superintendent of Schools, Ms. Kara Kosmes, Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Mrs. Mary Malone, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction.

Mayor Fiorentini led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Participation

Mr. Bevilacqua

Introduction of John Lenotte regarding Flag Education

John Lenotte, Commander of American Legion Haverhill Post 4, presented the Superintendent 17 DVD's titled "For Which It Stand" on the history of the flag.

Election of President and Vice President of the Haverhill School Committee for 2011

Mr. Toohey thanked his colleagues for being elected to the past years' leadership positions.

Moved by Mr. Wood and seconded by Mr. Toohey to nominate Joseph Bevilacqua as School Committee President. Mr. Wood moved to close the nominations, seconded by Attorney Magliocchetti. A verbal vote indicated all in favor of nominations being closed.

A roll call vote was held on the election of the President for 2011:

Atty. Magliocchetti	Joseph Bevilacqua	Mr. Sierpina	Joseph Bevilacqua
Mrs. Danehy	Joseph Bevilacqua	Mr. Wood	Joe Bevilacqua
Mr. Bevilacqua	Joe Bevilacqua	Mr. Toohey	Joe Bevilacqua
Mayor Fiorentini	Joseph Bevilacqua		

Joseph Bevilacqua was elected President of the School Committee

Moved by Mr. Wood and seconded by Mr. Toohey to nominate Susan Danehy as School Committee Vice President. Mr. Bevilacqua moved to close the nominations, seconded by Attorney Magliocchetti. A verbal vote indicated all in favor of nominations being closed.

A roll call vote was held on Vice President of the School Committee:

Atty. Magliocchetti	Susan Danehy	Mr. Sierpina	Susan Danehy
Mrs. Danehy	Susan Danehy	Mr. Wood	Susan Danehy
Mr. Bevilacqua	Susan Danehy	Mr. Toohey	Susan Danehy
Mayor Fiorentini	Susan Danehy		

Susan Danehy was elected Vice President of the School Committee.

Mr. Bevilacqua and Mrs. Danehy highlighted the upcoming year.

Communication and Reports:

Student Advisory Council Report – Timothy Danehy

Approved 01.27.11

Tim Danehy, President of HHS Student Council informed members of the January 15th winter dance, the new dress code, a January 20th coffee house held at the high school library, the boys' basketball team, and a poetry reading competition.

Superintendent's Comments/Reports.

The Superintendent thanked the entire high school student body for their demeanor and positive attitude.

Nutrition

The Superintendent reviewed his handout on nutrition. During the months of November and December food choices for the children's meals have been reviewed. His concern is the tremendous amount of items not recommended for school meals. Members will be informed of any new regulations which were discussed this morning on Good Morning America.

Goals

The Superintendent reviewed the School Committee Goals revised document. He has taken the goals on page 2, condensed them, and will publicize them with the entire school community. He wants to make sure they are consistent with members' wishes and are based on academics and student growth. Mr. Scully asked for their comments on the new format of the goals:

- Student failure/drop out rates
- Developing a program to market the high school for students who choice out; school choice students being assessed over \$1 million (\$600-700,000 expended annually with receiving \$300,000 annually); tracking why students are leaving; benefit of being in program
- Open house for high school as a marketing device; will inform members of date and will do a tour
- Goals should include maintenance of buildings

Moved by Mr. Sierpina and seconded by Mr. Bevilacqua to add the School Committee continues to monitor the maintenance and security of the schools in the School Committee Goals. A verbal vote indicated all in favor.

- Maintain proper class sizes
- Curriculum oriented budget – calling it responsibility centers
- Focus on updating textbooks
- Accountability of Superintendent, Principal and Teachers now under responsibility centers

Moved by Mr. Bevilacqua and seconded by Mr. Toohey to add textbooks and improve image of schools. A verbal vote indicated all in favor. A revised copy will be distributed for the next meeting.

Superintendent's Recommendations.

Update on DESE Compliance Requirements in reference to LEP students.

Mrs. Malone updated members on the LEP issues. The issues were related to compensatory services for the previous year. A report was submitted on August 15th to the state with a satisfactory report returned from the state. A report was submitted on December 1st with a progress report being issued at the end of the month relative to compliance of ELL in Haverhill.

Common Core

Mrs. Malone indicated they are updating the learning standards to all students in the 48 states. The booklets are not fully published from the state however distributed them for members' review. She indicated how they will address this with all leadership teams being trained and having proper certification to develop high quality curriculum maps based on the common core standards. The standards have been augmented by 2.5 percent which will strengthen ELA and 5 percent in math in Massachusetts. Training is in progress while text is being printed. A

copy will be sent to members. They are working with IT to put the standards on line. The next two years (2012, 2013) will be a blend of the current frameworks and the common core standards with full incorporation in 2014 followed by a national assessment.

Mr. Scully visited Windham High School which is near total Mac Book. An Apple vendor was invited to the district who will demonstrate to members electronic readers.

Mrs. Malone distributed a Race to the Top booklet for members' review. Mayor Fiorentini requested a breakdown of the budget for the \$1 million awarded.

Mr. Scully stated the scheduled date for the high school open house is January 24th. There is a new redesigned webpage that should be rolled out by the end of the month. The schools will be open tomorrow.

Subcommittee Reports

Attorney Magliocchetti asked to refer the contract for the superintendent and be presented as a draft to members in Executive Session.

School Committee Communications

Attorney Magliocchetti

Building Use

Attorney Magliocchetti asked for a review and analysis of all school buildings. Mr. Scully is concentrating on early childhood and kindergarten. Mr. Scully indicated they are dealing with the issues at Hunking School including staffing, physical plant, and asbestos notification which was discussed earlier in the week at the Superintendent's Forum.

Old Business:

School Department Audit - Attorney Magliocchetti (tabled at 12.16.10 meeting)

Moved by Mr. Bevilacqua and seconded by Mr. Toohey to remove this item from the table. A verbal vote indicated all in favor.

Motion passes.

Attorney Magliocchetti asked for insight into what type of audit ,management or system review that will help them better understand their system and finances in the district. Mr. Scully stated one issue is the responsibility in the budget and one is a long range budget. They are discussing with individuals and seeking quotes to help redesign those areas. They need to retool our policy and procedures in personnel and payroll which will result in better management, being more transparent, and having everyone on the same page.

High School Renovation and Future Building Use ("Pods") - Attorney Magliocchetti (tabled at 12.16.10 meeting).

Moved by Mr. Wood and seconded by Mr. Toohey to remove this item from the table. A verbal vote indicated all in favor.

Motion passes.

Attorney Magliocchetti referenced breaking the high school into Pods. Mr. Scully stated they met this morning on this issue. Prior to doing the Pods, they need to fix the identity of the different sections of the high school. With respect academically, they are trying to take the STEM issue an academy or Pod by grouping subject matter and areas of interest in appropriate areas of the high school and plan for next year.

Priorities as recommended by the Administration - Attorney Magliocchetti (tabled at 12.16.10 meeting).

This was discussed earlier in the meeting.

School Maintenance – (Mr. Dill will be in attendance) Attorney Magliocchetti (tabled at 12.16.10 meeting).

Moved by Mayor Fiorentini to remove this item from the table. A verbal vote indicated all in favor.

Motion passes.

Attorney Magliocchetti asked for a follow-up and where we are in maintenance in general, are we making progress and getting things fixed. Mr. Scully stated they are better at tracking and getting a handle on things. He is not comfortable with issues in the building that the custodians can address and how to supervise the custodians. Merging maintenance and custodians was discussed. Mr. Scully is not in favor of doing this at this time and is not mixing functions. Our bid demands are electrical, plumbing, and painting. Discussion was held as to how the schools are reimbursed and tracked for city services. Mayor Fiorentini requested a summary of Hunking School tasks. Ms. Kosmes will provide more detailed information with warrant information relative to co-mingling.

Moved by Mr. Wood and seconded by Mr. Bevilacqua to move up all of Mr. Sierpina's items. A verbal vote indicated all in favor.

Motion passes.

Current Enrollments/Number of Empty Classrooms – Mr. Sierpina (tabled at 12.16.10 meeting).

Mr. Sierpina referenced the document provided relative to empty space and the bulging need in the Consentino quadrant. Mr. Scully indicated Consentino has seven rooms available with one with a physical issue with flexibility in that area. They are looking at reconfiguring through a long range plan for building use and grade implementation during budget. A K – 8 concepts is being considered citywide but not at this time and do it gradually as the need arises.

Status of High School Band – Mr. Sierpina (tabled at 12.16.10 meeting).

Mr. Sierpina questioned the middle school program as a feeder at the high school. Mr. Scully is not comfortable yet with the program relative to the instrumental program. The students are taking instruments that do not make up a high school band. There is a meeting scheduled in two weeks and strong action needs to be taken to address this problem. Currently, a director is being funded with only a jazz band at the high school. They are looking at this position which could be scrubbed.

New Math Text Update – Mr. Sierpina (tabled at 12.16.10 meeting).

A meeting was held in the fall with a representative of the new math textbooks. Math will not change with the common core and their intent is to gradually weave the new books into the system and incorporate the expenditure into the next budget. They want to make sure the books will be the text that is needed. To purchase 5,000 books at \$50-70 apiece is not realistic. They need to look at options which will benefit instruction in classrooms at a sensible cost factor. Due to stringent guidelines grant funding may not be available; however, the Race to the Top funding may be available.

Financial Projection Overage as of 10/31/10 document – Mr. Sierpina (tabled at 12.16.10 meeting).

Mr. Sierpina indicated all of the schools have had overages in their line items and questioned the reason. Ms. Kosmes stated principals have the discretion to move money whereas some accounts have balances which offset those with overages resulting in a balanced budget.

New Business:

Approval of Warrant Number EV20110114 totaling \$717,595.59

Moved by Mr. Wood and seconded by Mr. Toohey to approve the first two warrants. A roll call vote was held with the following results:

Atty. Magliocchetti	Yes	Mr. Sierpina	Yes	Mrs. Danehy	Yes
Mr. Wood	Yes	Mr. Bevilacqua	Abstained	Mr. Toohey	Yes
Mayor Fiorentini	Yes				

Motion passes

Items by Consensus:

approval of the use of facilities:

- Requested by Kara Elis of the Steward Health Care/Dept of Public Health for the use of the Haverhill High School Auditorium on Tuesday, January 19, 2011 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. for Public Hearing for Merrimack Valley Hospital. Process Fee: \$ 10.00; Utility Fee: \$ Waived; Custodial Fee: \$ 30.00 (weekend rate) per hour; Rental Fee: \$ 100.00
- Requested by Zoraida Jordan of the Haverhill Girls Softball League for the use of the Consentino School Gym Saturday, March 5, 2011 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon for Coach's Clinic Softball Process Fee: \$ 10.00; Utility Fee: \$ Waived (student program); Custodial Fee: \$ 45.00 (weekday rate) per hour; Rental Fee: \$ Waived
- Requested by Clint Clay of the YMCA for the use of the Pentucket Lake School on Saturday January 22, 2011 from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. for Youth Basketball. Process Fee: \$ 10.00; Utility Fee: \$ Waived (student program); Custodial Fee: \$ 45.00 (weekend rate) per hour; Rental Fee: \$ Waived

approval of the field trip:

- Andrea Laws, HHS, Grade 10, April 30 – May 4, New York City, National Shakespeare Competition, \$500

Moved by Mr. Wood to approve d by Mr. Toohey to approve the Items by Consensus. A roll call vote was held with the following results:

Atty. Magliocchetti	Yes	Mr. Sierpina	Yes	Mrs. Danehy	Yes
Mr. Wood	Yes	Mr. Bevilacqua	Yes	Mr. Toohey	Yes
Mayor Fiorentini	Yes				

Motion passes

Executive Session/ Adjournment

Moved by Mr. Toohey at 9:17 p.m. to go into executive session for the purpose of contract negotiations, legal matters and personnel and will return to open session only for the purposes of adjourning. A roll call vote was held with the following results:

Atty. Magliocchetti	Yes	Mr. Sierpina	Yes	Mrs. Danehy	Yes
Mr. Wood	Yes	Mr. Bevilacqua	Yes	Mr. Toohey	Yes
Mayor Fiorentini	Yes				

Motion passes

List of Documents:

School Committee Agenda; Email from Joseph Bevilacqua regarding agenda item; Email from Paul Magliocchetti regarding agenda items; Email from Raymond Sierpina regarding agenda items; Warrant Number EV20110114; Use of Facilities; Field Trip Request from Andrea Laws –HHS Trip to NYC

Documents distributed at meeting:

Mr. Scully – Haverhill School Committee Goals
Mrs. Malone – Common Core Standards in ELA and Math
Mrs. Malone - Race to the Top booklet