

HAVERHILL SCHOOL COMMITTEE
Regular Meeting of January 28, 2010

Mr. Shaun Toohey, President opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. Present were: Attorney Paul Magliocchetti; Mr. Raymond Sierpina; Mrs. Susan Danehy; Mr. Scott Wood; Mr. Joseph Bevilacqua, Vice President; Dr. Raleigh Buchanan, Superintendent of Schools; Ms. Kara Kosmes, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Dr. Steven O'Brien, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum. Mayor James Fiorentini arrived at 7:04 p.m.

Mr. Wood led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment.

There was no public comment at this time.

Presentation(s):

VIP Presentation – Ms. Carol Ireland and Students.

Ms. Ireland, Andy Polanco, Lori Curry and students of the VIP Team at the high school and the Junior VIP Team at the middle schools informed members on the violence prevention efforts they have occurred.

Presentation of HHS Program of Studies – Mr. Nangle.

Mr. Nangle reviewed the 2010-2011 Program of Studies including new course offerings in English, Social Studies, Mathematics, Science, World Languages, Fine Arts, and Technology. He indicated the courses are budget-driven and enrollment.

Moved by Mr. Wood and seconded by Mr. Toohey to approve the 2010-2011 Program of Studies. A roll call vote was held and the results were the following:

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

Motion passes.

Reports:

Student Advisory Council Report – Liz Henderson/Ned Harvey.

Liz Henderson presented the Student Advisory Council report.

Superintendent's Update – Dr. Buchanan.

The Superintendent introduced students who participated in a student run after-school language program in the middle schools. Aaron Pinet gave a report on the background and success of the program.

The Superintendent requested of members to allow him to pursue an outside company to analyze the special education program. Mr. Peter Bittel of Futures Education spoke briefly on the services that will be provided. The Superintendent will give a full report at a future meeting.

Moved by Mr. Bevilacqua and seconded by Mr. Toohey to give permission to pursue how to improve SPED services. A roll call vote was held and the results were the following:

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

The Superintendent continued to update members on current events throughout the district.

Subcommittee Reports – Members.

Mr. Toohey read the subcommittee assignments:

Negotiating Teams:	Chairperson	Member(s)
Administrators	Mr. Toohey	<i>Mr. Wood</i>
Cafeteria	Mrs. Danehy	Mr. Sierpina
Custodians	Mr. Wood	Mr. Sierpina
Educational Support Personnel	Mr. Bevilacqua	Mr. Toohey
School Bus Drivers & Monitors	Mrs. Danehy	Attorney Magliocchetti
Secretaries	Mr. Bevilacqua	Mr. Sierpina
Teachers	Mr. Wood	Mr. Toohey
		Attorney Magliocchetti
Subcommittees:		
Athletic	Mrs. Danehy	Attorney Magliocchetti
District Steering	Mr. Sierpina	
Finance	Mr. Bevilacqua	Mr. Toohey
		Mr. Wood
High School Building	Mr. Wood	
Joint Communications	Attorney Magliocchetti	Mrs. Danehy
Joint Maintenance/Facilities	Mrs. Danehy	Mr. Sierpina
Legislative Liaison	Mr. Bevilacqua	Mr. Toohey
MASC	Mr. Sierpina	
Policy	Mr. Wood	Attorney Magliocchetti
		Mr. Toohey
St. James	Mr. Toohey	Mr. Bevilacqua
Stadium	Attorney Magliocchetti	
Strategic Planning	Attorney Magliocchetti	Mr. Sierpina
Transportation	Mr. Toohey	Mrs. Danehy

Old Business:

Principals' Recommendations for Increased Student Achievement – Mr. Sierpina.

Mr. Sierpina discussed recommendations to improve student achievement: smaller class sizes, sustained district-funded professional development and collaboration, instructional materials and supplies, sufficient professional support staff for all programs and in all schools, and quality learning environment. Discussion was held as to the various ways to draft and attain the goals within the budget.

Moved by Mr. Wood and seconded by Mr. Bevilacqua to form a separate committee appointed by the President, to make recommendations to the School Committee on goals. A roll call vote was held and the results were the following:

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

Motion passes.

Mr. Toohey will select three members within a week.

Memorandum of Understanding (Race to the Top) – Mr. Sierpina.

Mr. Sierpina questioned the monies and priorities. Dr. Buchanan stated that if Massachusetts “wins” in Phase 1, DESE will be notified in April. Local Educational Agencies (LEA’s) such as Haverhill would then have 90 days to submit grant applications specifying how they will spend their RTTT funds to support Massachusetts’ plan. The Superintendent will continue to inform members of its status.

Requested Plan from Superintendent regarding the Textbook Project – Mr. Wood

The Superintendent reported on the status of the Textbook Project with a current balance of \$75,000. He indicated \$30,000 is earmarked for science books and \$10,000 for emergency purchases. Approximately \$94,000 is needed to purchase a new math series for middle school students. Discussion was held as to ways to fund the entire purchase.

Moved by Mr. Toohey and seconded by Mr. Bevilacqua to go ahead with using \$40,000 to buy math books.

It was determined to seek options for payment of the entire purchase. Mr. Toohey withdrew his motion. The Superintendent will come back at the next meeting with a report.

New Business:

Moved by Mr. Wood and seconded by Mr. Toohey to approve Warrant Number EV2010 (payable 1/29/10) totaling \$779,253.18 and Warrant Number EV20100205 (payable 02/05/10) totaling \$1,293.08. A roll call vote was held and the results were the following:

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

Motion passes.

Discussion of Encore Subjects – Attorney Magliocchetti.

Attorney Magliocchetti asked to discuss how to improve the equality of education in all subjects. He asked the Superintendent to give an overview of the encore subjects and how the monies are being spent. Discussion was also held on the current programs; state requirements; and student achievement including alternative methods to bring the programs to the students.

Principal Visitation Update – Mr. Toohey.

Mr. Toohey informed members that both Mr. Bevilacqua are meeting with all principals in the district. The reason is to make sure they get a head start and are proactive on the true needs and issues in anticipation of the upcoming budget.

Designation of Member for School Committee Minutes Review – Mr. Toohey.

Moved by Mr. Toohey and seconded by Mr. Bevilacqua to appoint Mr. Sierpina to review the meeting’s minutes.

Discussion of 40R – Attorney Magliocchetti.

Mr. Magliocchetti questioned the 40R project at Hamel Mills Lofts and the funding that is dedicated to the schools. There is no effect this year since the project is not completed. He requested a long range plan for use

of the funds once it is appropriated by the state. The Superintendent was asked to report periodically on the number of students residing in this project.

Approval of Items by Consensus:

The Superintendent introduced the Items for approval:

approval of the minutes of the regular meeting of January 14, 2010 and the executive session of January 14, 2010 (to remain confidential)

approval of the legal bills for Attorney David Grunebaum totaling \$1,182.00

approval of the field trip request(s)

- Joseph Gori, HHS, Grades 9-12, May 8, 2010, New York City, \$250.00

Mr. Bevilacqua asked to remove Item #1.

Moved by Mr. Wood and seconded by Mr. Toohey Items 2 and 3. 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.

Mr. Bevilacqua asked to correct page 6, under Budget Discussion, to read" a more realistic balanced budget based on the best estimate of money".

Moved Mr. Bevilacqua by to amend the regular meeting, page 6, first line as indicated. Seconded by Mr. Wood. A verbal vote indicated all in favor.

Motion passes.

Moved by Mr. Wood to approve the minutes and seconded by Mr. Toohey. 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.

Moved by Mr. Toohey at 10:25 p.m. and seconded by Mr. Wood to go into executive session for the purpose of personnel and litigation and will return to open session only for the purposes of adjourning. A verbal vote indicated all in favor.