

Haverhill School Committee
Regular Meeting of April 8, 2010

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

Mayor Fiorentini led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment:

Sherry Comerchero, Speech Language Pathologist, spoke on behalf of the special education staff and their programs. It was asked of the committee to seek cost savings within the current staff. She indicated they can contribute an analysis and recommendations such as they will receive in the Futures' report. She stated there is a possibility and likelihood for privatization and the impact on services delivered. Ms. Comerchero asked members to consider the distributed document including cost saving measures in their overall review in the Futures report. Parents spoke in support of the current staff and programs. The Superintendent stated they are slated to receive the report in mid-May and there is no recommendation for privatization at this time.

Fred Simmons, SEIU Local 888, informed members that there will be no savings to privatizing the night custodians at the high school.

Presentation:

Musical Selections by the Haverhill High School Chorus under the direction of Joe Gori

Students performed a selection for "The Little Shop of Horrors".

Mayor Fiorentini asked for the School Attorney item to be brought up on the agenda.

Status on School Department Attorney

Mr. Bevilacqua and Attorney Magliocchetti reviewed the process in the selection of a school attorney and the access to the city solicitor. The one benefit is Attorney Cox has agreed to do the work on a flat fee basis which is a cost savings to the department. Attorney Cox has reviewed the bills for the past few years and feels he will be able to do most of the work excluding some special education work with no problem. He will be able to assist with collective bargaining and negotiations with Attorney Grunebaum.

Moved by Mr. Bevilacqua and seconded by Mr. Wood to employ the services of Attorney William Cox as per the proposal in the amount of \$25,000. 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.

Approved 04.29.10

Reports:

Student Advisory Council Report

There was no report at this time.

Report on Access Arts Grants and the 2010 Boston Globe Scholastic Art Award Winners

Maria Fontaine gave an overview of the Access Arts program offered through a three year grant. In coordination with the Discovery Club they are applying for a grant which will expand this program. Susan Blim presented students with their artwork who are the 2010 Boston Globe Scholastic Art Award Winners.

Mr. Bevilacqua asked to move up the Whittier Representatives item.

Introduction of Haverhill Representatives to the Whittier Regional Vocational Technical High School

Mr. Richard Early and Mr. Christopher Kelly updated members on the recent event of the contract of the principal. Superintendent William DeRosa and Mr. Charles LaBella, Chair of School Board, also commented. Superintendent DeRosa stated he relied upon poor advice from the school's attorney. Questions evolved around the separation agreement, the confidentiality clause, and the notification to the committee. Discussion was held as to Haverhill students' acceptance into Whittier.

Mr. Wood asked to bring up Item VII C.

Proposal for the Utilization of a Private Company to Assist in Cleaning of Haverhill High School

Discussion was held as to a proposal submitted for nighttime custodial services. The company would supplement the current staff to meet the needs. The costs would range from \$40,000 to \$180,000 for full services. Consensus from members indicated a review by a subcommittee prior to any final decision. Mrs. Danehy volunteered to be on the committee.

Moved by Mr. Wood that the Chair be authorized to appoint a committee and comeback with a recommendation.

Mr. Wood withdrew his motion.

Moved by Attorney Magliocchetti and seconded by Mr. Wood to authorize the negotiating team to fully research and investigate the proposal and comeback as to privatizing nighttime custodial services. A roll call vote was held with the following results:

Atty. Magliocchetti	Yes	Mr. Sierpina	Yes
Mrs. Danehy	Yes	Mr. Wood	No
Mr. Bevilacqua	No	Mr. Toohey	No
Mayor Fiorentini	Yes		

Motion passes.

President Toohey was asked to appoint Mrs. Danehy to the committee.

Approved 04.29.10

Mr. Toohey asked to bring up the ELL program

It was recommended by members that no new items be brought up after 10:00 p.m.

English Language Learners' Program (ELL)

Dr. Graciella Trilla reported on the English Learner Educator including who are the ELLs, how do they identify the needs, how do they teach ELLs, where are the youngest, primary, middle and secondary ELLs, what is the population, the distribution of staff, the state assessments factoring into AYP, how are they doing and the delineation of the ELL budget.

Approval of Warrant Number EV2010409 (payable 04/09/10) totaling \$502,629.57

Moved by Mr. Wood and seconded by Mr. Toohey to approve Warrant EV20100409. A verbal vote was indicated. Mr. Bevilacqua abstained and the remaining members were all in favor.

Motion passes.

Approval of 2010 Haverhill School Committee Scholarship's Deadline of June 9, 2010

Approval of the Items by Consensus:

approval of the minutes of the regular meeting of March 25, 2010

approval of the field trip request(s):

- B. McCann, Consentino, Grade 8, June 1-4, Washington DC, \$600

approval of the use of facilities:

- Peter Shanahan of the Haverhill Track Booster 34th Haverhill Invitational (non-profit) for use of the Haverhill High School Track on April 17, 201 from 9: a.m. to 1:00 p.m. for a track meet. Process Fee: \$ Waived; Utility Fee: \$Waived; Custodial Fee: \$45.00 per hour* (weekend rate); Rental: \$ Waived; * Use of the bathrooms indoor – up to 500 people expected
- Erin Twombly of the Haverhill Center for Reading Recovery (non-profit) for the use of Bradford Elementary School Gym, Auditorium, Library, and Classrooms on Tuesday, April 27, 2010 from 3:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. for Literacy Workshops. Process Fee: \$ Waived; Utility Fee: \$ Waived; Custodial Fee: \$30.00 per hour (weekday rate); Rental Fee: \$Waived

approval of the legal bill for Attorney David Grunebaum totaling \$3,730.12

Moved by Mr. Wood and seconded by Mr. Toohey to approve Item VIII G Scholarships and Item 8: 1,2,3,4 Items by Consensus. A verbal vote indicated all in favor.

Moved by Mr. Wood and seconded by Mr. Toohey to table the remaining items to the next meeting. A roll call vote was held and the results were the following:

Atty. Magliocchetti	Yes	Mr. Sierpina	No
Mrs. Danehy	No	Mr. Wood	Yes
Mr. Bevilacqua	Yes	Mr. Toohey	Yes
Mayor Fiorentini	No		

Motion passes.

The remaining agenda items were tabled to the next meeting.

Approved 04.29.10

- Subcommittee Reports
- Superintendent's Update

Old Business:

- Contract Negotiations
- Recommendation for Approval of Appropriation/Financial Transfer and Execution of Contracts for the Joint Human Resources Department (Consolidation Implementation)

New Business:

- Bartlett School Recommendations
- Condition of School Buildings after Rain Storms
- MSBA 2010 Needs Survey

Adjournment:

Moved by Mr. Wood and seconded by Mr. Toohey to adjourn the meeting at 11:07 p.m. A verbal vote indicated all in favor.

Motion passes.