

HAVERHILL SCHOOL COMMITTEE  
Regular Meeting of December 16, 2010

*This meeting was being recorded*

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

Mayor Fiorentini led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Public Participation**

No public participation at this time.

**Communication and Reports:**

Student Advisory Council Report – Timothy Danehy.

Mr. Danehy was not in attendance.

Superintendent's Comments/Reports.

Mr. Scully will have Mr. Nangle give a high school update at the next meeting.

*Nutrition*

Mr. Scully requested to hold this item to the first of the year.

*Principal Fellowship*

Judy Zaino received a principal fellowship given by the community advocates for young leaders which is a tremendous honor for her and recognition for the Haverhill Public Schools.

Superintendent's Recommendations.

*Review and Approval of the Bullying Policy for the Haverhill Public Schools*

The Superintendent informed members this policy has been publicized for public review with comments from the community that were reviewed by the committee. His recommendation was to approve the policy. He thanked committee members for their work on developing this policy.

Moved by Mr. Bevilacqua to approve the Bullying Prevention and Intervention Plan and seconded by Mr. Toohey.

Attorney Magliocchetti requested that Attorney Cox review and comment on the policy.

Mr. Bevilacqua amended his motion to approve the document subject to legal review by Attorney Cox. 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. Wood and seconded by Mr., Toohey to suspend the rules for Public Comment. A verbal vote indicated all in favor.

Motion passes.

Approved 3.10.11

Mr. Tom Duggan of the Valley Patriot commented on serving on the Lawrence School Committee and working with Mr. Scully when he was Lawrence's Superintendent. He commented on his experiences and commented on a nation wide search. He pointed out Mr. Scully put aside politics and focused on what was best for the kids.

### **Subcommittee Reports**

#### School Committee Communications.

Moved by Mr. Toohey and seconded by Mr. Wood to suspend the rules for Mr. Bevilacqua to speak on the naming of the stadium. A verbal vote indicated all in favor.

Motion passes.

Mr. Bevilacqua referenced the 12.13.10 email from the purchasing agent noting the lack of response to the naming rights. He offered an idea that in the event no one bids we consider for the future the naming of the stadium the "Haverhill Veterans Memorial Stadium". Attorney Magliocchetti indicated they have extended the due date and have sent packets out to potential bidders and will bring this to the commission.

### **Mr. Toohey**

#### Update on Superintendent Search - Recommendation.

Mr. Toohey informed members that the state will not extend a waiver to Mr. Scully. Mr. Scully has indicated he has decided to forego his pension and stay on. Mr. Toohey expressed he is the right leader who is up to the challenge and continues to show leadership in the district showing determination to move forward in the next three to five years. Mr. Toohey recommended extending Mr. Scully for another three years subject to contract negotiations. He asked members for their guidance and support to make a decision.

Members discussed prior searches, Mr. Scully's communication in his short term, student achievement, accountability in the system, a community forum, budget development, and safety and cleanliness of the schools

Moved by Mr. Toohey and seconded by Mr. Bevilacqua to move forward with contract negotiations with Mr. Scully for a three year agreement subject to prior to the next meeting and would assign a subcommittee to work out details and to amend the motion to move forward with a three year extension with community involvement prior to finalization/ratification.

Mayor Fiorentini explained why the waiver request was declined. The Mayor discussed the appointment without a nationwide search, stability of long term contracts, what is best for the children, and evaluation of Mr. Scully. The Mayor was not in favor of doing the appointment in this manner.

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	No				

Motion passes

Moved by Mr. Toohey and seconded by Mr. Bevilacqua for a unanimous support for the Superintendent of Schools. A roll call vote was held with the following results:

Approved 3.10.11

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**

#### Instruction

Mr. Bevilacqua discussed the ways we purchase textbooks and computers. He questioned how to introduce the electronic books in the classroom. This would be more cost effective and be continually updated and recommended the concept to develop a pilot classroom using the electronic readers. Mr. Scully indicated his teaming with several institutions and Apple who works with urban school systems on how to roll out a plan to begin electronic implementation. The cost for replacement of K – 8 textbooks is \$258-\$321 thousand. Mrs. Malone and a group from Golden Hill will be piloting a classroom. They are also looking at the Classical Academy and Whittier School. A team will be visiting Windham High to see how this implementation is working. Ms. Kosmes is researching the financial costs to begin this program at the lower levels late this winter. Mr. Scully noted some publishing houses are not producing the books for the electronic media.

### **Mayor Fiorentini**

Acceptance of Donation of two bicycle racks for Haverhill High School from the Haverhill-based Pedro's Inc.

Introduction of Pedro's President and GM Matt Simpson to discuss the possible sponsorship of a mountain bike racing team for Haverhill High School and/or Middle Schools.

Matt Simpson has donated two bicycle racks for the High School hoping to have students take their bikes to school. Safe bike routes are part of a concept the athletic program is developing including a program using Winnekinni Castle trails to get kids back to riding bikes and away from television and video games.

The next item was requested to be pulled up on the agenda.

The Superintendent recommends approval of the consultant contract with TECedge LLC (E-rate Consulting Services Agreement) as indicated in the agenda material – (Ms. Carr will be in attendance).

Ms. Carr asked members to approve the renewal of the contract where they assist with the e-rate and allows for monies to be returned to the district.

Moved by Mr. Wood and seconded by Mr. Toohey to approve the contract with TECedge LLC. A verbal vote indicated all in favor.

Motion passes.

The next item was requested to be pulled up on the agenda.

Athletic Department Budget (to be removed from the table) – (Mr. Shanahan will be in attendance) - Attorney Magliocchetti.

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

Motion passes.

Mr. Shanahan reviewed the distributed 2009-2010 financial report. The total cost of the athletic program is \$557,000 to run the entire program including salary, travel, and operations for the three seasons. Ice time is not reflected since it is paid for by the parents, gate receipts and boosters. This cost does not include athletic expenses. Attorney Magliocchetti indicated to do away of the user fees they are currently funded at \$252,000 and would need the

Approved 3.10.11

additional appropriation to meet the \$557,000. There are approximately 550 kids overall participating in the program. Gate receipts were discussed indicating any revenue made is put back into the entire budget to offset expenses. This will give them a guideline for the next budget. Salaries are tied to contracts on different steps including the AD.

The next item was asked to be pulled up on the agenda.

School Maintenance – (Mr. Dill will be in attendance) Attorney Magliocchetti.

Mr. Dill discussed what type of progress has been made as to prioritizing his list, review of his present work order summary, and the list of outstanding orders or work in progress. They are working on updating the custodial handbook with the last update in 1984. The acquiring of supplies and distribution was discussed including consolidation with the city and the reimbursement of charges to the city for said supplies and/or work. They are refocusing on the concerns with a better line of communication, closing out the work orders in a more timely fashion, and dealing with the custodial reorganization. Presently, there are four custodial positions not filled with the monies used for teaching positions.

Members reverted to the regular order of business.

An Order that all non-union personnel be placed in the same health care plan that is available to the majority of city employees effective January 1, 2011.

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

Mayor Fiorentini reviewed the proposed Blue Cross Value Plan being offered to all employees. He indicated that only six school employees and three school committee members have accepted the plan and is not fair to have a two tiered plan. He is requesting that all non union school employees begin this plan as is the city employees have agreed to enter into the policy.

Moved by Mr. Wood and seconded by Attorney Magliocchetti that all non union personnel be placed in same health care plan that is available to many of city employees beginning January 1<sup>st</sup>.

Ms. Kosmes indicated that this would save approximately \$20,000 for the remaining six months. Discussion as to employee notification in detail was discussed. Mayor Fiorentini continued to stress how unfair it was that the city workers have taken the plan for numerous years and not the school side employees. Attorney Magliocchetti recommended a July 1<sup>st</sup> state since the money has been budgeted this year and will give additional time for notification to employees.

Mr. Sierpina excused himself due to a conflict.

Moved by Attorney Magliocchetti and seconded by Mr. Toohey to offer a friendly amendment to put employees into the Value Option Plan to be effective July 1<sup>st</sup>. A roll call vote was held with the following results:

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

Motion passes

A discussion of the recent report issued by the Boston Foundation that health care costs are sapping State Aid for Massachusetts Schools.

Approved 3.10.11

Mayor Fiorentini reviewed the report by the Boston Foundation on the impact of healthcare costs on public education. He noted state aid, increased health care costs, being the ultimate education issue, the state's deficit next year, the decrease in city side health care costs and increase in school health care costs and unless they do something about healthcare costs there will be cuts to education.

Mr. Marc Harvey, HEA President, discussed the handout of "Trends over Time" looking at it historically comparing teacher salaries for the past three years and the attempts that they have to negotiate a contract that will not undermine the children.

Moved by Attorney Magliocchetti and seconded by Mr. Toohey to table the following items due to the lateness of the hour: A verbal vote indicated all in favor.

**Attorney Magliocchetti**

School Department Audit

High School Renovation and Future Building Use ("Pods")

Priorities as recommended by the Administration

Moved by Mr. Sierpina and seconded by Mr. Wood to table the following items due to the lateness of the hour: A verbal vote indicated all in favor.

**Mr. Sierpina**

Current Enrollments/Number of Empty Classrooms

Status of High School Band

New Math Text Update

Financial Projection Overage as of 10/31/10 document

Mr. Bevilacqua asked to take the Items by Consensus next.

**Items by Consensus:**

approval of the use of facilities:

- Requested by Vincent Ouellette of the Haverhill Recreation Department for the use of the Hunking School Gym on Tuesdays and Thursday Evening from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 from December 14, 2010 thru March 30, 2011 for Youth Basketball. Process Fee: \$ 10.00 Utility Fee: \$ Waived (student program); Custodial Fee: \$ 30.00 (weekend rate) per hour ; Rental Fee: \$ Waived
- Requested by Chris Costantino of the Groveland Youth Basketball for the use of the JG Whittier School Gym Monday and Tuesday Evenings from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. from December 20, 2010 thru February 15, 2011 for Groveland Youth Basketball. Process Fee: \$ 10.00; Utility Fee: \$ Waived (student program); Custodial Fee: \$30.00 (weekday rate) per hour; Rental Fee: \$ Waived
- Requested by Jenifer Murphy of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Human Resources Division for the use of Consentino School on Saturdays March 19, 2011 for Deputy Fire Chief/Fire Chief Promotional Civil Service exam; April 30, 2011 for Police Officer Civil Service exam; May 21, 2011 for Deputy Police Chief, Police Chief Promotional Correction Officer II exam; June 11, 2011 for Entry Police Officer Civil Service exams from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Process Fee:\$ 10.00; Utility Fee: \$ 20.00 per hour; Custodial Fee:\$ 45.00 (weekend rate) per hour (2 Custodians); Rental Fee: \$ 30.00 per classroom per event
- Requested by Ron Powell of the Haverhill Arena Football for the use of the Hunking School Gym Wednesday Evenings from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. from December 22, 2010 thru March 26, 2011 for Practice Football Play's and Conditioning Process Fee: \$10.00; Utility Fee:\$ Waived (student program); Custodial Fee:\$ 30.00 (weekday rate) per hour; Rental Fee: \$ Waived

approval of the field trip request(s):

- Mr. Ivancic, Nettle School, Grade 6, Ferry Beach Ecology School, Saco, Maine, 6.13-6.15.11, \$215

approval of the legal bills from Attorney David Grunebaum totaling \$894.28

Approved 3.10.11

Moved by Mr. Bevilacqua 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

### **Old Business:**

#### New Business:

Approval of Warrant Number EV20101210 totaling \$241,538.90; Warrant Number EV20101217 totaling \$546,629.49 and EV20101224 totaling \$195,894.86.

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

Moved by Mr. Wood and seconded by Attorney Magliocchetti to approve warrant EV201001224. 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

### **Executive Session/Adjournment**

Moved by Mr. Toohey at 11:03 p.m. to go into executive session for the purpose of legal matters 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

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#### **List of Documents:**

*School Committee Agenda; Bullying Prevention & Intervention Plan; Email from Andrew Herlihy; Kara Kosmes and Linda Koutoulas regarding Mayor Fiorentini's Agenda items including Boston Foundation Report; Memo from Paul Magliocchetti regarding his agenda items; Email from Raymond Sierpina regarding agenda items; District Enrollments as of 12.13.10 along with information on empty classrooms; Memo from Paul Magliocchetti regarding Athletic Department Budget; Email from Jeff Dill on School Maintenance; Warrants EV20101210 & EV20101217; E-rate Consulting Agreement from TECedge; Use of Facilities; Field Trip Request from Mr. Ivancic (Nettle School); Legal Bills from Attorney David Grunebaum; Dropout Prevention Grant – YES Program 2010-2011*

Approved 3.10.11

Distributed at meeting:

Mr. Dill – Work Order Summary List

Mr. Shanahan – Budget Update

Mr. Harvey – Facts: Trends Over Time