

## HAVERHILL SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday, March 28, 2013 - 7:00 P.M.



This meeting was recorded

Mayor James J. Fiorentini opened the meeting at 7:01 p.m. Present were: Mr. Joseph Bevilacqua, Attorney Paul Magliocchetti, Mr. Raymond Sierpina, Mr. Scott Wood, Mr. James F. Scully, Superintendent of Schools, Ms Kara Kosmes, Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations, and Dr. Mary Malone, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum. Mrs. Susan Danehy (arrived at 7:31 p.m.) and Mr. Shaun Toohey (arrived at 7:34 p.m.) were recorded as absent.

Mayor Fiorentini led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **Public Participation**

Gene Zylkuski, 10 Allyson Circle, Chair of Silver Hill Board of Director, notified members of his appointment as liaison to the school department and to keep an open communication with the district. He indicated the school's charter has been renewed to 2018.

### **Communication and Reports:**

*Student Advisory Council Report – Haley Peabody.*

Haley informed members of the Drama Club musical held last weekend, the on line registration for all students returning, and today being the end of the third term.

Moved by Mayor Fiorentini to bring up the student presentation. A verbal vote indicated all in favor.

*Attorney Magliocchetti*

Student Presentation

Emily Lawler, high school senior, gave a presentation relative to implementing a Crew program at the high school. She currently participates as a rower in the Greater Lawrence program. The PowerPoint presentation included the history of rowing, why rowing, lifelong lessons (teamwork and goal setting), educational advantages, mental discipline, physical benefits, location of equipment, cost, and fundraising.

Emily indicated a strong interest at the high school in addition to the possible partnering with Pentucket Regional students who could contribute to the funding of this program. Mr. Scully and Mr. O'Brien are in discussion as to implementing this program and a girls' hockey program. He shall be submitting the necessary information at a future meeting.

*Superintendent's Comments/Reports.*

Preliminary Information on FY14 Budget

The Superintendent referenced the budget summary by responsibility centers which are monitored on a monthly basis. The preliminary figures presented are a base line for the beginning budget process. The working document with preliminary estimates will be adjusted as funding is received (state allocations, Chapter 70 funding, etc.). The numbers were based on January figures; however, new figures should be available from the state after April 10<sup>th</sup>.

The Superintendent informed members of the college fair being held tonight at the high school. The State Treasurer has awarded the department a \$20,000 grant to help with national financial capabilities which will give students a greater opportunity to fund programs that help students learn accounting, etc.

### **School Committee Communications**

*Mayor Fiorentini*

High School Renovation

The Mayor read his response to questions raised at the previous meeting relative to a letter dated March 11 from Thomas Geary regarding maintenance issues and if they were tied into the renovation project (see attached document). The project completed two years ago resulting in the full accreditation of the high school. The irrigation system was not part of the renovation project; the NEASC report did not include security as part of the project; the pool roof was not part of the project and the roof received wind storm damage in 2010 with a claim settled and funds received currently in a school account; ceiling coverage was not part of the project; HVAC hardware was installed and the software subbed out to a Rhode Island company with work being completed 4-5 years ago with a request for a copy of certification forthcoming; concrete and curb cuts was part of the project and is being addressed by resetting and an inquiry is being researched as to a warranty for the work done; insurance claims for \$288,376.49 was received of which \$85,000 is for the pool roof repair. The additional monies are available for the

improvements needed which was not part of the initial project. Lou Fossarelli, renovation committee member for ten years, stated he is proud of the service product and result. The budget was bare bones and did numerous items which were the bare minimum. As a whole, the committee exercised due diligence and did a credible job on this project and asked the community to move on to the next project, being the Hunking School.

Members discussed the perception in the community, the insurance claim of over \$288,000 sitting in a city account for over three years with no notification to school committee members; other accounts that may be lying dormant they are unaware of; the security devices which were never connected; the pool roof damage; bringing in Ameresco and working with them to look at the HVAC documents and who will be looking at all city buildings for efficiency; asking Maroney to look at the HVAC system and go over the issues; the curbing issues being a trip hazard; utilizing the \$288,000 to fund the needed repairs; the tremendous job done with the completion resulting in a full functional high school; having the superintendent bring back recommendations to the committee on how to allocate the insurance settlement of \$85,000; delineate what claims make up the \$288,000 in the account; and prioritizing the list of repairs relative to the insurance money allocations. The Mayor shall forward the auditor's documents relative to the insurance claims to members tomorrow.

Moved by Mr. Bevilacqua and seconded by Attorney Magliocchetti for the superintendent to comeback with a prioritized list and then use the \$288,000 to pay the prioritized list or any other source. A roll call vote was held with the following results.

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

Motion passes.

#### **Mr. Sierpina**

Silver Hill Horace Mann Charter School {plan to address issues as noted}

Mr. Sierpina questioned the article indicating the Silver Hill's Charter was renewed with conditions. Five items were red flagged and need to be addressed. Mr. Zylkuski read from the following letter noting the areas in question:

*In a letter dated February 15, 2013 signed by Mitchell Chester, Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education, the Silver Hill Horace Mann Charter School's charter was renewed through June 30, 2018. The charter renewal was granted with 5 conditions. The following outlines the conditions and the actions being taken by the Board of Trustees.*

- 1) *Beginning in March 2013 and until further notice, the Silver Hill Horace Mann Charter School (SHHMCS) will submit to the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (Department), at [charterschools@doe.mass.edu](mailto:charterschools@doe.mass.edu) or 75 Pleasant St., Malden, MA, 02148, board meeting agendas, materials, and minutes prior to each board meeting at the same time these items are sent to SHHMCS board members. The Department reserves the right to request additional information, such as quarterly or monthly financial statements, if board materials do not already include this information, and SHHMCS*
  - a. *Silver Hill Board of Trustees submits all agendas and supporting materials to the DESE office at the same time the materials are submitted to the City Clerk's office*
- 2) *By May 31, 2013, the Board of Trustees of SHHMCS will engage in a comprehensive self-evaluation of its own capacity and recruit additional members who have the needed expertise.*
  - a. *The State's review of the Board of Trustees was originally conducted in September of 2012. Since that time the Board has elected two new members, Gene Zylkuski and Rich Dellea.*
  - b. *The Board has elected a new Chair, Gene Zylkuski*
  - c. *The Board is actively recruiting for the addition of potentially 2 new board members from the following pool of organizations*
    - i. *Boys & Girls Club*
    - ii. *Head Start*
    - iii. *Haverhill Chamber of Commerce*
  - d. *Members serve for 3 year terms so Board stability has been addressed*
- 3) *By September 30, 2013, the Board of Trustees of SHHMCS will engage in training, conducted by an external consultant, accepted by and approved in advance by the Department, on the roles and responsibilities of a charter school board of trustees.*
  - a. *The Board is vetting training resources and training organizations in anticipation of submitting candidates to the DESE office in May 2013 with the expectation that training will be complete by the deadline*
- 4) *By December 31, 2013, SHHMCS shall implement the key elements of its educational program model in alignment with its charter or request an amendment to its charter to accurately reflect the school's educational program*
  - a. *Review of the school's education program is currently underway.*

- b. *Recommendations from the school's administration and staff are to the Board in the fall*
- c. *Any required Charter modifications will be completed by the deadline*
- 5) *By December 31, 2014, SHHMCS shall provide written evidence and documented through the site visit process, of consistent implementation of its educational program in alignment with its charter.*
  - a. *After implementation of the educational program described in Item 4, documentation guidelines will be established to ensure all records are maintained accurately.*

*Silver Hill Horace Mann Charter School was fully debriefed in an exit interview during a site visit in September 2012. Since that exit interview the Board of Trustees, the faculty, and staff have strengthened their relationship with the Charter Office and continues to make progress on all deficiencies noted by the Charter Office. As evidenced by the numerous actions already taken to address the conditions outlined by the Commissioner, the Silver Hill Horace Mann Charter School Board of Trustees is committed to exceeding DESE expectations.*

The Superintendent indicated he never received the above letter. My. Zylkuski informed members of the corrective actions being taken to address the conditions and will send the exact actions are being and will be taken. A timeline shall be forwarded to members. The final approval comes through a site visit which should occur sometime in 2014.

#### Hunking School {Report of February Visit and new support status}

The first building committee meeting was held. The status of the supports from the people who did the installation indicated no adjustments were needed in the columns.

Cost difference between private placement and in house for our highly involved special education students  
Ms. Kosmes reviewed the cost comparison for housing students within the district verses sending them to GLEC. The total cost for sending students s \$3,650,392. The loss of revenue combined with the total cost for GLEC tuition is \$4,582,928 with a total budgetary impact for relocating students of \$2,585,928

#### **Subcommittee Reports**

Attorney Magliocchetti updated members on the superintendent's evaluation process. Members have been asked to contact him by the end of the month with comments. He would like to have this process completed by the end of the school year this June.

#### **New Business**

Moved by Mr. Wood and seconded by Mr. Toohey to approve Warrant Number EV20130329A totaling \$136,651.02 and Warrant Number EV20130215B totaling \$525,666.56.

A roll call vote was held with the following results.

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

Motion passes.

#### **Items by Consensus**

##### *Use of facilities.*

Requested by Kevin Simone from the UR Training for the use of the Consentino School on Sunday, April 7, 2014 thru Sunday, May 26, 2013 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. for Boot Camp Exercise.

Process Fee:	\$ 10.00
Utility Fee:	\$ 20.00 per hour
Custodial Fee	\$ 45.00 weekend per hour
Rental Fee:	\$100.00 per event

Requested by Scott Guerin from the Wrestling is Art for the use of the Haverhill High School on Saturday, May 11, 2013 from 3:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. for Professional Wrestling.

Process Fee:	\$ 10.00
Utility Fee:	\$ 20.00 per hour
Custodial Fee	\$ 45.00 per hour
Rental Fee:	\$100.00 per event

Requested by Sensei Marc Hicks from 5 Dragon Martial Arts Academy for the use of the Haverhill High Schools on Sunday April 21, 2013 from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. for Karate Tournament.

Process Fee:	\$ 10.00
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Utility Fee:	\$ 20.00 per hour
Custodial Fee	\$ 45.00 weekend per hour
Rental Fee:	\$100.00 per event

***Field trip request(s)***

Jay Levine, HHS, Grade 10-12, April 5, New York City, \$40

Carol Ireland/Andy Póolanco, HHS, Grades 9-12, April 14-15, 2013, New York City, \$50-\$100

Moved by Mr. Wood and seconded by Mr. Toohey to approve the Items A and B. A roll call vote was held with the following results.

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

Motion passes.

**Executive Session/Adjournment**

Moved by Mr. Toohey and seconded by Mr. Wood to adjourn the meeting at 9:12 p.m. A verbal vote indicated all in favor.

Motion passes.

List of Documents: School Committee Agenda; Email from Mr. Sierpina; Warrants; Use of Facilities; field trip requests;  
Distributed at meeting: Preliminary Budget information; Housing student information from Mr. Covino