



Haverhill School Committee Meeting of Thursday, February 26, 2015

Mayor James J. Fiorentini called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. Present were:, Attorney Paul Magliocchetti, Mr. Shaun Toohey, Mr. Scott Wood, Mrs. Susan Danehy, Mr. James F. Scully, Superintendent of Schools, Mrs. Julie R. Kukenberger, Assistant Superintendent and Mr. Johnathan Letcher, Director of School Improvement and Accountability. Mr. Joseph Bevilacqua arrived at 7:09 p.m. and Mrs. Maura Ryan-Ciardello arrived at 7:11 p.m.

Mayor Fiorentini led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Participation

None at this time.

Communication and Reports

Student Advisory Council Report – Emma Kaloostian

Ms. Kaloostian updated members on the boys' hockey team, the wrestling team, a student attending the Naval Academy summer seminar, recipients of the scholastic art award, students attending the global youth leadership breakfast, the talent show being held tonight and tomorrow night, a spring sports meeting on March 9, and the dodge ball tournament on March 11.

Superintendent Comments/Reports

Measles Update – John Maddox, M.D. & Katherine Vozeolas BSN RN NCSN, Supervisor of Nursing and School Health Services

Dr. Maddox and Ms. Vozeolas gave a PowerPoint presentation on the 2015 Measles Update for members highlighting:

- Measles Cases – National Data
- 2015 Measles Cases in the U. S.
- Measles Presentation and Course
 - Early Symptoms
 - Contagion and Incubation
- Plan for Measles Outbreak
- Haverhill Response
 - Current Outbreak Response
 - Ongoing Response
- Statistics by School
- Potentially Under-immunized Students in Haverhill
- Frequently Asked Questions Regarding Protection if Vaccinated – CDC Website
- Considerations for Adults in our Community
- Summary

Members asked questions relative to:

- Interpretation of children that are exempt
- Small and isolated cases; none in this area
- Immunization impact on the different strains of measles

A brief recess was held at 7:30 p.m. resuming at 7:33 p.m. to take the yearbook picture

Mr. Wood took over as Chair at 7:33 p.m.; Mayor Fiorentini returned at 7:40 p.m.

Substance Abuse Education and Prevention Update (report enclosed)

This item is informational only.

High School Updates – Program of Studies

Mrs. Kitsos highlighted the changes in the various areas in the Draft Program of Studies:

- Graduation Requirements – no change
- Freshman Academy – changes
- The Classical Academy - no changes
- Enterprising Business and Informational Technology Academy (EBiT) - changes
- Fine Arts Academy - no changes
- Humanities Academy - changes
- STEM Academy – changes
- Early College/Northern Essex Collaboration - changes
- Advanced Placement Program – no changes
- HHS Course Offerings 2015-2016 - changes
- Virtual High School – no changes
- Computer Based Learning – no changes
- School Counseling Program - changes
- College & Post-Secondary Planning - no changes

- Naviance & Family Connection – no changes
- Standardized Testing – no changes
- Dual Enrollment & College Credit – no changes
- Conferences with College Representatives – no changes
- Online College Courses – no changes
- NCAA – National Collegiate Athletic Association – no changes
- Financial Aid and Scholarships – no changes
- HHS Athletics Information
- HHS Directory

Questions from members:

- Difference between Classical Academy and students in AP classes and homework work load
- Level of rigor being equal in class and homework
- Turning up work in middle school for preparation for high school
- Why students are leaving the Classical Academy
- Colleges looking more at STEM program students
- Mingling different disciplines
- Addition of program on addiction under wellness; being a mandatory program
- Vocational training opportunities; renaming them
- Preparing for a lifelong career; interviewing skills

Mr. Bevilacqua asked to move up the school calendar and high school graduation date. No objections were made.

Old Business

Update on School Calendar – Mr. Wood & Mr. Toohey

Mr. Wood indicated a response was not received from the Union until today indicating they would not meet with them. He stated cannot get the days back before standardized testing taking place and it was not about the students.

Haverhill High School Graduation Date – Mr. Scully

After discussion with other Superintendents, Mr. Scully indicated they are keeping the original dates as previously posted. The graduation date is June 5 with the last day of school as June 24 pending further snow days.

Moved by Mr. Bevilacqua and seconded by Attorney Magliocchetti to confirm graduation date as June 5th. A roll call vote was held with the results as follows:

Mrs. Ryan-Ciardello	Yes	Attorney Magliocchetti	Yes
Mrs. Danehy	Yes	Mr. Bevilacqua	Yes
Mr. Wood	Yes	Mr. Toohey	Yes
Mayor Fiorentini	Yes		

Motion passes.

An Act to Provide Equal Access to Evaluations for Children with Disabilities

The Superintendent expressed his concern with proposed legislation with an impact on cities and towns to control SPED costs. He asked for a letter to be written to area representative opposing this legislation.

Moved by Mayor Fiorentini seconded by Attorney Magliocchetti to send a letter opposing legislation.

Discussion was held as to more clarification on this legislation as to equal opportunity.

Moved by Mr. Bevilacqua and seconded by Mr. Toohey to table this item.

No action was needed but they would go on the recorded in favor or opposing it. Mr. Bevilacqua removed his motion and Mr. Toohey his second.

A yes vote would send a letter opposing legislation and a no vote would be no action taken. A roll call was held on the original motion to oppose the legislation was held with the results as follows:

Mrs. Ryan-Ciardello	No	Attorney Magliocchetti	No
Mrs. Danehy	No	Mr. Bevilacqua	No

	Mr. Wood	No	Mr. Toohey	No
	Mayor Fiorentini	Yes		

Motion fails

Financial Update

The Superintendent is still working with John Sullivan of Melanson and Heath and as of today the deficit is around \$600,000 due to increases of sped costs and of the sped population growth. They are looking at the accuracy of all budget reports and encumbrances in vacant positions to attack this problem. They are also working with principals and staff and looking at how transportation dollars are expended. Grants are being reviewed to see that they are being used to the maximum to service the children not just to hire staff. A full report will be forthcoming at the first meeting.

The Superintendent reviewed the snow problems and referenced the document indicating costs are up to \$181,000 not including current snow removal at the schools which could increase the deficit to approximately \$800,000. Mayor Fiorentini indicated the difficulties the city will have financially with snow removal budgeted for \$2.3 million and current costs of \$2.7 million. Mayor Fiorentini has met with Lieutenant Governor Polito who discussed three possibilities for the state's help: 1. Approach FEMA and ask them to treat the entire winter as one event rather than four different events. This is the most promising and encouraged members to write letter in support of this. 2. State will come forth with a supplemental budget for assistance to towns and schools with no commitment to date. 3. State would carry the deficit over two years rather than one.

Discussion ensued as to the conditions of the schools and the snow removal. The Superintendent indicated private vendors were removing snow tonight at Bradford Elementary and Golden Hill. Mr. Scully stated conflicting issues using our custodians, proper training and equipment. There are areas on the roof that the custodians were not able to remove snow and a vendor was needed. They are looking at a plan to address this in the future including working with the Purchasing Agent who has a contract with the city.

Moved by Mr. Bevilacqua and seconded by Mr. Toohey to support a letter the Mayor suggested to be sent to the U. S. Senators asking to merge the storms into one to declare as one disaster and receive assistance. A roll call vote was held with the results as follows:

Mrs. Ryan-Ciardiello	Yes	Attorney Magliocchetti	Yes
Mrs. Danehy	Yes	Mr. Bevilacqua	Yes
Mr. Wood	Yes	Mr. Toohey	Yes
Mayor Fiorentini	Yes		

Motion passes.

General Update

The Superintendent stated Jonathan will be discussing Tilton School matters at the next meeting.

School Committee Communications

Mayor Fiorentini left the meeting at 9:21 p.m.

Blizzard Bags – Mrs. Ryan-Ciardiello

Mrs. Ryan-Ciardiello discussed the use of Blizzard Bags during snow days as schools in New Hampshire use. There are pilot programs in place but do need 180 days. Mrs. Kukenberger explained why this doesn't work but does look good on paper. It requires internet access to communicate with the teacher, requires training, thoughtful planning and basically it would be giving out a lot of worksheets to the students with not all returning completed work. Eight percent of the students need to participate in order for the day to count. The Superintendent stated the Commonwealth is looking at this.

Subcommittee Reports

Mrs. Danehy stated the Wellness Committee has met and referenced Mr. O'Brien's substance committee report addressing middle school curriculum, etc. They also discussed the Youth Risk Behavior Survey which has been implemented and statistics are being gathered. The wellness contest is in early stages of development and will be held sometime in the spring.

Mr. Toohey and Mr. Wood have met with the Finance subcommittee and the individual interested in the Newcomb Streep property. They are waiting for their response. The next meeting they will address the Business Manager position posting and bring this back to the full committee for recommendation.

Mrs. Danehy indicated the Stadium Commission met to address the need for additional funds to find a way to fix the handicap access area and the lighting has been addressed.

New Business

Attorney Magliocchetti indicated a conflict and the need to Abstain. He asked to remove a warrant to be taken up separately.

Moved by Mr. Toohey and seconded by Mrs. Danehy to approve Warrant Number JE20150227 totaling \$9,905.75; Warrant Number JE20150227A totaling \$9,440.45 and Warrant Number JE20150227B totaling \$18,016.71. A roll call vote was held with the results as follows:

Mrs. Ryan-Ciardello	Yes	Attorney Magliocchetti	No
Mrs. Danehy	Yes	Mr. Bevilacqua	Abstained
Mr. Wood	Yes	Mr. Toohey	Yes
Mayor Fiorentini	Yes		

Motion passes.

Moved by Mr. Toohey and seconded by Mrs. Danehy to approve Warrant Number EV20150227 totaling \$662,409.35. A roll call vote was held with the results as follows:

Mrs. Ryan-Ciardello	Yes	Attorney Magliocchetti	Abstained
Mrs. Danehy	Yes	Mr. Bevilacqua	Abstained.
Mr. Wood	Yes	Mr. Toohey	Yes
Mayor Fiorentini	Yes		

Motion passes.

Items by Consensus

approval of the minutes of the regular meeting of February 12, 2015

approval of the use of facilities:

Requested by Brandon Yeo from the Bradford Christian Academy for the use of the Haverhill High School Gym on Wednesday, February 25, 2015 from 4:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. and Friday, March 4, 2015 from 4:30 – 7:30 for Basketball.

Process Fee:	\$ 10.00
Utility Fee:	\$ 20.00 per hour
Custodial Fee	\$ 30.00 per hour
Rental Fee:	\$ 100.00

Moved by Mr. Toohey and seconded by Attorney Magliocchetti to approve the Items by Consensus. A roll call vote was held with the results as follows:

Attorney Magliocchetti	Yes	Mrs. Danehy	Yes
Mr. Toohey	Yes	Mr. Bevilacqua	Yes
Mrs. Ryan-Ciardello	Yes	Mr. Wood	Yes

Motion passes.

Executive Session/Adjournment

Moved by Mr. Wood and seconded by Mr. Danehy to adjourn the meeting at 9:34 p.m. and enter into Executive Session for the purpose of Negotiations and Personnel. A roll call vote was held with the following results:

Attorney Magliocchetti	Yes	Mrs. Danehy	Yes
Mr. Toohey	Yes	Mr. Bevilacqua	Yes
Mrs. Ryan-Ciardello	Yes	Mr. Wood	Yes

Motion passes.

List of Documents included as part of packet: School Committee Agenda; High School POS; Warrants; Minutes; Use of Facilities