



Haverhill School Committee Meeting - Thursday, July 16, 2015

Mayor James J. Fiorentini called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m. Present were: Mr. Joseph Bevilacqua, Mr. Shaun Toohey, Attorney Paul Magliocchetti, Mr. Scott Wood, Mrs. Susan Danehy, and Mr. James F. Scully, Superintendent of Schools. Mrs. Maura Ryan-Ciardiello and Mrs. Julie R. Kukenberger, Assistant Superintendent were recorded as absent.

Mayor Fiorentini led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Participation

Councilor LePage addressed members relative to the heroin epidemic. He recommended adding a health teacher at the middle school level. Councilor LePage reviewed previous City Council meetings and discussion regarding funding for said position and read excerpts from minutes of those meetings. Currently, there is \$100,000 in the stabilization fund earmarked for the schools. Councilor LePage also reviewed the percentages and numbers relative to opioid use from ages ten and older and stressed the need for educating students in the classrooms on prevention and treatment. The Superintendent indicated they have developed a job description for this position which will be posted relatively soon for ten days and hope to have this position filled for the beginning of school. Mayor Fiorentini and the Superintendent shall work cooperatively to find the monies to fund this position. Members concurred as to the importance of this position and the possibility of hiring two health teachers. The Superintendent will return in August with a plan for hiring this teacher and also the functions of the Resource Officer in the schools.

Communication and Reports

Student Advisory Council Report – Benjamin Roy

Ben indicated Mrs. Fleming is leaving the high school and she was the reason he got involved on the student council.

Superintendent Comments/Reports

General Updates including Hunking School Update, Walnut Square Garden Beds Project and Class Rank Methodology

The Superintendent indicated the steel is going up at a section of the new Hunking. They are still resolving the cable issue as discussed at the last meeting. Currently, the work is on time and under budget.

The Walnut Square PTO on September 12th is planning to install raised garden beds to beautify the school grounds. The event will be from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The garden is being used as a teaching tool using math, science and language skills to learn about food, life cycles and environment issues.

The Superintendent indicated the Class Rank Methodology document is informational. The HHS School Counseling Department has conducted a study to determine how rank should be calculated and to make a recommendation to the Superintendent. The study document encompassed:

What is class rank?

What is HHS current practice of establishing rank?

Why is the School Counseling department at HHS making these recommendations?

Are applicants required to earn a specific class rank in order to be admitted to a state university or UMass undergraduate campus?

How do other high schools handle class rank?

How would this policy change affect my son or daughters chances of receiving scholarships?

If a class rank can still be determined, will it automatically be provided to students and/or parents?

Summary and recommendations

Feedback from Colleges/Universities

This information will be given to parents and others to comment on to see if they want to keep or replace the high school's class ranking method. A majority of the members opposed the proposal indicating there is no motivation for students to achieve and opposed this change. Students need to be challenged to be the best and it creates friendly competition. Members thought they need to digest and process this information prior to making any final decision. The Superintendent stated that according to the attorney this does not have to be part of the policies. He

stated this is something they need to look at as they move ahead such as other communities are doing. This item will be put on the agenda for a future discussion.

School Committee Communications

Mayor Fiorentini commented on the Tilton summer school program. This is a mandatory program for those not up to grade level. He is very impressed on what he saw today and how the children are enjoying the learning time with small groups instructed in reading, science, English and math. Daily attendance is at an 88% average. Attorney Magliocchetti recommended expanding this program to other schools to make it available to all students in the district.

Superintendent Scully stated 30 children were brought to a Red Sox game through the generosity of a vendor. Through the efforts of Mr. Geary and Mr. Cox this was made possible.

Subcommittee Reports

None at this time.

New Business

Moved by Mr. Wood and seconded by Mrs. Danehy to approve Warrant Number EV20150710 totaling \$699,921.90. A roll call vote was held with the results as follows:

<i>Attorney Magliocchetti</i>	<i>Abstained</i>	<i>Mrs. Danehy</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Toohey</i>	<i>Abstained</i>	<i>Mr. Bevilacqua</i>	<i>Abstained</i>
<i>Mr. Wood</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Mayor Fiorentini</i>	<i>Abstained</i>

Motion fails.

Moved by Mayor Fiorentini and seconded by Mr. Wood to reconsider.

Attorney Magliocchetti left the room at this time.

A roll call vote was held on reconsideration with the results as follows:

<i>Attorney Magliocchetti</i>	<i>Not in attendance</i>	<i>Mrs. Danehy</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Toohey</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Mr. Bevilacqua</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Wood</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Mayor Fiorentini</i>	<i>Yes</i>

Motion passes.

Moved by Mr. Wood and seconded by Mrs. Danehy to approve Warrant Number EV20150710 totaling \$669,921.90. A roll call vote was held with the results as follows:

<i>Attorney Magliocchetti</i>	<i>Not in attendance</i>	<i>Mrs. Danehy</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Toohey</i>	<i>Abstained</i>	<i>Mr. Bevilacqua</i>	<i>Abstained</i>
<i>Mr. Wood</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Mayor Fiorentini</i>	<i>Yes</i>

Motion passes.

Attorney Magliocchetti returned to the meeting.

Moved by Mr. Wood and seconded by Mr. Toohey to approve Warrant Number JE20150710 totaling \$12,635.55. A roll call vote was held with the results as follows:

<i>Attorney Magliocchetti</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Mrs. Danehy</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Toohey</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Mr. Bevilacqua</i>	<i>Abstained</i>
<i>Mr. Wood</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Mayor Fiorentini</i>	<i>Yes</i>

Motion passes.

Moved by Mrs. Danehy and seconded by Mr. Bevilacqua to approve the Superintendent recommendation of the School Committee's acceptance of School Choice Students for the 2015-2016 school years.

Mr. Bevilacqua asked for a friendly amendment to the motion that no school choice student would displace any Haverhill student.

A roll call vote was held on the amended motion with the results as follows:

<i>Attorney Magliocchetti</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Mrs. Danehy</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Toohey</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Mr. Bevilacqua</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Wood</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Mayor Fiorentini</i>	<i>Yes</i>

Motion passes.

Items by Consensus

approval of the minutes of June 25, 2015 (regular meeting)

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

<i>Attorney Magliocchetti</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Mrs. Danehy</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Toohey</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Mr. Bevilacqua</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Wood</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Mayor Fiorentini</i>	<i>Yes</i>

Motion passes.

The Superintendent requested to suspend the rules to add the Use of Facilities for approval. A verbal vote indicated all in favor.

Motion passes.

approval of Use of Facilities:

- Requested by Angel L. Burgos III of AAU Basketball for use of Pentucket Lake School Gym on July 13, 2015 through August 31, 2015 from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. for basketball.

Process Fee:	\$ 10.00
Utility Fee:	*\$Waived
Custodial Fee:	\$ 30.00 rate per hour
Rental Fee:	*\$Waived

*Fee Waived 100% Haverhill Students

Moved by Mr. Bevilacqua and seconded by Mr. Toohey to approve the Use of Facilities. A verbal vote indicated all in favor.

Motion passes.

Executive Session/Adjournment

Moved by Mr. Wood and seconded by Attorney Magliocchetti to adjourn the meeting at 8:16 p.m. and enter into Executive Session for the purpose of contract discussions. A verbal vote indicated all in favor.

Motion passes.

List of Documents included as part of packet: School Committee Agenda; Walnut Square Garden Bed Project; Report to the Superintendent on Class Rank Methodology; Warrants; Minutes