



## **Haverhill School Committee Meeting of Thursday, May 14, 2015**

Mayor James J. Fiorentini (left at 8:22 p.m.) called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. Present were:, Mr. Joseph Bevilacqua Attorney Paul Magliocchetti, Mr. Shaun Toohey, Mr. Scott Wood, Mrs. Susan Danehy, Mrs. Maura Ryan-Ciardello Mr. James F. Scully, Superintendent of Schools, Mrs. Julie R. Kukenberger, Assistant Superintendent and Mr. Johnathan Letcher, Director of School Improvement and Accountability.

Mayor Fiorentini led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **Public Participation**

Joseph Cunha, HEA President, invited members to join him at the Tuesday City Council meeting as a united body to request better and more funding for education.

### **Communication and Reports**

#### Student Advisory Council Report – Emma Kaloostian

A Student Council representative informed members of tonight's production of Night of Stars at the high school, last week's Junior Social, the ongoing PARCC and AP Testing with MCAS next week for underclassmen. the senior class trip to Six Flags tomorrow, the Art Show on May 18, the Health and Science Fairs on May 18, Parent night for incoming freshman on May 18, middle school science fair and asked if anyone would be interested in hosting a student from China for a week in June.

#### Superintendent Comments/Reports

Mr. Scully informed members of the recent Hunking School groundbreaking ceremonies with state officials and delegates in attendance. Students received a commemorative wrist band. Contractors will be speaking to students on safety and different facets during construction.

#### Haverhill High School – Model UN Presentation

Zach Simmons gave an overview of the program. He then introduced students who participated in this year's Model UN in New York City. Sophomore Anna Rossi, Junior Danny Brown and Senior Benjamin Kibit informed members of their learning experiences and successes in this year's competition. The program is now being extended next year and offered to middle school students who shall compete at the college level.

#### Financial Update

Mr. Scully asked members to change the July meetings to July 16th. Members concurred to cancel the previous July scheduled meetings to have one meeting on Thursday, July 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Scully referenced the document denoting the budget reductions made to the FY16 budget from the previous meeting amounting to \$1,097,827. This budget has no bearing on school per pupil cost and reflects a three percent increase. Mr. Scully thanked the Mayor for his support and work on this budget in addition to staff members.

Mr. Wood noted they did not fund the Supervisor of Transportation. If this is to be reorganized, they would need to fund it for \$65,890 and impact bargain the position. Union position duties cannot be transferred to non-union personnel without impact bargaining per the City Solicitor. Members discussed the position and the legal impact. The Superintendent indicated the Business Manager will oversee the financial aspect of this position and the logistical side by the supervisor of transportation. If the position is not funded, it does not preclude them from coming back and add the position into the budget. The Superintendent stated the transportation costs are high and will be looking at how to do a better job and cut costs.

Moved by Mr. Bevilacqua and seconded by Mr. Toohey to fund the Transportation Supervisor in the amount of \$65,890 as per the advice of the City Solicitor. A roll call vote was held with the results as follows:

Attorney Magliocchetti  
Mr. Toohey

Yes  
Yes

Mrs. Danehy  
Mr. Bevilacqua

Yes  
No

Mrs. Ryan-Ciardello	Yes	Mr. Wood	Yes
Mayor Fiorentini	No		

*Motion passes.*

*Moved by Mr. Wood and seconded by Mr. Toohey to cut line item Director of Student/Staff Services from proposed \$87,050 to the FY15 funding of \$71,027.50. 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
Mayor Fiorentini	Yes		

*Motion passes.*

*Moved by Mr. Wood and seconded by Mr. Bevilacqua to cut \$49,000 from line item Transportation, contracted in-town. 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
Mayor Fiorentini	Yes		

*Motion passes.*

*Discussion was held on the equitable funding of principals salaries referencing the 4% increase for the Silver Hill principal. The Superintendent stated this may include monies to oversee Title I and the requirements of a charter school differ than the remaining district schools. The Superintendent will provide the Silver Hill principal's salary clarification prior to the Public Hearing. Mr. Toohey asked for clarification at the public hearing on principals with 4% increases and on the 11% increase for the SPED Director along with any other line item increases that showed percentage increases. Members thanked the Mayor and Superintendent for their efforts in developing this budget. Mr. Scully indicated all recommendations for the Business Department have come from Mr. Sullivan and shall be properly funded. Clarification was given for the Stipends-HR which is given to the City HR staff member who handles workers comp.*

*Moved by Mr. Wood and seconded by Attorney Magliocchetti to accept the 2016 budget as amended. 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
Mayor Fiorentini	Yes		

*Motion passes.*

*Mayor Fiorentini turned the Chair over to Mr. Wood at 8:22 p.m.*

#### General Updates

*The Superintendent indicated the Business Manager applications have been given to John Sullivan for prescreening and will contact Mr. Wood next week for the committee to move forward*

#### School Committee Communications

**Attorney Magliocchetti:**

##### Update on FERPA Investigation

*Attorney Magliocchetti has sent a letter to the Superintendent asking for the high school principal to be in attendance. The Superintendent stated there is no investigation going on but a review of the situation. The Attorney General is not involved and recommended having the City Solicitor respond to his questions. Attorney Magliocchetti indicated the FERPA law is a requirement of federal grants. As part of a review, we should be*

reviewing if we are in compliance. His understanding is that training for employees is to be done annually and parents are to receive a notice about FERPA and the law annually which he has never received as a parent. If anyone is found in violation, they are subject to federal and state laws. FERPA applies to policies. We are responsible for policies in the school system. This issue arose in March when a printout was generated on class rank that triggered the review of FERPA. One instance does not create a violation of FERPA. He wants to know what policies are in compliance with FERPA and the federal and state laws. He questioned a letter was sent out on school committee letterhead from the Superintendent. Mr. Scully stated he does not know the law and again referred to legal counsel. Attorney Magliocchetti detailed the request denied by the parents. The Superintendent indicated when a member receives an issue it should be forwarded to him and to follow the process. The Superintendent again recommended that legal counsel should attend the meeting for clarification and does not want to violate any students or employees' rights. Attorney Magliocchetti stressed they need to know about this law and the implementation in the district. Mr. Wood indicated there are policies in place on student information dissemination. Attorney Magliocchetti asked if we are compliant as a district with the FERPA law. The Superintendent indicated they have been dealing with similar issue previously this year and not in a public forum. The Superintendent asked Attorney Magliocchetti to share his requests with all members. Mr. Bevilacqua recommended if a communication comes to them they refer it to the Superintendent for review. If they have a question, they need to bring in the proper expert and in this case to bring in the city solicitor. With no objection from members, Mr. Wood indicated the city solicitor shall be invited to the next meeting.

Mr. Bevilacqua:

Energy Conservation at School Buildings

Mr. Bevilacqua referenced the high costs of energy and asked that we be more aggressive in making our buildings more efficient. He asked to invite Mr. Geary to a meeting to update members as to where we are as to taking advantage of efficiencies and what options they have for future savings. The Superintendent they are dealing with three issues the high school, high school pool and Consentino and will bring the proper people to the next meeting to discuss this.

**Subcommittee Reports**

Mr. Wood referenced his meeting at the Whittier Votech last night regarding their Superintendent's search. They decided not to do an outside search but an internal search with only one candidate being brought forward. He indicated his vote opposed this nomination. Discussion ensued as to our process indicating lies and distortions made which was highly insulting to our members and the Superintendent. Their comments incited that we did not interview any candidates when hiring Mr. Scully. Mr. Wood asked to authorize a letter be sent to Whittier's members providing backup information on our process and candidates interviewed. Members concurred to send a letter to Whittier school members relative to clarifying this position and the information stated at last night's meeting was totally inaccurate and the need to correct the issue indicating we did have an open process in Haverhill.

**New Business**

Moved by Mr. Toohey and seconded by Mrs. Danehy to approve Warrant Number EV20150515 totaling \$1,404,236.24. A roll call vote was held with the results as follows:

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

Motion passes.

Moved by Mr. Toohey and seconded by Mrs. Ryan-Ciardello to approve the Amended and Restated Articles of Agreement for CREST (Collaborative for Regional Educational Services and Training). A roll call 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.*

***Items by Consensus***

*approval of the minutes March 26, 2015 (regular meeting); April 9, 2015 (regular meeting) and April 30, 2015 (budget workshop)*

*approval of the conference request(s):*

- *E. Philip Brown, HHS, July 6-10, 2015, AP World History Summer Institute Training, Watertown, CT, \$1,277.18*

*approval of the field trip request(s):*

- *Cody Kucher, HHS, Grades 10-11, May 29-June1, 2015, Champlain College, Burlington, VT, Vermont Young Writers' Conference, \$365*

*Moved by Mr. Bevilacqua and seconded by Mr. Toohey to approve Items 5 A, B, C. A roll call 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 Attorney Magliocchetti and seconded by Mr. Toohey to adjourn the meeting at 9:07 p.m. A verbal vote indicated all in favor.*

*Motion passes.*

*List of Documents included as part of packet: School Committee Agenda; Agenda Request Letter from Attorney Magliocchetti; Warrants; CREST Modified Agreement; Minutes; Conference Requests; Field Trip Requests*