

Hampton Board of Education

Hampton, CT 06247

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, April 28, 2021

7:00 pm

BoE Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/93103267327?pwd=L3gzaHJUT3JHdjJrTVQweGJoRTJXZz09>

Meeting ID: 931 0326 7327

Passcode: TP6y8E

1. Call to order - Chairperson Rose Bisson called the meeting order at 7:02 pm. Members present: Mark Becker, Susan Lovegreen, Maryellen Donnelly, Russ Moffitt, Juan Arriola, Neal Moon, and Ann Gruenberg. Also, present Superintendent Frank Olah, Principal Sam Roberson, Business Coordinator Sally Lehoux, Special Education Director Judy Benson-Clarke.

2. Audience for Staff and Citizens: None

3. Correspondence to the Board: Frank Olah read Mrs. Judy Ports letter of resignation.

4. Approval of 12/16/2020 Minutes: *Mark Becker motioned to accept the December 16, 2020 minutes. Susan Lovegreen seconded. Motion carried with one abstention.*

Approval of 2/24/2021 Minutes: *Mark Becker motioned to accept the February 24, 2021 minutes. Susan Lovegreen seconded. Motion carried with the vote of seven yes and one no.*

Approval of 3/24/2021 Minutes: *Maryellen Donnelly motioned to accept the March 24, 2021 minutes. Ann Gruenberg seconded. Motion carried with the vote of five yes, one no, and two abstentions.*

Approval of 4/7/2021 Minutes: *Mark Becker motioned to accept the April 7, 2021 minutes. Ann Gruenberg seconded. Motion carried with the vote of four yes, one no, and three abstentions.*

5. Superintendent's Report: Superintendent Frank Olah reviewed his report on the past school year during Covid. He reported that HES will continue with Covid precautions and that there were no outbreaks of the virus in the school, and they only had to quarantine one cohort due to an outside source.

6. Principal's Report: Principal Sam Roberson reviewed her report with the board. Sam also reported that a heavily modified and somewhat restrictive in person preschool screening was held on April 21st and that it went well. The screening had been posted in the Willimantic Chronicle and in the Hampton Gazette. It was also reported that there will be an Arbor Day event on April 30th when three red dogwood trees will be planted on the grounds and each student will receive a sapling to take home. The dogwood trees were donated by local groups.

7. Director of Special Education Report: Special Education Director Judy Benson-Clarke reported that transition meetings will be held the week of May 10th. The summer school program is being planned to offer the least restrictive environment for the students. Judy thinks that the amount of special education students in the 2021-2022 school year will be similar to this year's figures.

8. Business Coordinator's Report: Business Coordinator reviewed her report with the board.

9. Discussion and vote to accept letter of resignation of Judy Ports, SLP: *Ann Gruenberg motioned to accept the resignation of Judy Ports, SLP with appreciation for her service. Seconded by Russ Moffitt. Motion carried with seven yes with one abstention.*

10. Discussion and possible approval of the DRAFT HES School Calendar for the 2021-2022 school year: *Ann Gruenberg motioned to accept the 2021-2022 HES School Calendar with the following dates added for parent/teacher conferences: November 18, 19 2021 and March 10, 11 2022. Motion seconded by Maryellen Donnelly. Motion carried unanimously.*

Ann Gruenberg motioned to move agenda item 11. Executive session for the purpose of the negotiation of MOU to after agenda item 14. Audience for Citizens and Staff. Seconded by Susan Lovegreen. Motion carried unanimously.

12. Committee and Liaison Representatives' Reports/Recommendations from Board Committees :

- **Communications:** Nothing to report.
- **Hampton/Scotland Joint Committee:** Rose reports that they met on April 22 and discussed two committees to investigate combining districts; one for student issues and one for governance. The committee encourages BOE members to join. Rose has had some feedback from community members and reminds all that the BOE has the final decision on any recommendations.
- **Finance & Operations:** Mark Becker reports they met on April 22 and will be updating the 5 year plan. Mark will be coordinating with First Selectman Allan Cahill on getting the front parking lot paved. F&O are also looking into new playground equipment and financing for the playground.
- **Policies:** Ann Gruenberg reports that the committee met on April 21 to review mandated policies.
- **Ad Hoc Committee on Superintendent's Evaluation:** Nothing to report.
- **CABE:** Ann Gruenberg reported that CABE has been offering virtual learning opportunities and that there will be a one day convention on November 11th.
- **EASTCONN:** Maryellen Donnelly reported that there was a board meeting yesterday and there will be no increase in fees for adult services. Maryellen also reports that the Healthy School Option has passed.

13. Additions to the Agenda: *Mark Becker motioned to add the following additions to the agenda: 13a To discuss holding BOE meetings in person and 13b to fix and address the issue*

with a motion from the 2/24/2021 meeting. Seconded by Ann Gruenberg. Motion carried unanimously.

13a. To discuss holding BOE meetings in person: After a discussion it was decided to continue to hold BOE meetings via Zoom.

13b. to fix and address the issue with a motion from the 2/24/2021 meeting: *Maryellen Donnelly motioned to accept the January 27, 2021 minutes with the correction of item 9: to hire Rachel Porter, the new classroom teacher, at master's step 2. Seconded by Ann Gruenberg. Motion carried with a vote of six yes, two abstentions, and one no.*

14. Audience for Citizens and Staff: None

11. Executive session for the purpose of the negotiation of MOU: *Mark Becker motioned to enter into executive session for the purpose of the negotiation of MOU at 8:31pm. Ann Gruenberg seconded. Motion carried unanimously.*

The Board left the Executive Session at 8:41pm.

15. Adjournment: *Maryellen Donnelly motioned to adjourn at 8:42 pm. Seconded by Mark Becker. Motion carried unanimously.*

Respectfully Submitted
Matthew Flegert 5/1/2021