

Hampton Board of Education
380 Main Street
Hampton, CT 06247

May 25, 2022

Minutes

1. Call to Order

Chairman Bisson called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm.

Present: Rose Bisson, Mark Becker, Juan Arriola, Maryellen Donnelly, David Halbach, Russ Moffitt, Diane Gagnon, Ann Gruenberg, Matthew Flegert.

Staff and Others Present: Superintendent Frank Olah; Principal Sam Roberson; Director of Pupil Services Shelly McNulty; Business Coordinator Sally Lehoux; Nick Caruso of CAFE; Recording Secretary Dayna Arriola.

2. Presentation of Mr. Caruso, CAFE: Roles and Responsibilities of Members of a Local Board of Education

Mr. Caruso presented information on the roles and responsibilities of members of the Board of Education and answered questions regarding those roles and responsibilities.

The Regular Meeting to conduct the business of the Board of Education commenced at 8:14PM with a moment of silence for the victims of Uvalde, Texas.

3. Audience for Citizens and Staff: On behalf of her family, Dayna McDermott Arriola thanked the staff of the Hampton Elementary School for their support during this difficult time for their family; also on behalf of her family, she criticized the Superintendent for slandering Mr. Arriola with false and thinly veiled allegations during Mr. Caruso's presentation.

4. Correspondences: Chairman Bisson read two communications received: a letter of resignation from Art Teacher Rebecca Moran; and a letter of resignation from Superintendent Olah, which listed his accomplishments.

5. Approval of Minutes

Motion: Diane Gagnon, seconded by David Halbach, to approve the Minutes of the April 27, 2022 and the May 10, 2022 Meetings. Motion passed unanimously, Russ Moffitt abstaining.

6. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Olah distributed his report and answered questions on the progress of the PA system and the school's efforts toward recruitment and retention of minority staff.

7. Principal's Report

Sam Roberson distributed her report which included end-of-the-year events and information on the school's Positive Behavior Intervention Support.

8. Director of Pupil Services' Report

Shelly McNulty presented her report, which included progress on the new data system and information on providing students with the least restrictive environment. To Russ Moffitt's question on reducing student time with paraprofessionals, Ms. McNulty explained that roles, rather than hours, have changed, with older students working toward reducing dependency.

9. Business Coordinator's Report

Sally Lehoux distributed her reports. David Halbach thanked Ms. Lehoux for her diligence, and Chairman Bisson thanked her for describing the Special Education grants in her report.

10. Discussion and Possible Action on Acceptance of Dr. Olah's Letter of Resignation

Motion: Mark Becker, seconded by David Halbach, to accept with regret Dr. Olah's resignation with gratitude for his dedication to the school these last six years. Motion carried unanimously.

There was discussion on the process of searching for a new superintendent. Chairman Bisson explained that the first step was to advertise the position, and the next steps were dependent on the response. Juan Arriola asked if a principal/superintendent position was possible, Russ Moffitt asked if the Superintendent could develop a list of interview questions, and Anne Gruenberg suggested that a search service could provide ideas. Mark Becker suggested that citizens and parents be included in the committee, on which members Anne Gruenberg, Maryellen Donnelly, Mark Becker and Chairman Bisson volunteered to serve.

11. Committee and Liaison Reports

- a. **Communications:** the committee did not meet.
- b. **Finance and Operations:** Mark Becker reported that the Board of Finance at its May 20 meeting approved the additional funds necessary to complete the paving project, which will begin on June 13. Mr. Becker also apprised members of the progress with the installation of mini-splits and the playscape and the status of the arsenic tanks.
- c. **Policies:** the committee did not meet.
- d. **Ad-Hoc Job Description:** the committee did not meet.
- e. **Ad-Hoc Minority Recruitment:** the committee did not meet.
- f. **Ad-Hoc Superintendent's Evaluation:** the committee did not meet.
- g. **CABE:** Ann Gruenberg reported the appointment of a new Executive Director.
- h. **EastConn:** Maryellen Donnelly reported on the Annual Meeting.
- i. **Non-BoE Meeting of Hampton/Scotland Discussions:** Chairman Bisson reported that the programming committee is working toward completion of the model budget, and the governance committee will require another meeting to approve the cooperative agreement.

12. Additions to the Agenda:

Motion: Maryellen Donnelly, seconded by Diane Gagnon, to add the acceptance of the resignation, with appreciation, of Rebecca Moran. Motion carried unanimously

13. Acceptance of Resignation

Motion: Diane Gagnon, seconded by Anne Gruenberg, to accept with appreciation the resignation of Rebecca Moran. Motion carried unanimously.

14. Next Agenda Planning:

Mark Becker asked if the board should discuss the budget, as the Board of Finance decreased the proposal by \$10,000. Chairman Bisson suggested that the discussion should be postponed until after the referendum.

15. Audience for Citizens and Staff: none.

16. Adjournment

Motion: Mark Becker, seconded by Diane Gagnon, to adjourn at 9:14PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Dayna Arriola

This is a draft version of the Minutes until approved by the Board of Education.

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1RkpB890GJok_ZNwjE8r8WION_gAX6Je/view?usp=sharing_eri_m&userstoinvite=recordingsecretary@hamptonschool.org&ts=6291228e