

HAMPTON BOARD OF EDUCATION

HAMPTON, CONNECTICUT

Hampton Elementary School Library

September 25, 2024

Meeting Minutes

1. **Call to Order** – Chair Rose Bisson called the meeting to order at 7:06 PM.
 - a. **Members Present:** Chair Rose Bisson, Maryellen Donnelly, Elizabeth Lindorff, Diane Gagnon, Dennis Timberman, Mark Becker, David Halbach, John Russell, and Juan Arriola. Also present, Superintendent Andrew Skarzynski, Principal Patrice Merendina, and Business Coordinator Sally Lehoux.
 - b. **Not Present:** None.
2. **Audience for Citizens and Staff**
 - a. Dana McDermott made a statement regarding the Board’s previous Special Meeting.
3. **Correspondence to the Board** – Chair Rose Bisson accepted correspondence from Board member, Juan Arriola.
4. **Approval of Minutes from Board Meetings August 28, 2024 and Special Meeting September 19, 2024**
 - a. Maryellen made a motion to approve both minutes / Dennis Timberman seconded. Those in favor: Chair Rose Bisson, Maryellen Donnelly, Elizabeth Lindorff, Diane Gagnon, Dennis Timberman, Mark Becker, David Halbach, and John Russell. Those opposed: Juan Arriola. *Motion passed.*
5. **Volunteer Recognition**
 - a. Principal Patrice Merendina recognized several individuals and families who dedicated their time to help prepare the school over the summer for the new school year.
6. **Principal’s Report** – Patrice Merendina gave her report which discussed the updates to assessments.

7. **Superintendent's Report** – Andrew Skarzynski gave his report which discussed enrollment and a staffing update.
8. **Business Coordinator's Report**
 - a. Sally Lehoux gave her report to the Board.
9. **Committee and Liaison Reports**
 - a. **Finance & Operations** – Mark Becker gave the update to the Board.
 - b. **EASTCONN** – Maryellen gave the update to the Board.
10. **Additions to the agenda**
 - a. Maryellen Donnelly made a motion to add as agenda item “12. A”, “*Acceptance of Patrice Merendina's Resignation*” and to add as agenda item “12. B”, “*Executive Session*” / Dennis Timberman seconded. *Motion unanimously passed.*
11. **Next Agenda Planning**
 - a. Goals, Superintendents Goals, Training, and Unapproved Minutes.
12. **Second Audience for Citizens and Staff**
 - Several members of the audience expressed their thoughts on the resignation of Principal Patrice Merendina.
 - a. *Acceptance of Patrice Merendina's Resignation*
 - i. Mark Becker made a motion to accept the resignation / Maryellen Donnelly seconded. *Motion unanimously passed.*
 - b. *Executive Session*
 - i. Maryellen Donnelly moved to enter Executive Session at 8:33 PM to discuss an attorney-client privileged communication related to an employee / John Russell seconded. *Motion unanimously passed.*
 - ii. The Board exited Executive Session and entered regular session at 8:56 PM.
13. **Adjournment**
 - a. Juan Arriola moved to adjournment at 8:56 PM / Mark Becker seconded. *Motion unanimously passed.* Adjourned at 8:56 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Cassie Haddad.