

HAMPTON BOARD OF EDUCATION**HAMPTON, CONNECTICUT****Hampton Elementary School Library****January 22, 2025****Meeting Minutes**

- 1. Call to Order** – Chair Rose Bisson called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.
 - a. Members Present:** Chair Rose Bisson, Maryellen Donnelly, Elizabeth Lindorff, Stephanie Bora, Dennis Timberman, Mark Becker, David Halbach, and Juan Arriola. Also present, Superintendent Andrew Skarzynski, Interim Principal Vikki Smith, and Business Coordinator Sally Lehoux.
 - b. Not Present:** John Russell.
- 2. Audience for Citizens and Staff**
 - a.** An audience member inquired about being reimbursed for background checks to work at the school.
 - b.** Another audience member addressed some of her concerns regarding the budget for the upcoming school year and how that affects the staff.
- 3. Correspondence to the Board** – None received.
- 4. Approval of Minutes from Board Meetings 12/18/2024**
 - i.** Mark Becker made a motion to approve / Maryellen Donnelly seconded. Those in favor: Chair Rose Bisson, Maryellen Donnelly, Elizabeth Lindorff, Dennis Timberman, Mark Becker, and David Halbach. Abstained: Juan Arriola. *Motion passed.*
- 5. Principal's Report**
 - a.** Interim Principal Vikki Smith gave her report which discussed feedback that was given about the relationship between the staff and the students, Volunteer update, Parish Hill students visiting the HES students, and After School Programming.

6. Superintendent's Report

- a. Andrew Skarzynski gave his report which discussed the Monthly Enrollment, Power School Data Breach, cell phone service in the building, Legislative Breakfast, update on the Budget, Intervention Teacher, and changes with Title Nine.

7. Business Coordinator's Report

- a. Sally Lehoux gave her report with the Board.

8. Committee and Liaison Reports

- a. **Finance & Operations** – Mark Becker gave the update to the Board.
- b. **EASTCONN** – Maryellen Donnelly gave the update to the Board.
- c. **Ad Hoc Committee** – Dennis Timberman gave the update to the Board about the Committee's first meeting.
 - i. Dennis Timberman made a motion to accept the Three Action Statements provided by the Ad Hoc Committee / Maryellen Donnelly seconded.
Those being:
 - Advocate to Maintain ECS Funding for Small Schools.
 - Advocate for Fair Special Education Cost Reimbursement
 - Advocate to Review EASTCONN's Role and State Funding
 - ii. Those in favor: Maryellen Donnelly, Elizabeth Lindorff, Stephanie Bora, Dennis Timberman, Mark Becker, and David Halbach. Opposed: Juan Arriola. Abstained: Rose Bisson. *Motion passed.*

9. Discussion and Possible Action: 2025 – 2026 Calendar Approval

- a. Maryellen Donnelly moved to approve / Mark Becker seconded. Those in favor: Rose Bisson, Maryellen Donnelly, Elizabeth Lindorff, Stephanie Bora, Dennis Timberman, Mark Becker, and David Halbach. Opposed: Juan Arriola.

10. Discussion and Possible Action: Formation of Non-Certified Staff Representation

- a. Juan Arriola presented to the Board a Proposal to Establish an Ad Hoc Committee for Non-Certified Staff Representation.

- i. After the Board discussed this topic, Mark Becker made a motion to approve the formation of an Ad Hoc Committee for the Investigation of the Non-Certified Staff Representation to be submitted to the Policy Committee and eventually the full Board of Education / Juan Arriola seconded. Those in favor: Maryellen Donnelly, Elizabeth Lindorff, Stephanie Bora, Dennis Timberman, Mark Becker, David Halbach, and Juan Arriola. Abstained: Rose Bisson. *Motion passed.*

11. Additions to Agenda

- Mark Becker made a motion to add the agenda as item “11, A.” *Discussion of the Reimbursement of Background Checks* / Stephanie Bora seconded. Those in favor: Rose Bisson, Maryellen Donnelly, Elizabeth Lindorff, Stephanie Bora, Dennis Timberman, Mark Becker, David Halbach, and Juan Arriola. *Motion unanimously passed.*

a. Discussion of the Reimbursement of Background Checks

- i. After the Board discussed this topic, Mark Becker moved to allocate \$2,000 dollars towards paying back volunteers for their background checks and fingerprinting for the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 to be processed for forward requests as well as retroactively / David Halbach seconded. Those in favor: Maryellen Donnelly, Elizabeth Lindorff, Stephanie Bora, Dennis Timberman, Mark Becker, David Halbach, and Juan Arriola. Abstained: Rose Bisson.

12. Next Agenda Planning

- a. Appointing members to the Ad Hoc Committee for Non-Certified Staff Representation, Possible Executive Session regarding the employment of the Principal, and the Budget for the next school year.

13. Second Audience for Citizens and Staff

- a. An audience member addressed a couple of topics that were discussed during the meeting.

- b. A couple members of the audience made a comment about the town policies and non-certified staff representation.

14. Adjournment

- a. Juan Arriola moved to adjourn at 8:57 PM / Elizabeth Lindorff seconded. Those in favor: Chair Rose Bisson, Maryellen Donnelly, Elizabeth Lindorff, Stephanie Bora, Dennis Timberman, Mark Becker, David Halbach, and Juan Arriola. *Motion unanimously passed.* Adjourned at 8:57 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Cassie Haddad.