

**Hampton Board of Education**  
380 Main Street, Hampton, CT 06247  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
October 22, 2025 –7 PM  
Hampton Elementary School Library

**1. Call to Order**

Vice Chair Mark Becker called the meeting to order at 7:05

Board Members Present: Juan Arriola, Mark Becker, Stephanie Bora, Maryellen Donnelly, Luther Gerlach, David Halbach, Elizabeth Lindorff, Tim Studer, Dennis Timberman

Also Present: Andrew Skarzynski (Superintendent), Sally Lehoux (Business Coordinator), Victoria Smith (Principal), Mary Jo Chretien (Director of Pupil Services)

**2. Audience for Citizens and Staff on Agenda Items**

Allan Cahill, First Selectman, restated his prior request for the enumeration report.

**3. Correspondence to the Board**

There was no correspondence to the Board.

**4. Approval of Minutes from Special Board Meeting 9/24/2025**

Motion to approve the minutes of September 24, 2025 by Maryellen Donnelly, seconded by Elizabeth Lindorff

Discussion regarding suggested changes was held and further action was not taken.

Maryellen Donnelly withdrew her motion; Elizabeth Lindorff withdrew her second.

**5. Principal's Report (Victoria Smith)**

- 1) Mrs. Smith reported that HES celebrated student summer learning achievements; fire truck visit for student honorees.
- 2) HES developed a shared calendar developed with PTO and Recreation Commission for joint family events.
- 3) October 10th professional development presented by Mrs. Sorel on Restorative Practices

- 4) Teachers and administration are participating in several state-led opportunities to develop evidence-based literacy practices, including adapting the school reading resource for multi-grade classrooms.
- 5) The next “Assembley” and spirit day is October 31st. Students are encouraged to dress as their favorite book character. Students will engage in play that also integrates restorative circles and academic language.
- 6) Our after school program will begin the first week of November for grades 3 - 6.
- 7) Early Start CT: Hampton has joined 7 towns in forming a Local Governance Partnership for Birth–5 coordination; Hampton participation is encouraged at the community table meeting to be held in December.

#### **6. Superintendent’s Report (Andrew Skarzynski)**

- 1) No current impact from federal government shutdown.
- 2) Mr. Skarzynski is leading Chaplin and Hampton in the CAS Science of Reading Masterclass with Chaplin to develop literacy plans and continue to build on our science of reading work.
- 3) The development of 2026 - 2027 is underway. There are anticipated increases in healthcare and transportation.
- 4) Hampton received approximately \$8,000 SEED funding for special education/intervention to be utilized through 12th grade; \$30,000 DRIP maintenance funding delayed until March.
- 5) The Board will need to begin a board led Curriculum Committee by December/January to prepare scope and sequence requirements.

#### **7. Business Coordinator’s Report (Sally Lehoux)**

- 1) Mrs. Lehoux reviewed budget and capital accounts.
- 2) The tuition and staffing costs are within projection.
- 3) The board is following up on non-recurring fund accounting and oil tank enclosure funding.

#### **8. Committee and Liaison Reports**

##### Finance & Operations:

- 1) F and O is recommending authorization for the Superintendent to spend up to \$19,000 for oil tank enclosure from the Capital Non-Recurring Fund. He will bring the proposal to the town Board of Finance.
- 2) F and O is reviewing reports for the condition of the school in order to prioritize needs.

EASTCONN:

- 1) No new report.

Policy Committee:

- 1) The policy work is reflected in the agenda.

### **9. Discussion and Possible Action: Board Goals**

- 1) Mark Becker Requested that board members read the goals and actions for possible action in November.

### **10. Discussion and Possible Action: Release of Confidential Attorney-Client Communication**

- 1) Motion by Juan Arriola to release to the public a prior attorney/client privilege investigative report.

There was no second to the motion.;

### **11. First Read: Board Policies**

Policy 6161.12 – Library Material Review and Reconsideration

Policy 6161.13 – Library Collection Development and Maintenance

Policy 6161.14 – Library Display and Program Policy

### **12. Discussion and Possible Action: Policy 5114 Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process**

Motion by Maryellen Donnelly, seconded by Dennis Timberman, to approve Policy 5114.

Voting yes were Mark Becker, Stephanie Bora, Maryellen Donnelly, Luther Gerlach, David Halbach, Elizabeth Lindorff, Tim Studer, Dennis Timberman. Juan Arriola abstained. The motion passed.

### **13. Additions to the Agenda**

- 1) Motion by Maryellen Donnelly, seconded by Stephanie Bora, to add authorization for oil tank enclosure to the agenda. Voting yes were Mark Becker, Stephanie Bora, Maryellen Donnelly, Luther Gerlach, David Halbach, Elizabeth Lindorff, Tim Studer, Dennis Timberman. Voting no was Juan Arriola. The motion passed. Discussion held regarding the enclosure plans.
- 2) Subsequent motion by Maryellen Donnelly, seconded by Stephanie Bora, to allocate up to \$19,000 to enclose the oil tank from Capital Non-Recurring Funds under the direction of the Superintendent of Schools. Voting yes were Mark Becker, Stephanie Bora, Maryellen Donnelly, Luther Gerlach, David Halbach, Elizabeth Lindorff, Tim Studer, Dennis Timberman. Motion passed; Juan Arriola abstained. The motion passed..

### **14. Possible Executive Session: Discussion on Superintendent Contract**

- 1) Motion by Maryellen Donnelly, seconded by Dennis Timberman, to enter Executive Session inviting Superintendent Skarzynski to discuss the Superintendent's contract. Voting yes were Juan Arriola, Mark Becker, Stephanie Bora, Maryellen Donnelly, Luther Gerlach, David Halbach, Elizabeth Lindorff, Tim Studer, Dennis Timberman.
- 2) Entered Executive Session at 8:20 p.m. and exited at 8:30 p.m.

#### **15. Possible Action: Superintendent Contract**

- 1) Motion by Maryellen Donnelly, seconded by Elizabeth Lindorff, to approve Superintendent Skarzynski's contract from July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2028. Voting yes were Mark Becker, Stephanie Bora, Maryellen Donnelly, Luther Gerlach, David Halbach, Elizabeth Lindorff, Tim Studer, Dennis Timberman. Voting no was Juan Arriola. The motion passed

#### **16. Next Agenda Planning**

- 1) Items for next agenda:
  - a) Board officer elections
  - b) Board goals and actions
  - c) Approval of policies and first read
  - d) Committee overviews
  - e) Board requests for first presentations
  - f) Online resource list for board members

#### **17. Adjournment**

- 1) Motion by Juan Arriola, seconded by Elizabeth Lindorff, to adjourn; Voting yes were Juan Arriola, Mark Becker, Stephanie Bora, Maryellen Donnelly, Luther Gerlach, David Halbach, Elizabeth Lindorff, Tim Studer, Dennis Timberman. The motion passed
- 2) The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:50 p.m.

**Respectfully submitted,**

Victoria Smith

Principal / Acting Recording Secretary