

**HADLEY SCHOOL COMMITTEE
HADLEY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
HADLEY, MASSACHUSETTS 01035
April 22, 2013**

6:30 PM

Music Room Hopkins Academy

Call To Order: Donna Moyer, Superintendent, called the meeting to order at 6:32pm

PRESENT: Chair: Ms. Robie Grant, Vice-Chair/Secretary: Ms. Molly Keegan
Members: Mrs. Heather Klesch, Ms. Linda Dunlavy, Ms. Humera Fasihuddin

OTHERS: William Erickson, CES; Kathy Boyden, Mike Rooney, Jeff Udall, Chris Desjardins, Mike Duffy, Dee Rex

REORGANIZATION OF THE COMMITTEE

The swearing in of new School Committee member Heather Klesch was confirmed.

Election of a Chairperson

MOTION: (Grant/Dunlavy) move to nominate Molly Keegan as Chair. **VOTE: Unanimous**

Election of a Vice-Chair/Secretary

MOTION: (Grant/Fasihuddin) move to nominate Linda Dunlavy as Vice Chair/Secretary **VOTE: Unanimous**

Signers for Bills and Payroll

Ms. Fasihuddin, Ms. Keegan and Mrs. Klesch

Alternate #1: Ms. Dunlavy Alternate #2: Ms. Grant

Appointment of Policy, Finance, and Grounds & Maintenance Committee Members and Appointment of Representative to the Collaborative for Educational Services Board

Chairperson Molly Keegan asked that Committee members notify her as to which committee(s) they would like to serve on and appointments will be made at the next meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - March 25, 2013

MOTION:(Dunlavy/Fasihuddin) move to approve the minutes of the March 25, 2013, meeting as presented. VOTE: 5-0

ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA

There will be an executive session held after the regular meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD - NONE

PRESENTATION

Superintendent Focus Forum Results: Bill Erickson, Consultant, Collaborative for Educational Services presented an analysis of the responses from the meetings of the Focus Groups. There are certain qualities that rose to the surface: 1) Excellent communication skills with students, parents and staff. 2) Knowledge, understanding and recognition of good teaching. 3) Demonstrated success in promoting a positive school/district environment. 4) Successful experience with the use of technology to support and improve education. Mr. Erickson offered his services for the next step of the orientation of the screening committee. The deadline for the Superintendent Survey that is on the Hadley Public Schools website has been extended until May 6, 2013.

INFORMATION AND/OR DISCUSSION ITEMS

Hopkins Academy Program of Studies 2013-2014: The Program of Studies has been updated. Mr. Rooney worked on the class schedules and will continue to work with the students who did not get every course they wanted in their schedule and will process and finalize their schedules. The following are new classes that have been added: AP Biology, AP Chemistry,

Bio-Medical Science, Intro to Physics for Grade 9, Film as in Literature and Computer Science courses have been refurbished and updated. Our Foreign Language courses enrollments are strong.

Technology Awareness at Hadley Elementary School: Supt. Moyer discussed the Technology Article and that the awareness at the Elementary School is not just for the students, it is for the teachers, as well. Jeff Udall and staff members visited many area schools to compare how they are using technology compared to Hadley. Jeff was amazed at how far we are behind the other schools. The groups that visited the schools will share their finding at the HES staff meeting tomorrow. At Gateway, Mr. Udall, was able to see how they are using technology for grades PreK-4, where all of the students have an I-pad. The students were incredibly engaged in learning with the technology. The goal is to have the technology in the school by September. Public interviews will begin on May 7th at 6:30pm.

Assistant Superintendent Search: Supt. Moyer stated that we had 53 applicants, 23 of the applicants were reviewed by the screening committee and 6-7 of the candidates rose to the top of the list. All of the top candidates are licensed and several of them are sitting Directors of Special Education. We invited 6 of the applicants to interview and 5 accepted. We have a parent committee of 8 or 9, a committee of 11-12 staff members and Supt. Moyer will be interviewing as well. The interviews will be conducted on Thursday and Friday. Expecting to have finalists ready to interview the week of May 6th. Statutorily, this is the responsibility of the Committee to make the final decision for this position.

Committee Reports

Policy Committee: First Reading - KF Community Use of Facilities/Fields: The updated policy that was presented was more consistent and detailed. Use of the cafeteria and who gets to work that is Safe Certified is a decision to be made by the Cafeteria Manager. Building Use approval is at the discretion of each building Principal. Athletic Field Use will include input from the Athletic Director. The Policy Committee is not trying to be punitive to those who are raising funds to benefit the schools. The Committee is focused on creating a policy that is consistent for all. The policy will be brought to the next meeting for a 2nd Reading.

Finance Sub-Committee: The Committee is working with Supt. Moyer and Business Manager, C. Desjardins on the FY14 budget. The process was discussed for presentation of the School Budget and the Technology Warrant Article.

Capital Planning Meeting: The Capital Planning Committee approved to replace the Hopkins Academy doors due to safety reasons for \$40,000. They also unanimously approved the 5-year bond, with no tax implications, for \$150,000 for the Technology Improvement at Hadley Elementary School.

Business Manager Reports

YTD Financial Report: The report is through April 17th, so it would show the effects of the retro active pay that was put through a couple of weeks ago and some of the salaries and electric bills that have been encumbered as well. It gives a better picture of what we have remaining in our budget. There will be a few adjustments on the encumbrances.

Grant Report: The Circuit Breaker money spent was the amount that we had to spend for the year.

Other: Chris gathered all the information in order to get an estimate of what it would cost to convert to natural gas and gave the information to the Town. If the natural gas conversion works out, it will benefit the whole Town not just the schools. If the gas project does not fly, the good news is the fuel prices are trending downwards.

We ordered the school bus. It was ordered with a much later delivery date, due to the law changing about bus requirements.

Chris asked for an approval for the use of School Choice Funds up to the amount that was agreed upon in last year's budget creating process. We are only going to use the funds that are needed.

The Facilities Manager interviews have started and there are some great candidates. If this person could start May 1st that would be great, because Alex's last day of work is May 7th.

MOTION:(Dunlavy/Fasihuddin) to approve the authorization of use of School Choice Funds for up to \$524,000.

VOTE: 5-0

Superintendent's Comments:

Hopkins Academy has been cited for not having stage curtains that are non-flammable. Non-flammable curtains will be purchased.

Technology classes for staff will be held in the Fall.
Meeting with the Senior Center did not happen

Financial Report - Chris will come with an estimated closing balance in May.

Collaborative is putting together a proposal for putting together a Virtual School. The model will be more blended learning and the teaching would be done in the school.

Messaging System- The hope is to run a test next week using email and phone messaging.

Technology Article - There is a group of very active parents that are campaigning for the Technology Article that will be presented at Town Meeting.

Brian Beck, new HA principal, has been discussing his entry plan and transition plan with Supt. Moyer.

School Committee will be having a refresher course for professional development in May and it is a public meeting.

ACTION ITEMS

Participation in School Choice 2013-2014

MOTION: (Klesch/Dunlavy) for the District to participate in School Choice for 2013-2014. VOTE: 5-0

PERSONNEL REPORT

Resignations, Retirements and Appointments were discussed.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING DATE - May 20, 2013 at 6:30pm in the Hopkins Academy Music Room.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION: (Fasihuddin/Dunlavy) Enter into executive session for the purpose of planning for collective bargaining negotiations and also to consider matters of employment and further that conducting the aforementioned business in open session will have a detrimental effect. In addition, to comply with, or act under the authority of, any general or special law or federal grant-in-aid requirements. The committee will not reconvene in Regular Session at the conclusion of the executive session.

ROLL CALL VOTE: In Favor: Grant, Keegan, Dunlavy, Fasihuddin, Klesch

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: (Grant/Klesch) move to adjourn the meeting at 8:45pm.

Vote: 5-0

Approved by School Committee: Jan 27, 2014