

**Hopedale School Committee
Minutes of the Meeting of
Tuesday, November 6, 2018**

Members Present: Lisa Alberto, Chair
Lori Hampsch, Vice Chair
Craig Adams
Alysia Butler
Jennifer McKeon

Also Present: Karen Crebase, Superintendent
Matt Costanza, JSJS Student Council Representative
Lynne Davis, School Accountant
Jill St. Martin, Guidance Counselor
Derek Atherton, Jr.-Sr. High School Principal
Brian Miller, Memorial School Principal

At 6:00 pm, the meeting was called to order by the Chair in the Media Center at the Jr.-Sr. High School, 25 Adin Street, Hopedale, Massachusetts, with a quorum present.

1. **Minutes of October 2, 2018** - Upon a motion by Mrs. Hampsch which was seconded by Mrs. Butler, the Committee unanimously approved the minutes of October 2, 2018.

2. **Student Representatives' Report – Jr.-Sr. High School:** Matt Costanza reported on recent and upcoming activities, including: the senior class trip to Disney World, annual coffeehouse, Ring Dance, Tri-M Honor Society induction, clothing drive, fall athletic successes, annual turkey dinner and turkey run, FAST, *Arsenic and Old Lace*, Winter Cotillion, tree lighting, FinFit Fair, and the start of the winter sports season.

3. **Superintendent's Comments** – The Superintendent reported on professional development opportunities offered by the district on October 5 and November 2, 2018, activities recognizing October as anti-bullying month, the annual college fair and the tenth grade Ring Dance. In addition, Ms. Crebase recognized the Hopedale GSA for being named best youth group by Boston Pride. A student art display at Bancroft Library and college and career planning information sessions were also discussed. New programs at Bright Beginnings Center include a guest-reader series and Good News Call of the Day.

4. **Committee Response to Superintendent's Comments** – There were no questions or comments from the members.

5. **Financial Items** - The monthly warrant reports for October were presented by Mrs. Davis.

- **Monthly Report of Accounts Payable Warrants:** Upon a motion by Mr. Adams which was seconded by Mrs. Hampsch, the members unanimously voted to ratify the payment of six accounts payable warrants dated: September 26, 27, October 4, 11, 17, and 24, 2018 in the amount of \$ 372,183.67.
- **Monthly Report of Payroll Warrants:** Upon a motion by Mr. Adams which was seconded by Mrs. Hampsch, the members unanimously voted to ratify the payment of two payroll warrants dated: October 11 and 25, 2018 in the amount of \$ 906,835.73.
- **Monthly Budget Report:** Mrs. Davis presented the monthly budget report for October 2018 and advised the Committee that the budget process for Fiscal Year 2020 has begun.
- **Warrants for Signature:** There were no warrants for signature.

6. Committee Reports

- **Committee on Policy:** The Chair presented four policies for a second and final reading:

JF – School Admissions – The members discussed wording in the second paragraph which infers that the School Committee has a role in requiring proof of vaccinations and immunizations. By agreement the reference to “and the School Committee” will be deleted. Members also inquired whether kindergarten registration occurs in the spring, as referenced in the policy. This policy will be brought back to the Committee for consideration at the December meeting.

JFABC – Admission of Transfer Students – Members discussed the need for a policy pertaining specifically to students from Massachusetts charter schools. It was determined by consensus that the title should reflect that it only concerns students from charter schools.

AC – Non Discrimination

EFD– Meal Charge Policy

Upon a motion by Mrs. Hampsch which was seconded by Mr. Adams, the members unanimously voted to approve policies JFABC, AC, and EFD for adoption.

As recommended by the policy committee, members reviewed the following policies for a first reading:

JFABD – Homeless Students: Enrollment Rights and Services

JFABA – Educational Opportunities for Military Children

JFABF – Educational Opportunities for Children in Foster Care

After review, and by consensus, the Committee approved the policies for a final reading.

- **Committee on Fields:** Mrs. Hampsch reported that she and Mrs. McKeon share the role of representing the School Committee on the Town’s Recreational Field Ad Hoc Committee. The schools have also created an internal fields committee, with members Mr. Atherton, Ms. Crebase, Mrs. Ridolfi, Mrs. McKeon and Mrs. Hampsch, to consider the district’s needs and priorities, and to report them to the Ad Hoc Committee.

7. Agenda Items

- **Athletic Fall Program Review:** On behalf of Mrs. Ridolfi, the Superintendent reported on the successful fall season and the upcoming winter season.
- **Winter Coaching Appointments:** Winter coaching assignments were announced as follows: Girls Varsity Basketball- Corey Phillips; Girls Junior Varsity Basketball- Kelly Gallagher; Girls Junior High Basketball- Jane LeClaire; Varsity Ice Hockey- Greg LaBossiere; Boys Varsity Basketball- Tony Cordani; Boys Junior Varsity Basketball- Tom D’Urso; Boys Junior High Basketball- Ed Healey; Indoor Track Assistants- Tim Maguire and Joe Drugan; and Varsity Cheerleading- Amy Lombardi. The positions of Junior Varsity Ice Hockey and Indoor Track coaches are yet to be filled.
- **Bi-County Collaborative Quarterly Report:** The Superintendent reported that the Bi-County Collaborative welcomed Hopedale and Uxbridge as new member districts this year. Ms. Crebase reviewed enrollment numbers, new programs offered by the collaborative, and progress made on objectives in the leadership team’s strategic plan.
- **MCAS Analysis and Accountability Report:** The Superintendent reviewed recently released MCAS data and noted areas of accomplishment as well as recommended action steps towards improvement. Comparisons with average scores for the state, area schools, and similar schools indicated successes throughout the district. Improvements were reflected in specific content areas, grade levels, cohorts and subgroups. Ms. Crebase reported that data is analyzed and reviewed by administration and staff to inform instruction at all levels.

The Superintendent recommended that the Chair move to the next agenda item before beginning the presentation on Accountability.

- **JSHS Data Report:** Mr. Atherton and Ms. St. Martin reviewed important dates, the post-secondary plans for the Class of 2018, and student inclusion opportunities such as LOOP and the Advisory Block. They also reported on standardized test data, including scores for recently administered PSAT, SAT, ACT, and AP tests. The new course offerings of AP Statistics and AP World History were highlighted. Discussions included AP class sizes and scores, students’ participation in SAT

vs. ACT testing, offering a pre-ACT test, college recognition of AP scores, and the potential for offering AP English Language to replace AP English Literature and AP Spanish in the 2019-2020 school year. Professional development opportunities for the guidance department and plans to expand the district's college and career planning program were also discussed.

The Chair returned to the Superintendent's presentation.

- **MCAS Analysis and Accountability Report (continued):** Ms. Crebase reviewed the overall classification, progress toward improvement targets, and accountability percentile for the district, Memorial School, and the Jr.-Sr. High School. The Superintendent explained how each rating was determined and discussed the chart which indicates each schools' progress toward improvement targets based on achievement, growth, high school completion, and additional indicators of chronic absenteeism and advanced coursework completed. Areas of focus for both schools were discussed, as well as the best ways to communicate to the community the importance of student participation in MCAS testing and the recent successes of the district.
- **Discussion Regarding December Meeting:** Due to a schedule conflict, the members agreed by consensus to move the start time of the meeting on December 4, 2018 to 5:00 pm.

8. Correspondence – The Committee reviewed the October issue of *MASC Bulletin*, the Memorial School November calendar, and a Legal Bulletin from MASC Attorney Stephen Finnegan.

9. Audience to Citizens – There were no comments from members of the audience.

10. School Committee Calendar – The next meeting of the Committee is scheduled for Tuesday, 5:00 pm, December 4, 2018.

The Chair declared the meeting adjourned at 8:17 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeanne McGuane, Recording Secretary
APPROVED: December 4, 2018