

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

Members Present: Craig Adams, Chair
Grace Pool, Vice Chair
Lisa Alberto
Lori Hampsch
Kristen Poisson

Also Present: Karen Crebase, Superintendent
Jen Holland and Ben Tahmouh, JSHS Student Council Representatives
Mikayla Evans and Jackson Tahmouh, JSHS Student Council Representatives (2018-2019)
Lynne Davis, School Accountant
Nick Toupin, Technology Director
Mary Arcudi, Hopedale Education Association President
Brian Miller, Memorial School Principal
Derek Atherton, Jr.-Sr. High School Principal

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

1. **Minutes of February 6, 2018** - Upon a motion by Mrs. Alberto which was seconded by Mrs. Hampsch, the Committee unanimously approved the minutes of February 6, 2018.
2. **Student Representatives' Report – Jr.-Sr. High School:** Jen Holland and Ben Tahmouh reported on recent and upcoming activities, including: the DECA state competition, Penny Wars fundraiser, STUCO Hyannis Leadership Conference, NHS blood drive, Diversity Week, Mr. Hopedale, the spring musical, and MCAS testing. They also introduced the Student Council Representatives for next year, Mikayla Evans and Jackson Tahmouh.
3. **Superintendent's Comments** –
 - **Winter Sports Update-** The Superintendent reported on team successes and individual accomplishments from the winter sports season.
 - **Computer-Based Testing Update-** Students in grades 4, 5, 7, and 8 will participate in online MCAS testing between April 2 and May 25, 2018.
 - **Computer Science Pathway Grant Update-** The Superintendent confirmed the award of a \$20,000 grant from Project Lead the Way for the acquisition of curriculum materials, professional development, supplies and resources for a high school computer science program.
 - **Special Education Update-** Pupil Personnel Services Director Meg Ashton will review the executive summary prepared by special education consultant Dorsey Yearly, which was presented to the School Committee at the February meeting, at an upcoming SEPAC meeting.
 - **Budget Update-** The Superintendent reported on a recent meeting with town officials regarding a five-year financial projection. The information has not necessitated changes to the school district's proposed budget for FY 2019 at this time.
 - **Transfer of Fields to Town-** Property containing fields has been deeded to the Town of Hopedale. An ad hoc committee to study recreation fields in town is being organized.
 - **Spanish National Honor Society Induction-** Thirty students were recently inducted into the newly established Spanish National Honor Society.
 - **Spanish Exchange Student Trip-** The Superintendent reported on the successful experiences of the students who recently returned from their trip to Spain.
 - **Emergency Preparedness Planning-** Ms. Crebase reiterated the district's commitment to the safety and security of all students and staff. She noted that protocols are consistently reviewed and improvements

are made whenever deemed appropriate. The Superintendent ended her remarks by asking for a moment of silence for the students, staff, and families impacted by the recent events in Parkland, Florida.

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

5. Financial Items/Budget -

- **Monthly Report of Accounts Payable Warrants:** The Committee reviewed the monthly warrant report for February 2018 as presented by Mrs. Davis. Upon a motion by Mrs. Alberto which was seconded by Mrs. Pool, the members unanimously voted to ratify the payment of five accounts payable warrants dated January 31, February 12 (two), 15, and 21, 2018 totaling \$ 329,125.04.
- **Monthly Report of Payroll Warrants:** Upon a motion by Mrs. Alberto which was seconded by Mrs. Pool, the members unanimously voted to ratify the payment of two February 2018 payroll warrants dated February 1 and 15, 2018 totaling of \$ 874,571.04.
- **Monthly Budget Report:** Mrs. Davis presented the monthly budget report for February 2018. There was a brief discussion regarding the deficit in the tuition reimbursement line.
- **Warrants for Signature:** There were no warrants distributed for signature.

6. Committee on Policy: The following policies were reviewed for a final reading and were unanimously approved upon a motion by Mrs. Alberto which was seconded by Mrs. Pool.

IJNDD – Policy on Social Media

IK – Student Progress Reports to Parents/Guardians

IKE – Promotion and Retention of Students

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

IHAL – Religion (recommendation to rescind)

IL – Evaluation of Instructional Programs (review)

IMB – Teaching about Controversial Issues/Controversial Speakers (new)

IMBD – School Ceremonies and Observances (new)

Upon a motion by Mrs. Alberto which was seconded by Mrs. Pool, the members accepted the recommendation of the policy committee and unanimously voted to rescind Policy IHAL – Religion. After review, and by consensus, the Committee approved the remaining policies for a final reading.

7. Agenda Items:

- **School Calendar Review** – Mrs. Arcudi offered feedback from staff members who had reviewed the draft calendar for 2018-2019 and suggested two changes. The first was to move the December 21, 2018 full professional development day to January 2, 2019. The second was to schedule an early dismissal for staff and students on December 21, 2018. A brief discussion followed regarding the benefits of scheduling the full professional day after the holiday break rather than before, and providing an early release on the Friday before winter vacation. Mrs. Alberto made a motion to approve the draft calendar with the two proposed changes, which was seconded by Mrs. Pool and recommended by the Superintendent. The motion passed by a majority vote.
- **Report on School Choice Funded Projects** – The Superintendent reported that several items from the January approved list of school choice requests have been ordered, received and are currently in use, including, science kits and curriculum materials at the preschool; iPads, iPad-minis, and textbooks at the elementary school; and flooring in the Room 118 computer lab at the high school.
- **Technology Update** – Tech Director Nick Toupin reported on current initiatives including a potential grant to improve infrastructure at the preschool, increasing external bandwidth, purchasing a new anti-virus solution, the installation of new web filters, and investigating a new district-wide phone system. In addition, he reported that several purchases that were part of the five-year technology plan have been

purchased and deployed including 9 iPads for Grade 3, and 45 iPad-minis for Kindergarten and Grade 1. By the end of the current fiscal year, additional laptops for Grades 3 and 4, Smartboards at the high school, replacement chromebooks for the English department, and a replacement server at the high school will be purchased. Plans for the upcoming school year include replacing older Smartboards, converting the business computer lab in Room 216 to a mobile lab using laptops, acquiring additional tablets for Kindergarten and Grade 1, and replacing 125 laptops with newer devices. Also planned for next school year is the completion of an ADA compliant website. A discussion followed regarding the cost of Smartboard replacements, the funding sources for proposed acquisitions, and the types of changes that will be made to the website.

- **Spring Coaching Assignments** – The Superintendent presented the following spring coaching assignments: Josh Crescenzi, Varsity Baseball; Keith Solle, Junior Varsity Baseball; Shanna Lathrop, Varsity Softball; Jane LeClaire, Junior Varsity Softball; Rosemary Talbot, Girls Tennis; Eric Moxim, Varsity Boys Lacrosse; Eric Overdahl, Junior Varsity Boys Lacrosse; Shauna Robert, Varsity Girls Lacrosse; Sheila Hevey, Junior Varsity Girls Lacrosse; Joe Drugan, Boys Track and Field; and Tim Maguire, Girls Track and Field. The Boys Tennis and Assistant Track and Field positions are not yet filled.
- **Overnight Fieldtrip Request** – The Superintendent presented a request by Student Council Advisor Christopher Chatham to approve an overnight field trip for Student Council members to travel to Hyannis, Massachusetts for the MASC Spring Conference from March 7 until March 9, 2018. The field trip was unanimously approved upon a motion by Mrs. Alberto which was seconded by Mrs. Pool.

8. Correspondence – The Committee reviewed a letter from the Hopedale Booster Club regarding the annual 5K road race, the *Legal Alert* dated February 7, 2018, *MASC Policy Newsletter* for February 2018, *MASC Bulletin* for January 2018 and February 2018, and the March calendar for Memorial School.

9. Audience to Citizens – There were no citizens present who wished to address the Committee.

10. School Committee Calendar – The next meeting will be a budget workshop on March 20, 2018. The next regular business meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 3, 2018.

Adjournment – Upon a motion by Mrs. Alberto which was seconded by Mrs. Pool, the Committee unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 6:47 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeanne McGuane, Recording Secretary
APPROVED: April 3, 2018