

**Hopedale School Committee
Minutes of the Meeting of
Tuesday, May 1, 2018**

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

Members Absent: Lisa Alberto

Also Present: Karen Crebase, Superintendent
Mikayla Evans and Jackson Tahmouh, JSHS Student Council Representatives (2018-2019)
Lynne Davis, School Accountant
Talitha Oliveri and student representatives from DECA
Derek Atherton, Jr.-Sr. High School Principal
Timothy Johnson, Jr.-Sr. High School Assistant Principal
Brian Miller, Memorial School Principal
Susan Mulready, BBC Director

At 6:02 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 April 3 and 24, 2018 - Upon a motion by Mrs. Pool which was seconded by Mrs. Poisson, the Committee unanimously approved the minutes of April 3, 2018 and April 24, 2018.

2. Student Representatives' Report – Jr.-Sr. High School: Mikayla Evans and Jackson Tahmouh reported on recent and upcoming activities, including: Quarter 4, the annual college fair, band and chorus trip to Virginia, GSA Fashion Show, Mr. Hopedale, DECA competition, Stuff-A-Bus, AP tests, MCAS, the 5K road race, NHS induction, and senior week activities.

3. Recognition – The Superintendent recognized Melanie Weaver and her family for generously donating an AED through the Mike Weaver Helping Friends Forever Foundation. Ms. Crebase also recognized School Committee Student Representative Ryan Coyle for her service this past year. The School Committee expressed their appreciation to member Grace Pool who is completing nine years of dedicated service to the community.

4. Superintendent's Comments –

- **Memorial School Science Fair** - The Memorial School recently held its annual science fair which showcased seventy-four entries and one hundred student participants.
- **Project Lead the Way Grant Conference** – Administrators attended a meeting at WPI regarding the new computer science pathway being implemented next year through a grant from Project Lead the Way.
- **GSA Fashion Show** – The first annual GSA Fashion Show highlighted fashions designed by students. Proceeds were donated to the winner's charity of choice.
- **Community Readers Day** – The annual celebration of literacy at Memorial School was recently held with twenty-four visiting community members reading to the students.
- **Music Trip to Williamsburg** – Band and chorus students successfully competed at a music festival in Virginia.
- **Mr. Hopedale Pageant** – The annual Mr. Hopedale Pageant which displays student talents was recently held and provided an enjoyable evening.

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

6. Financial Items/Budget -

- **Monthly Report of Accounts Payable Warrants:** The Committee reviewed the monthly warrant report for April 2018 as presented by Mrs. Davis. Upon a motion by Mrs. Hampsch which was seconded by Mrs. Pool, the members unanimously voted to ratify the payment of four accounts payable warrants dated March 28, April 4, 11, and 19, 2018 totaling \$ 324,385.92.
- **Monthly Report of Payroll Warrants:** Upon a motion by Mrs. Hampsch which was seconded by Mrs. Pool, the members unanimously voted to ratify the payment of two payroll warrants dated April 12 and 25, 2018 totaling of \$ 845,201.05.
- **Monthly Budget Report:** Mrs. Davis presented the monthly budget report for April 2018.
- **Warrants for Signature:** There were no warrants distributed for signature.

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

JLCD – Administering Medicines to Students

JJF – Student Activity Account and

EBC – Emergency Plans

As recommended by the Policy Committee, members reviewed the following policies for a first reading and, by consensus, approved them for a final reading:

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

JICH – Alcohol, Tobacco, and Drug Use by Students Prohibited (revision)

8. Agenda Items:

- **DECA Report** – DECA Advisor Talitha Oliveri and her students presented a report of the recent DECA International Career Development Conference in Atlanta. Fourteen students participated and attended workshops on leadership, networking, presentation skills and public speaking, in addition to competing with students from around the globe. The students thanked the community and school for supporting the program.
- **School Improvement (Action) Plan Updates** –
Memorial Elementary School – Mr. Miller highlighted accomplishments in the area of curriculum which include: professional development in several areas, RRICK time, the Garden of Hope, therapy dog visits, implementation of the Eureka math program, and investigating a maker space. Professional development opportunities included professional learning communities, visiting presenters, the wellness committee, staff presentations on relevant topics, and PBIS meetings. Programmatic improvements included inclusive instruction, the exploration of additional support for accelerated learners, and tiered instruction revisions. Community engagement efforts include weekly emails, the use of Twitter, sponsoring parent nights and supporting families in need.
Bright Beginnings Center – Mrs. Mulready highlighted the success of the Feeling Buddies curriculum, the Eureka math curriculum review, and the deployment of new Smartboards and science kits to support curriculum. Professional development opportunities focused on social and emotional learning and transitions. Program improvements included the expansion of the extended day program and the planned collaboration of the two summer programs. November progress reports, parent meetings, the use of Twitter, and newsletters improved communication with the community.
Jr.-Sr. High School – Mr. Atherton reported that curriculum improvements have focused on social and emotional learning, successful transitions for seventh grade students, the implementation of pre- and post-assessments, Spanish proficiency-based assessments, realignment of math offerings, work on vertical alignment, and preparations for the new computer science pathway. Professional development opportunities included training on MCAS, professional learning communities, strategies across disciplines to enhance ELA skills, and visiting presenters. Program improvements being addressed include assistance for students transitioning back to school after leaves, the development of accelerated programs, and investigating the introduction of a language in addition to Spanish. Community relationships have been strengthened through parent nights and presentations, grade 7 orientation

improvements, increased communications, and successful collaborations with senior citizens and the police department.

- **Parent Student Handbooks** – Mr. Miller reported that minor revisions were made to the Memorial School handbook including the addition of new staff members and a description of RRICK Time. Mr. Johnson noted that changes made to the Jr-Sr High School handbook include revised 21st century learning expectations and the inclusion of smokeless cigarette, e-cigarette and vape pen use as a severe offense punishable by suspension rather than an offense requiring detention.
- **Superintendent Self-Evaluation** – The Superintendent distributed her self-evaluation and invited the members to contact her with questions.
- **Approval of School Choice Seats** – The Superintendent presented a chart listing next year’s anticipated enrollments at each grade level and the number of school choice applications received to date. A discussion followed regarding the School Committee’s policy that school choice students may be accepted in grades kindergarten through grade 2 when total enrollment per classroom is less than 20 students and in grades 3 through 6 when the enrollment is less than 22 students. In addition, Mr. Atherton reported that several students will be withdrawing from grade 9 to attend BVT. Upon a motion by Mrs. Pool which was seconded by Mrs. Poisson, the members voted by majority to approve current applications as follows: six in grade 1; one in grade 2; one in grade 3; three in grade 4; two in grade 6; and no additional seats in grade 5 because of the number of current enrollments. In accordance with the practice of limiting junior and senior high school acceptances based on scheduling needs, and with the recommendation of Mr. Atherton, the Committee also approved applications as follows: none for grade 7 due to current enrollments, one for grade 8, four for grade 9, and two for grade 10. No seats were approved for grades 11 and 12. Mr. Adams noted his support of the school choice program in general but reported that he is awaiting an analysis of the cost benefits to the Town before voting to support the addition of new school choice seats in the schools.
- **Senior Class Dates** – The Superintendent presented a calendar of senior class activities which begins with the Senior Tea on May 16th and culminates with Graduation on June 2nd. She also presented a formal request from the Class of 2018 to approve May 18, 2018 as their last day of formal classes. Upon a motion by Mrs. Pool which was seconded by Mrs. Poisson, the Committee unanimously approved the request.
- **Bus Registration Update** – The Superintendent reviewed the bus registration procedures for the upcoming school year. Registrations for all grade levels has begun and will end on June 1st. Payments are being accepting online for the first time. It is anticipated that registration forms will also be online for next year’s process.
- **Distribution of School Committee Self-Evaluation** – Individual forms should be completed and returned to the Chair at the May 22, 2018 meeting. He will consolidate all responses and present the evaluation at the June meeting.

9. Correspondence – The Committee reviewed the *Legislative Bulletin* dated April 11, 2018 and the April 2018 issue of the *MASC Bulletin*.

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

11. School Committee Calendar – The next meeting will be the Public Hearing on May 22, 2018 at 6:30 pm with the next regular business meeting scheduled for Tuesday, June 5, 2018.

Adjournment – The Chair noted the need to enter executive session to review executive session minutes. The Committee would not be reconvening in open session. Upon a motion by Mrs. Pool which was seconded by Mrs. Poisson, the Committee unanimously voted to adjourn the public meeting at 7:30 pm and to enter executive session by a roll call vote as follows: Mrs. Poisson- yes; Mrs. Hampsch- yes; Mrs. Pool- yes; and Mr. Adams- yes.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeanne McGuane, Recording Secretary
APPROVED: June 5, 2018