

HAMPTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
HAMPTON, CT 06247
MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25, 2015
6:30 PM

HAMPTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL LIBRARY/MEDIA CENTER

Board chair John Burnham called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm. Members present were Maryellen Donnelly, Joan Fox, Rose Bisson, Peter Smat, Wesley Wilcox, and Ann Gruenberg (at 7:08). Also present were School Superintendent Dr. Corinne Berglund, Principal Elise Guari and Business Coordinator Sally Lehoux.

1. **Audience for Staff and Citizens** – Richard LeBlanc read a letter written by the Hampton Education Association. (*A copy of the letter was distributed.*) Debra Leavens read a letter she had written. (*A copy of the letter was distributed.*) Heather McCollum and Myra Evans expressed concerns about the elimination of a classroom teacher. Mark Becker questioned whether the PHHS budget had been finalized and expressed his appreciation to the board for their service. April Basch spoke on the elimination of a teacher in grades 4-6. Dayna McDermott questioned the minutes of the last regular meeting. John Burnham responded to the question.
2. **Written Communications To Board** – John Burnham read an email from Tammie Jacobson asking what impact the combining of two grade levels would have on the school and students.
3. **Approval of Minutes 2-25-15 and 3-9-15** – (*Copy of minutes for 2-25-15 and 3-9-15 were distributed.*)
 - a. **Rose Bisson moved to approve the minutes of February 25, 2015. Peter Smat seconded the motion. The minutes should be amended as follows: Item 5e should read “Scotland’s principal” and not “Scotland’s principle”. The motion to approve the minutes, as amended, passed unanimously.**
 - b. **Maryellen Donnelly moved to approve the minutes of March 9, 2015. Rose Bisson seconded the motion. The minutes should be amended as follows: Item 2 should read “savings would be considerable” and not “savings would be quiet considerable.” Item 3 should read, “... added for facilities manager. The board agreed so they added \$4000.00 for facilities manager” not “added for facility services. The board agreed so they added \$4000.00 for facility service.” In the motion to pass the budget Peter Smat should be a “No Vote” and not a “Yes Vote.” The motion to approve the minutes, as amended, passed unanimously.**
4. **Superintendent Reports/Recommendations**
 - a. **Financials** – (*A copy of the financials were distributed.*) Dr. Berglund said the school’s financials look good at this time. She then informed the board of an article in the Hartford Courant entitled “Enrollment Decline: Schools Explore Options.” (*A copy of the article was distributed.*)
 - b. **Donation for Nature’s Classroom** – Rob Miller and Ann Withey donated \$250.00 to the school for Nature’s Classroom.
 - c. **Update on Custodial Agreement** - Dr. Berglund informed the board that Andy Nichols is working out very well as the new custodian.
 - d. **2015 Budget Presentation to Hampton Board of Finance 3/23/15** - Dr. Berglund informed the board that the presentation was given and believes that it went well.
 - e. **Other** – Dr. Berglund presented a written letter of resignation from Richard LeBlanc. She also stated that Jump Rope for Heart was a success and the school had raised a considerable amount of money.
5. **Principal Report** – (*A copy of the Principal’s Monthly Board of Education Update 3/25/15 was distributed.*) Principle Guari reviewed the report with the board.
6. **Retirement Incentive Discussion and Possible Action** – The board discussed what was previously offered and also discussed what other boards of education were doing. It was decided to send this to the finance committee. The board will revisit it at the next regular meeting.
7. **Schedule FOI Workshop** – The workshop is scheduled for May 20, 2015. John Burnham asked the board their thoughts on inviting other boards to the workshop.
8. **Additions to the Agenda** – **Rose Bisson moved to add discussion and acceptance of teacher resignation to the agenda. Peter Smat seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Maryellen Donnelly moved to add changing the Board Meeting time to the agenda. Rose Bisson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**

9. **Discussion and Acceptance of Teacher Resignation** – Rose Bisson moved to accept Richard LeBlanc’s resignation with gratitude for his service. Peter Smat seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
10. **Changing Board Meeting Time** – Maryellen Donnelly moved to change the regular scheduled board meeting time from 6:30 pm to 7:00 pm. Rose Bisson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
11. **Standing and Ad Hoc Committees and Liaison Reports/Recommendations**
 - a. **Communications** – Joan Fox reported on the Newsletter.
 - b. **Shared Services** – John Burnham spoke on sharing services with other boards.
 - c. **Tri Town Study** – The board discussed questions they have about the tri-town study and the implications the study has for Hampton. Joan Fox recommended the board compile questions and bring them to the next regular board meeting.
 - d. **CABE** – Ann Gruenberg spoke about, “Day on the Hill” and the focus being placed on Minimum Budget Requirements.
12. **Next Agenda Planning**
 - a. Budget
 - b. Questions for Meeting with other Boards
 - c. Policies
 - d. Teacher Retirement Incentive
 - e. Newsletter
13. **Audience for Staff/Citizens** – Mark Becker asked questions concerning the budget and board of finance. Debra Leavens, Ellen Peters, and Heather McCollum voiced concerns over the combining of grades 4-6. Irene Brown spoke about possible avenues in which information could be passed between the elementary school and elderly in town.
14. **Adjournment** – Rose Bisson moved to adjourn at 8:37 pm. Ann Gruenberg seconded the motion and all were in favor.

Respectfully Submitted By:
Rachel Linkkila
3/27/15

Note: Per C.G.S. 10 – 218, Board of Education meeting minutes are provided in a draft format. With the exception of motions and votes recorded, these minutes are unofficial until they have been read and approved by a majority vote of the Board. Should edits be necessary, they will be made at the next regularly scheduled meeting, noted in the meeting minutes, and voted upon.

Copies of any documents distributed at meeting can be obtained by contacting Hampton Elementary School Superintendent’s Office.