

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

**HAMPTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL LIBRARY/MEDIA CENTER**

Board chair John Burnham called the meeting to order at 6:36 pm. Members present were Maryellen Donnelly, Joan Fox, Rose Bisson (electronically by skype), Peter Smat, Wesley Wilcox, Lisa Siegmund (at 6:44 pm) and Ann Gruenberg (at 7:06 pm). Also present were School Superintendent Dr. Corinne Berglund and Principal Elise Guari.

1. **Audience for Staff and Citizens** – Sam Roberson read a letter urging the board to not eliminate staff until the budget goes to the town for a vote. Mark Becker spoke of the concerns of the school closing. First Selectman Allan Cahill mentioned that the Hampton, Chaplin, Scotland Selectmen and Boards of Education will be meeting on March 12, 2015 at 7:00 pm at the Parish Hill High School Auditorium to review findings and initiate dialog between boards. Kathy Donahue raised her concerns about staff to pupil ratio and administration cost.
2. **Written Communications To Board** – None
3. **Approval of Minutes 2-4-15 and 2-11-15**
  - a. **Peter Smat moved to approve the minutes of February 4, 2015. Wesley Wilcox seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**
  - b. **Peter Smat moved to approve the minutes of February 11, 2015. Wesley Wilcox seconded the motion. The minutes should be amended as follows: Under 2a.—Doug Stewart was moved to approve the “non-union employee benefits chart” not “non-union employee benefits”. The motion to approve the minutes, as amended, passed unanimously.**
4. **Superintendent Reports/Recommendations**
  - a. **Financials** – Sally Lehoux sent out the financial reports to the board in an email.
  - b. **Health Insurance Meeting 2-24-15** – Allen Cahill, Maryellen Donnelly, Peter Smat, Sally Lehoux and Dr. Corinne Berglund attended the Regional District 11 Medical and Dental Analysis meeting at Parish Hill Library and they hope to know by next Tuesday the results of the final discussion with Anthem and whether they or ConnectiCare will be the carrier.
  - c. **Status Report of Custodial Service** – Seven Candidates for the two custodial positions have been interviewed. Some of the candidates have the skill level and experience that the school is looking for and they have one candidate in particular who they hope to hire for head custodian.
  - d. **Other** – There will be a presentation by Principal Elise Guari tonight that the board should find informative.
5. **Principal Report**
  - a. **Upcoming Events** –
    - i. **March 26 & 27 Early Release Parent Teacher Conferences**
    - ii. **April 2 – Early Release Staff PD**
    - iii. **April 3 – No School Good Friday**
    - iv. **April 13-17 Spring Break**
    - v. **April 20-24 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Nature’s Classroom**
  - b. **Preschool Update** – The preschool program is currently full and has 12 full day and 6 part day students enrolled with a waiting list of 3 students.
  - c. **Professional Development** – Next professional development day is the half day April 2, 2015.
  - d. **Technology Update** – The requirement from the SDE to complete a new technology plan by April 2015 has been placed on hold. However Linda Sanchini, Joanne Lowney and Principal Elise Guari have decided to continue with the plan so that they can have it on file at the school.
  - e. **Grant Update** – A meeting with Scotland’s principle has taken place to schedule for the grade level assessment review between now and June 2015.
  - f. **Curriculum Update** – The school has been working with EASTCONN to begin writing a Language Arts Curriculum. The process includes a meeting with teachers in late January and February about the format and how the document will be laid out for use.

- g. **Enrollment** – As of February 1, 2015 there are 106 students enrolled in Hampton Elementary School.
6. **Approve 2015-16 Hampton Elementary School Calendar – Maryellen Donnelly moved to accept the proposed 2015-16 Hampton Elementary School Calendar. Wesley Wilcox seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**
  7. **Presentation on Enrollment Patterns and Staffing-** Principal Elise Guari presented the board with a power point presentation of grade reconfiguration models. The presentation had two different models for grade reconfiguration and the benefits and drawbacks for each model. After the presentation the board had a discussion about the two models presented and the Board Chairman John Burnham opened up the discussion to the audience. Nick Brown questioned if the models were reflected in the budget numbers and he was informed that they were not. Dayna McDermott spoke to the increase in the math and reading positions in the two models. Kathy Donahue spoke on the two model presentation.
  8. **Discussion and Possible Action on 2015-16 Budget** – Tabled at this time.
  9. **Additions to the Agenda – Lisa Siegmund moved to add Discussion and Possible Action on salary of head custodial position to the agenda. Peter Smat seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**
  10. **Discussion and Possible Action on Salary of Head Custodial Position – Peter Smat moved to increase the head custodial position hourly wage to \$15.50 an hour. Joan Fox seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**
  11. **Standing and Ad Hoc Committees or Liaison Reports/Recommendations**
    - a. **Finance and Operations** – Rose Bisson reported that the committee met and the discussion revolved around the five year plan, with focus being placed on the play-scape and the phone systems.
    - b. **Green Energy** – Maryellen Donnelly informed the board that there will be a Save Money and Energy Fair March 4, 2014. The rain or snow date is March 11, 2014.
  12. **Next Agenda Planning**
    - a. Budget
  13. **Audience for Staff/Citizens** – None
  14. **Maryellen Donnelly moved to enter into executive session for discussion of strategy and negotiations with respect to pending claim freedom of information docket # FIC 2014-853 at 8:17 pm and requested that Dr. Corinne Berglund and Principal Elise Guari attend. Peter Smat seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.** The Hampton Board of Education returned to public session at 8:33 p.m.
  15. **Adjournment – Peter Smat moved to adjourn at 8:35 pm. Joan Fox seconded the motion and all were in favor.**

Respectfully Submitted By:  
 Rachel Linkkila  
 2-26-15

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.