

Hermon School Committee
Minutes – Regular Meeting
Monday, October 5, 2015
Hermon High School Room #139

Providing Leadership to Enhance the Aspirations of our Children

Present

Mr. John Snyder, Chairperson
Mr. Anthony Reynolds, Vice Chairperson
Mrs. Debora Farnham
Mr. Ralph Carr
Mr. Ted Harris
Mrs. Debbie CoWallis
Mrs. Shannon Knowles
Ms. Madalyn Jackson, Student Representative
Mr. Michael Lana, Student Representative

Staff: Mrs. Rhonda Byers, Mr. Jerry Kiesman, Mrs. Barbara Libby, Mr. Brian Walsh
Guests: Mr. John Backus, Mrs. Kathy Clegg, Mrs. Tracie Cushman, Maclaren Davis,
Mrs. Kim Nichols, Matthew Nichols, Ms. Robin Carr-Slaunwhite

Item I: Mr. Snyder, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Item II: Agenda Adjustments – None.

Item III: Mr. Reynolds motioned, seconded by Mrs. CoWallis, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of September 8, 2015.

Voting for: Reynolds, Farnham, Carr, Harris, CoWallis, Knowles

Abstain: Snyder

Item IV: **PROCLAMATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS**

A. 'Marijuana in the New Millennium'

Ms. Robin Carr-Slaunwhite and Mrs. Kim Nichols with Bangor Public Health and Community Services gave a Power Point presentation about the data, trends, impact and costs from marijuana legalization in Colorado as well as the trends in Maine and its potential impact upon youth and communities. The opportunity for questions and answers followed.

B. Public Comments

Mrs. Duran welcomed Mr. Backus, RSU 87 Superintendent, to the meeting.

Item V: **PERSONNEL**

Extra Curricular Appointments 2015-2016

The following appointments were announced:

Hermon Middle School

Boys A Basketball	Spencer Emerson
Girls A Basketball	Hannah Pray
Boys B Basketball	Brendon Dyer
Chess	James Fratini

Hermon High School

Freshmen Basketball	Matt Kinney
J.V. Cheering	Christina Paradis
Varsity Baseball	Matt Kinney.

Mr. Harris motioned, seconded by Mrs. Farnham, to accept the following appointments for 2015-2016:

Technical Director, HHS Musical	Elliott Wilcox
Technical Director, HHS One Act	Elliott Wilcox.

Unanimous vote (7)

Item VI: **OLD BUSINESS**

Excused Absence of School Committee Member/s – None.

Item VII: **NEW BUSINESS**

A. MSMA Fall Conference and Delegate Assembly

Mrs. Farnham and Mr. Harris plan to attend the Thursday session of the Fall Conference with Mr. Harris serving as Hermon’s delegate to the Delegate Assembly.

B. Transfer of Unassigned Funds

Mrs. Duran asked the School Committee to determine the amount of 2015 unassigned school funds to transfer to the capital improvement reserve account and explained that the transfer is necessary because it is expected that the law (3% or less carry forward) will be enforced in 2016. Further explanation and discussion ensued.

Mr. Reynolds motioned, seconded by Mr. Carr, to transfer \$1,188,755 to the capital improvement reserve and to have Mrs. Duran consult with the school attorney.

Unanimous vote (5)

Item VIII: **REPORTS**

A. Principals

In addition to their written reports, Mr. Kiesman reported that there was an unannounced lockdown at HMS earlier in the day; and Mr. Walsh announced that the Supreme Judicial Court of Maine will be holding session at HHS tomorrow and invited all in attendance to attend.

B. Superintendent

Mrs. Duran reminded the School Committee of their October 19 goal setting session (6:30 p.m.) and reported that she had recently accepted letters of resignation from two ed techs and a bus driver/maintenance person.

C. Student Representatives

-Mr. Lana reported that there will be the opportunity for students to lunch with the justices tomorrow and offered to share information about the day at the next meeting.

Ms. Jackson announced that once the date for the NHS tapping ceremony has been scheduled, she will extend an invitation to the HSC.

D. School Committee Follow-up and Request for Information

-As requested, Mrs. CoWallis shared RSU 87 enrollment numbers.

-In response to Mrs. Farnham, Mrs. Duran and Messrs. Snyder and Reynolds spoke to the efforts to date of the Building Committee. Currently the Committee is seeking the services of an architectural engineer for construction to hopefully begin within the next 2-3 years of a possible 15 classrooms, bathrooms and a multipurpose room to also be used by the Rec Department. Mrs. Duran added that 34% of funds recently returned to the Town of Hermon by Maine PERS has been set aside to help fund the cost of the a multi purpose room and 66% to the HSD’s capital improvement reserve in anticipation of the HES expansion project.

-Mr. Reynolds reported a concern from citizens hoping for a divided lane at HMS. A brief discussion concluded that there is no room to create an additional lane.

-Mr. Harris thanked Mr. Walsh for the tour of HHS.

-In response to Mr. Snyder, Mr. Walsh spoke to disciplinary action for students in possession of a hookah pen and reported no vaping incidents to date this year.

Item IX: Mr. Reynolds motioned, seconded by Mr. Harris, to approve the Warrant # 7 of September 25, 2015, and Warrant # 8 of October 9, 2015.

Unanimous vote (5)

Mrs. Duran extended an invitation to School Committee members to tour the HES portable classroom/library after the meeting.

Item X: Mr. Carr motioned, seconded by Mr. Harris, to adjourn the meeting at 8 p.m.

Unanimous vote (5).

Respectfully submitted,

, Recording Secretary

