

Hermon School Committee
Minutes – Regular Meeting
Tuesday, September 8, 2015
Hermon High School Room #139

Providing Leadership to Enhance the Aspirations of our Children

Present

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

Absent

Mr. John Snyder, Chairperson
Mrs. Shannon Knowles

Staff: Mrs. Janice Clain, Mr. Micah Grant, Mr. Jerry Keisman, Mrs. Barbara Libby,
Ms. Mallory McPartland, Mrs. Ruth Parent, Mr. Brian Walsh
Guest: Mrs. Kim Nichols

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

Item II: Agenda Adjustments

Mrs. Duran requested the addition of one position to Item V:B. Extra Curricular Appointments.

Item III: Mr. Carr motioned, seconded by Mr. Harris, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of August 24, 2015.

Unanimous vote (5)

Item IV: **PROCLAMATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS**

A. Social Media

As Mr. Walsh presented a newly created Hermon High School Facebook page, he spoke to the contents, ease of use, ability to shut down the page immediately, and public's opportunity to view and "like" the page but not post comments. Brief discussion ensued with Mr. Walsh thanked for his efforts. Mrs. Duran requested the opportunity to set protocols in place before launching the page.

B. Mr. Carr motioned, seconded by Mr. Harris, to approve the request for the April 18-21, 2016, eighth grade trip to Quebec City.

Unanimous vote (4)

C. Mr. Harris motioned, seconded by Mr. Carr to approve the request for HHS advisors and students to attend Key Leader training September 25-27, 2015, in New Hampshire.

D. Public Comments – None.

Item V: **PERSONNEL**

A. Mr. Carr motioned, seconded by Mr. Harris, to approve the employment of Ms. Kristen Bender as a 5-8 ed tech II – special education.

Unanimous vote (4)

B. Extra Curricular Appointments 2015-2016

The following list of appointments was provided to the School Committee:

Hermon Middle School

Cheering

Nicole LeBarnes

Cross Country Volunteer

Caitlin Barrows

Hermon High School

JV Girls Basketball

Shawn Good

Indoor Track

Amy Luce

French Club

Ruth Parent.

Item VI: **OLD BUSINESS**

A. Mr. Harris motioned, seconded by Mrs. Farnham to excuse the absence of Mr. Snyder and Mrs. Knowles.

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

B. Mr. Carr motioned, seconded by Mr. Harris, to approve the job descriptions for the groundskeeper and maintenance person as presented.

Unanimous vote (5)

C. Reports as Public Information

The School Committee agreed that the HHS Facebook page would increase the opportunity to promote events and news. Mrs. Farnham added that when she looked back through the last year of reports from the superintendent and principals, she didn't find much to "red flag" but was willing to concede at this time.

Item VII: **NEW BUSINESS**

A. The School Committee set a tentative meeting date of Monday, October 19, to establish 2014-2015 goals.

B. Mr. Carr motioned, seconded by Mr. Harris, to approve submission of the application for leased instructional space to the Maine Department of Education.

Unanimous vote (4)

C. Mr. Carr motioned, seconded by Mr. Harris, to support the request for loan forgiveness.

Voting for: Reynolds, Carr, Harris
Voting against: Farnham

D. On behalf of Community Health and Counseling, Mrs. Kim Nichols announced that the Bangor Area Substance Abuse Task Force in partnership with Bangor Public Health and Health Acadia is hosting a Statewide Summit: *Marijuana in the New Millennium* Wednesday, September 23, 2015. The Summit will include a daytime session at Morgan Hill Event Center and an evening program at Husson University's Gracie Theater. Prior to the business portion of the October 5 meeting, the program will be presented to the HSC, RSU 87 superintendent and directors, and the Hermon town councilors and town manager.

Item VIII: **REPORTS**

A. Principals

In addition to their written reports, Mr. Walsh reported that he was notified last week of the MDOE's decision to pull statewide funding for PSATs and SATs effective with this school year. He added that he did budget for this cost in this year's budget. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Harris motioned, seconded by Mr. Carr, to add a variance to the agenda.

Unanimous vote (5)

Mr. Harris motioned, seconded by Mr. Carr, to fund the \$15/student PSAT fee for sophomores with the cost not to exceed \$2,1000.

Unanimous vote (4)

B. Superintendent

Mrs. Duran reported that she and Mr. Raymond had a lengthy discussion re the law stating that school departments may have only 3% in undesignated funds at the end of a fiscal year.

C. Student Representatives

Ms. Jackson reported that she paid a \$55 fee to take the SAT on October 3 at Bangor High School. The Block Party for freshmen, sponsored by the Student Council, was held this past Friday; and the first Key Club meeting is scheduled for September 19. Auditions have begun for the fall musical.

Item VIII:D. School Committee Follow-up and Request for Information

- (cont;d) -In response to Mr. Harris, Mrs. Duran reported that the HMS roof project is near completion with plans to complete another section next year.
- In response to Mrs. Farnham, Mrs. Duran explained that the non-school related transport is for 5-12 students to birthday parties, dance lessons, driver ed, etc.
- Mrs. Farnham expressed concern with ongoing state budget issues affecting the current's year budget and the potential for conversation with our state representatives/senators.
- Mrs. Farnham encouraged Mrs. Duran to participate in the Economic Development Committee's meetings toward creating Hermon's own marketing and branding plan.
- At the request of Mr. Carr, new staff members will be invited to the November meeting.

E. Other – None.

Item IX: Mr. Carr motioned, seconded by Mr. Harris, to approve Warrant # 6 of September 11, 2015.
Unanimous vote (4)

Item X: Mr. Harris motioned, seconded by Mrs. CoWallis, to adjourn the meeting at 8 p.m.
Unanimous vote (5)

Respectfully submitted,

Gaynor Reynolds
Recording Secretary