

Hermon School Committee
Minutes– Regular Meeting
Monday, November 02, 2020 – 6:30 p.m.
Hermon High School Room 167
Providing Leadership to Enhance the Aspirations of our Children

**** Due to Governor Mills' declaration of emergency, this meeting will be closed to public attendance. The public may join the meeting virtually by using the following link:**

meet.google.com/nda-oxsn-ofw

Attending

Ted Harris, Chair
Debora Farnham, Vice Chair
Scott Hatch
Deborah Langille
Mackenzie Stepp, Student Representative
Madison Despault, Student Representative

Absent

Debbie CoWallis, RSU 87 Representative
Kristen Shorey

Staff: Cindy Badger, Stephanie Biberstein, Jim Chasse, Kathryn Goodman, Micah Grant, Jenny Perry, Brian Walsh and Jody White

Guests: Matt Haney, Karen Harling, Cindy Pellett, and Kim Shaffer

Item I: Call to Order

Mr. Harris, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.

Item II: Agenda Adjustments

Add Item IV.C. MDI Solar presentation

Item III: Approval of Minutes

Motioned by Ms. Langille, seconded by Mrs. Farnham, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of October 5, 2020.

Unanimous (4)

Item IV: Proclamations and Presentation

A. Public Comments*: None

B. Donations

Donation of 50 pairs of hand-knit mittens from Wanda Leavitt, Carmel.

C. MDI Solar presentation

Matt Haney, MDI High School Principal, gave a presentation on the MDI High School solar project.

Item V: Personnel

A. Resignations

a. Carrie Murchison, Self-contained Ed Tech III - PADS

B. Co / Extra-curricular positions

Hermon High School – Athletics

Indoor Track **David King**

Indoor Track Assistant **Jeffrey King**

Item VI: Old Business

A. Excused Absence of School Committee Member/s

- a. Mr. Harris moved, seconded by Ms. Langille, to excuse the absence of Kristen Shorey and Debbie CoWallis.

Unanimous (4)

B. Policies - Second Reading

- a. AC Nondiscrimination/Equal Opportunity And Affirmative Action
b. ACAA Harassment And Sexual Harassment Of Students
c. ACAA-R Student Discrimination/Harassment And Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint Procedures
d. ACAB Harassment And Sexual Harassment Of School Employees
e. ACAB-R Employee Discrimination/Harassment And Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint Procedures

Moved by Mr. Harris, seconded by Mrs. Farnham, to approve the second readings of Policies AC, ACAA, ACAA-R, ACAB, and ACAB-R, as presented.

Unanimous (4)

C. Reopening Schools Committee Update

Superintendent Chasse stated that the full admin team had met earlier in the day and they would like more student days on a regular basis with no real conclusions made. It's a challenge because we also may be going remote. Mrs. Farnham reported that when the committee met a couple of weeks ago, there was a good mix of success stories and real challenges. We are in a hurry up and wait mode. Possible different options were discussed.

Item VII: New Business

A. Approval of School Emergency Plans

Mr. Harris moved, seconded by Ms. Langille, to approve each school's emergency response plan.

Unanimous (4)

B. October 1st Counts

Superintendent Chasse discussed the October 1st State report. The total attending count was 1277. The subsidy count was 1019. The attending count is down 65 students from last year, the majority of those being first year homeschool students and low pre-k numbers. Melissa Davis has reached out to those families, approximately 15 of those are receiving support from the school department and we are receiving a partial attending count for those.

Item VIII: Reports

A. Students

Ms. Stepp reported that the students have received their laptops. Student council has been trying to connect the two groups. They have had a pumpkin decorating contest and they've talked about a homeroom scavenger hunt; one group to hide items for the next group to find the following day. They are also doing a Thanksgiving This or That survey. The thanksgiving collection will be divided between Hermon, Carmel and Levant town offices.

Ms. Despault explained that a lot of clubs have figured out how to meet virtually with the attending students on both days. They are also participating in virtual events at the State level. They hope to have One Act Plays in June.

B. Superintendent and Principals

Mrs. Perry had nothing to add to her written report.

Mr. Grant added that they had a reverse penny war that raised funds for the ALS foundation and they broke \$1,000 for the second year in a row.

Mr. Walsh mentioned the article on squirrels in his written report. It was a great opportunity for students to have hands-on research experience prior to college. The boys cross country team qualified for States. Girls soccer capped off a 10-0 record for the season. Matthew Murray, freshman class advisor, is doing a project to recognize the valedictorians and salutatorians similar to how our championship teams are recognized, All have been identified from 1928 through the present.

Superintendent Chasse had nothing additional to report.

Ms. Langille thanked everybody for their hard work during the pandemic. She shared her sympathies with the Umble family. She asked and was informed that the date of the track meeting would be that Thursday, Steve Thomas would be putting out an agenda.

Mrs. Farnham congratulated Nolan Raymond for his essay being selected. There are really cool things happening in the schools in spite of everything going on. She really appreciates all that we are trying to do for our students and coworkers.

Mr. Harris recognized: Mr. Sinclairs graphics and detailed facebook posts; the laptop team for getting the laptops out; the high school civil rights team; the middle school breast cancer awareness effort; the bus driver appreciation day. There are very good things happening in Hermon right now. Mr. Harris requested everyone email him 2-3 questions to put in a survey out to staff and families as to where we stand today. Lastly, he mentioned that they are getting ready for contract negotiations for both Teachers and Support Staff. He, Mr. Hatch and Superintendent Chasse will be transgressing down that path sooner than later

- C. Finance Report (as written)
- D. Curriculum/Assessment Report (as written)
- E. Guidance Report (as written)
- F. Nurses Reports (as written)
- G. Transportation and Facilities
- H. Possible Future Agenda Items:
 - a. December NWEA Assessment Reports
 - b. Legislative Updates
 - c. Committee Workshop for FLY HERMON plan
 - d. Committee Workshop for Change Style Indicator

Item IX: Approval of Warrants

Mr. Harris moved, seconded by Mrs. Farnham, to approve warrant 8 of October 16th and warrant 9 of October 30, 2020.

Unanimous (4)

Item X: Adjournment

Mr. Harris moved, seconded by Ms. Langille, to adjourn the meeting at 7:20 pm.

Unanimous (4)

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Chasse

Superintendent of Schools

** This is an opportunity for members of the public to comment on agenda items, contribute information that may be of interest to the School Committee or ask clarifying questions. Please wait to be recognized and identify yourself before speaking. This is not the time to register complaints or promote a personal agenda. Please remember that you may not identify any person by name or job function.*