

Hermon School Committee
Minutes – Regular Meeting
Monday, December 3, 2018 – 6:30 p.m.
Hermon High School Library

Providing Leadership to Enhance the Aspirations of our Children

Present

Anthony Reynolds, Chair
Ted Harris, Vice Chair
Debora Farnham
Jesse Keith
Anne Smith
Debbie CoWallis
Allison Treat, Student Representative
Liana Shaw, Student Representative

Absent

Jessika Frye

- Staff: Cindy Badger, Stephanie Biberstein, Melissa Davis, Micah Grant, Jesse Hargrove, Lisa Roy, and Brian Walsh
- Item I: Mr. Reynolds, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Item II: Agenda Adjustments: None
- Item III: Mr. Harris motioned, seconded by Mrs. CoWallis to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of November 5, 2018, and the minutes of the Joint Workshop Meeting with RSU87/MSAD23 of November 14, 2018, as presented.
Unanimous vote (6)
- Item IV: Proclamations and Presentation
A. Public Comments: None
B. Acceptance of Donations
a. Wanda Leavitt donation of 50 pairs of handmade mittens having an estimated value of \$500.00
b. Cynthia Pinciario donation consisting of paper towels, tissues, Clorox wipes, animal crackers and pretzels and having the value of approximately \$300.00
- Item V: Personnel
A. Employment
Motioned by Mr. Harris, seconded by Mrs. Smith, to approve the employment of Bradley Swoboda, Patricia A. Duran School Custodian.
Unanimous vote (5)
- B. Co / Extra-curricular positions * New applicant to position
David King Indoor Track
Matt Kinney Freshman Basketball
Matt Kinney Varsity Baseball
Christina Paradis J.V. Cheerleading
Jody Theberge * Varsity Softball
Dustin Davis HMS Boys "A" Basketball, Volunteer Assistant

Item VI: Old Business

A. Excused Absence of School Committee Member/s:

Motioned by Mr. Harris, seconded by Mr. Keith, to excuse the absence of Jessika Frye.

Unanimous vote (6)

Item VII: New Business

A. October 1st Enrollments

Mr. Gonyar explained the October 1st enrollment counts are a big part of the ED 279 that determines State subsidy. Our total district enrollment has increased by 24 students, 10 of those are tuition students. The October 1, 2018 Count goes toward the fiscal year 2020 State subsidy.

Note:

The meeting recorder memory card was full and no longer able to record the meeting after 6:40 pm.

B. Patricia A. Duran School Sign Designs

Mrs. Perry gave handouts on the sign design options for the Patricia A. Duran School. She stated the sign will be Hermon blue with Hermon yellow lettering. She has met with both Howard Kroll, Town Manager, and Josh Berry, Code Enforcement Officer, regarding the sign options. Mr. Kroll offered to request the Town Council to pay for half of the LED screen, as well as have the electric go to the Town. The sign will post announcements for both the school and for the Rec department.

Mr. Harris motioned, seconded by Mr. Keith, to accept L.E.D. Message Unit Quote #10979 for \$14,052.60, measuring 3'-1" tall x 6'-3" wide.

Unanimous vote (5)

C. Hermon High School Course Request

Mr. Walsh presented several new course proposals for Hermon High School. He pointed out that the courses will be listed in the Program of Studies, but they will only run if there are enough students enrolled in each the courses, and if the budget allows for the additional costs. Discussion on each course offering ensued.

Mr. Harris motioned, seconded by Mrs. Smith to approve the Crafts course, as presented.

Unanimous vote (6)

Mr. Harris motioned, seconded by Mr. Keith to approve the Guitar Fundamentals course, as presented.

Unanimous vote (6)

Mr. Harris motioned, seconded by Mrs. Smith to approve the Journalism II course, as presented.

Unanimous vote (6)

Mr. Harris motioned, seconded by Mr. Keith to approve the following Social Studies course, as presented:

- World War 3.0
- Making History
- American Herstory
- Banks, Bucks and Bonds

Unanimous vote (6)

Item VIII: Reports

A. Superintendent

In addition to his written report, Mr. Gonyar handed out policy packets. He stated the polices were not quite ready for the second reading yet. None of the policies are required policies. Policy IKA really does not need to be a policy and he may recommend to rescind it. Policy IKAB is the big brush of the grading system. The next three: IKAB-R1, IKAB-R2, and IKAB-R3 are the regulations which detail how each school will report their grades. He will bring these back in January for a second reading. The next policy committee meeting will be December 17th at 3:30pm. He will introduce the next set for 1st readings in January. The school committee has reviewed and updated all required policies over the last 2 years. The approach to policy work in the future is to start with the A's and review 5 or 6 a month, as well as eliminating one's that are no longer needed.

MSBA President Kim Bedard and MSSA Executive Director Steve Bailey visited our district on Wednesday, November 28th. Hermon was the only district they met with in Region 2. They were very impressed with the tours of each school. They also met with central office staff and some school committee members to listen to the challenges faced at the ground floor. The report from their visit will be in the January MSBA newsletter.

Mr. Gonyar also gave a hand out the Title Funding Comparisons. The overall loss to the District in Federal Title funding was over \$25,000. We will either must shift these to Local costs or not have these things anymore.

B. Principals

In addition to his written report, Mr. Walsh added that there will be a field trip to the Federal Building in Bangor for Mr. Hargrove and students to attend the hearing on Ranked Choice Voting.

Mr. Grant recognized Lisa Roy, HMS Guidance Counselor approved at the last meeting, who was in attendance. Mr. Grant also presented a Show Choir proposal to start a competitive show choir at HMS, open to all grades 5-8 with the intent of competing at the regional competition in March of 2020 with Caroline Phillips as Director, and Rebecca Perry as Consultant.

Mr. Harris motioned, seconded by Mrs. Smith to accept the Show Choir proposal, as presented.

Unanimous vote (5)

In addition to her written report, Mrs. Perry stated that the Helping Hands Donations have now helped 42 families this holiday season.

C. Finance Report

D. School Committee Follow-up and Request for Information

Mrs. Smith expressed her excitement over having Show Choir at the Middle School, although she's sad the interest dropped off at the high school. She thinks the new course options at the high school are wonderful. She believes those are the kind of things that make students excited to attend school. She inquired as to whether there was a Career Prep Program. Mr. Walsh explained that guidance is running a career exploration through their new software program. Mr. Gonyar added that we will need full time guidance at the middle school to get those students prepared for high school. We should really start building that by 5th grade. Mr. Grant added that JMG is coming to the middle school on December 19th to hold a reverse career fair on career explorations. JMG does a fantastic job with this.

Mrs. CoWallis felt this was an exciting meeting. All the opportunities presented were remarkable, and she thanked everyone involved for all that they do. It is a huge benefit for the students.

Mr. Harris congratulated Garrett Trask for being recognized as the Class C Football Player of the Year. He attended the S.P.R.P.C.E. meeting. He would like to bring Dr. Webb's presentation to this group. He would like to recognize the students that participated in the e-waste day. He asked if we have explored sharing resources for foreign language. Mr. Gonyar stated that there will be a meeting on that because of the shortage of instructors. He stated that he is glad that we are getting to career paths for students.

Mr. Reynolds also expressed excitement for the new course options and that he likes the flexibility from year to year.

E. Other

Student representative Miss Treat stated she helped with the musical box office, and they almost sold out at each performance. Goals were set for the Thirst Project. The Angel Tree was put up earlier this year.

Student representative Miss Shaw stated the student council held a food party. The Holiday Community party will allow for 3 hours of community service for students who participate. There will be a Math Meet next Wednesday, and an Honors Program Book Study on Friday.

Item IX: Motioned by Mr. Harris, seconded by Mrs. Smith, to approve Warrant # 10 of November 16, and Warrant # 11 of November 30, 2018
Unanimous vote (5)

Item X: Mr. Harris motioned, seconded by Mr. Keith, to enter into Executive Session pursuant to Employment of Superintendent 1 M.R.S.A. § 405 (6) (A) at 8:12 p.m.
Accepted, unless doubted

The School Committee returned to public session at 8:16 p.m.

Action: Mr. Harris motioned, seconded by Mr. Keith, to extend the superintendent's contract by one year.
Unanimous vote (5)

Item XI: Adjournment
Mr. Harris motioned, seconded by Mrs. Smith, to adjourn at 8:21 p.m.
Accepted, unless doubted

Respectfully submitted,
Gary J. Gonyar
Superintendent of Schools