

Hermon School Committee  
Minutes – Regular Meeting  
Monday, June 5, 2017  
Hermon High School Room #139

Providing Leadership to Enhance the Aspirations of our Children

Present

Mr. Anthony Reynolds, Chairperson  
Mr. Ralph Carr, Vice Chairperson  
Mrs. Debora Farnham  
Mr. Ted Harris  
Mrs. Anne Smith  
Mrs. Debbie CoWallis  
Mrs. Shannon Knowles

Absent

Mr. Michael Lana, Student Representative  
Mr. Eric Byers, Student Representative

Staff: Mrs. Stephanie Biberstein, Mrs. Janice Clain, Mr. Micah Grant, Mrs. Jenny Perry, Mr. Brian Walsh

Guests: Gary Gonyar, Donna Pulver, Adam Gray, Lauren Moulton, and Nicholas Moulton

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

Item II: Mrs. Duran, Superintendent, requested an additional item under New Business –VIII: F. Rec. Department and Hermon School Department Agreement

Item III: Mr. Harris motioned, seconded by Mr. Carr, to approve the minutes of regular meeting of May 1, 2017, as written:

Unanimous Vote (7)

Item IV: PROCLAMATIONS AND PRESENTATION

A. Public Comments

Mrs. Pulver sincerely thanked Mrs. Duran for her years of service to the Hermon School Department.

Item V: PERSONNEL

A. Resignations

Mrs. Duran, Superintendent, announced the resignations of Sue Woodilla, elementary school secretary and Jeremy Mann, math teacher and math coach and middle / high schools.

B. Employment

a. Motioned by Mr. Harris, seconded by Mrs. Smith, to approve the employment of Heather Fidler, Elementary School Second Grade Teacher for the 2017-2018 school year.

Unanimous Vote (5)

b. Motioned by Mr. Carr, seconded by Mr. Harris, to approve the employment of Adam Gray, Middle School Physical Education Teacher for the 2017-2018 school year.

Unanimous Vote (5)

c. Motioned by Mr. Carr, seconded by Mr. Harris, to approve the part time transfer of Lillian Barry, to part time Middle School Guidance Counselor for the 2017-2018 school year.

Unanimous Vote (5)

Motioned by Mr. Carr, seconded by Mr. Harris, to approve the employment of Lauren Moulton, part time Middle School Guidance Counselor for the 2017-2018 school year.

Unanimous Vote (5)

d. Motioned by Mr. Carr, seconded by Mr. Harris, to approve the employment of Donald “Rick” Sinclair, 6–12 Athletic Director, effective July 1, 2017.

Unanimous Vote (7)

- e. Motioned by Mrs. Smith, seconded by Mr. Harris, to approve the transfer of Stephanie Biberstein to Assist Principal, Hermon High School effective July 1, 2017.  
Unanimous Vote (7)
- f. Motioned by Mr. Harris, seconded by Mrs. Smith, to approve Anna Anthony, high school special education teacher, as summer school English teacher.  
Unanimous Vote (7)
- g. Motioned by Mr. Harris, seconded by Mrs. CoWallis, to approve Elizabeth Connors, high school math teacher, as summer school math teacher.  
Unanimous Vote (7)

Item VI: OLD BUSINESS

- A. Excused Absence of School Committee Member/s: – None

Item VII: NEW BUSINESS

- A. The date for the July school committee meeting was changed to July 10<sup>th</sup> because the originally approved date of July 15<sup>th</sup> was a Saturday. The date set for August school committee meeting was August 14<sup>th</sup>. Both dates were accepted unless doubted.
- B. Motioned by Mr. Harris, seconded by Mrs. Smith, to approve the MVR #4 Regional Budget for United Technologies Center and adult ed, as presented.  
Unanimous Vote (5)
- C. Mrs. Clain, Student Council Advisor, provided Mrs. Duran with the 2 student applications for the position of HSC student representative. Mr. Harris will interview the candidates. Accepted unless doubted.
- D. MEMA Authorization  
Motioned by Mr. Carr, seconded by Mr. Harris, to approve the authorization of our buses for all 3 Critical Transportation Needs for the Maine Emergency Management Agency.  
Unanimous Vote (5)
- E. Approval of school lunch price increases  
Motioned by Mr. Carr, seconded by Mrs. Farnham, to raise the paid student lunch and reduce the adult prices to be in line with the reimbursement from free/reduced lunches, pursuant to the “Hunger-Free Kids Act”, Public Law 11-296.
 

	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
K-8	\$2.50	\$2.75
9-12	\$2.75	\$3.00
Adult prices	\$5.85	\$4.50

  
Unanimous Vote (5)
- F. Recreation Department and Hermon School Department Agreement  
Motioned by Mr. Carr, seconded by Mrs. Smith, to reject the proposed agreement between the Hermon Recreation Department and Hermon School Department regarding use of athletic fields and buildings, as presented.  
Unanimous Vote (5)

Item VIII: REPORTS

- A. Principals  
In addition to his written report, Mr. Walsh reported that Fox News covered Kent Raymond’s Eagle Scout project of raising funds for and rebuilding the planter and light at the base of the Hermon High School sign. A group of students called Hawks for Change volunteered and attended an advocacy against substance use and abuse training for student leaders. The group is now working with NESCOM on public service announcements. WABI covered Project Citizen, a program for the social studies department. Students in their junior year identify a problem, collect data, do research, and conduct surveys and interviews. They then present on their conclusion in front of a committee of experts from the community that judge them. One of our students wrote an essay about John Kollman

for "Teacher Heroes" sponsored by MEA and the Portland Sea Dogs and it was the winning essay. The student, her family and Mr. Kollman and his family will attend and be recognized a Sea Dogs game.

In addition to her written report, Mrs. Perry reported that they recently had their 3<sup>rd</sup> trimester celebration of learning. The Mason's were there and they had donated 24 bikes for Books for Bikes. Through parents and children shopping at Danforth's, the Elementary School won the \$1,000 grant for instructional and student enrichment materials. Student Madelyn Rossi won the Casella Calendar contest for recycling, and was presented with an award and had her picture framed. The elementary school reached their goal of 50,000 Hawk Wings so they will be having a field day on June 16<sup>th</sup> with a dunk tank and jump house. Both the Pre-K and Kindergarten screenings went well. The kindergarten and 4<sup>th</sup> grade "graduations" will both be held June 15<sup>th</sup>.

B. Superintendent

In addition to her written report, Mrs. Duran reported that the 8<sup>th</sup> grade celebration will be held June 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm at the middle school gym. High school graduation is Saturday, June 10<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 am at the Cross Center. School committee members who'd like to sit on the stage and congratulate graduates, please let Jody White know by Wednesday.

Mrs. Duran stated that she has two more individuals she's anticipating resignations from, so she requested the school board approve that either she or Mr. Gonyar be able to give pre-employment letters to the new hires indicating that we have every intension of hiring them, rather than waiting until the next meeting. Accepted unless doubted.

Mrs. Duran recognized Mr. Carr for being an amazing supporter of education in this system. She spoke of the many areas he has been a supporter of the community, how very much he is appreciated and to let him know that we have ordered a new plaque for the Guidance suite that speaks to all that he has done for not only the high school, but the community.

C. School Committee Follow-up and Request for Information

Mr. Harris mentioned his daughter had recently attended a field trip to the Cole Museum and that it greatly influenced her. He asked Mr. Walsh if the television show, "13 Reasons Why" had created any issues. Mr. Walsh stated that it was a series created for viewers 17 and older with parental consent, and unfortunately kids have been watching it and they have had some issues and dealt with them accordingly when they have come up. Referring to the elementary school project, he believes adding a sprinkler system is the right thing to do when it comes to safety. He thanked Mrs. Duran for her many years of service to the town of Hermon.

Mrs. Farnham congratulated Mrs. Duran on her retirement. She asked if we had heard anything regarding the bus. Mrs. Duran explained that the case was given to the school insurance company and they take it from there. She asked about scholarships, and Mr. Walsh stated that the forms went out today and he will have that number at graduation. She stated she did not like the lawn patches by the tar in the parking lots.

Mrs. Smith acknowledged Mrs. Duran and Mr. Carr for all that they have done for this community, and for the educational system in this town.

Mrs. CoWallis told Mrs. Duran that she was grateful for the opportunity to work with her through the years, for good, honest conversations, and wished her good luck with her retirement. She stated this was the 3<sup>rd</sup> time serving on the board with Mr. Carr and thanked him for all he has done for education.

Mrs. Knowles wished both Mrs. Duran and Mr. Carr good luck.

Mr. Carr asked for an update on the building project. Mrs. Duran said there was discussion regarding the significant amount of ledge and whether they try to blast the ledge and put a footing down; or set the building on the ledge on one end and have the foundation build up on the other end. The location likely to be moved because of the size, the angle it has to go at and to give us room for the new septic system that has to go in. He asked the date of the town meeting, and Mrs. Duran stated that it was June 15<sup>th</sup> with voting on June 13<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Carr went on to state that this system is in excellent shape

because we have 3 of the best administrators (referring to Mr. Walsh, Mrs. Perry and Mr. Grant) in the State. He wished Mr. Gonyar luck, and congratulated Mrs. Biberstein on her new position.

Mr. Reynolds also thanked Mr. Carr and Mrs. Duran and echoed the previous sentiments. He stated that we are at 2' of ledge on the front part of the building and 12-15' of ledge on the back. They are looking into the costs of the different options and nothing has been decided yet. Regarding the sprinkler system, there is no fire hydrant there, so a tank would need to be added for water. Fire walls will be added at 12,000', and the fire station is located near by.

D. Other - none

Item VIII: Mr. Carr, motioned, seconded by Mr. Harris, to approve the of Warrant # 24 of May 19, 2017 and Warrant # 25 of June 2, 2017  
Unanimous vote (5)

Item IX: Mr. Harris motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jody White  
Recording Secretary