

Hermon School Committee
Minutes – Regular Meeting
Monday, January 13, 2020 – 6:30 p.m.
Hermon High School Library

Providing Leadership to Enhance the Aspirations of our Children

Present

Ted Harris, Chair
Debora Farnham, Vice Chair
Scott Hatch
Jesse Keith
Deborah Langille
Debbie CoWallis
Mackenzie Stepp, Student Representative

Absent

Liana Shaw, Student Representative

Staff: Cindy Badger, Micah Grant, Heather Haskell, Jenny Perry and Brian Walsh
Guests: None

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

Item II: Agenda Adjustments
Add Warrant #14 B of January 10, 2020 under Item IV.

Item III: Approval of Minutes
Mrs. CoWallis motioned, seconded by Ms. Langille, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of December 9, as presented.
Unanimous (6)

Item IV: Proclamations and Presentation
A. Public Comments: None

Item V: Personnel
A. Resignations
Mr. Gonyar accepted with regrets the resignation of Dustin Davis – Grounds / Custodian / Maintenance.
Mr. Gonyar, Superintendent, also announced his own resignation with mixed emotions.

B. Co-curricular / Extra-curricular
• Billy Meserve, Volunteer Track Assistant *
• Jennifer Meserve, Volunteer Track Assistant *
• Connor Patten, Volunteer Middle School Boys "A" Basketball Assistant *

Item VI: Old Business
A. Excused Absence of School Committee Member/s: Liana Shaw
Ms. Langille motioned, seconded by Mrs. Farnham, to excuse the absence of Ms. Liana Shaw, Student Representative.
Unanimous (6)

B. Second Reading of Job Description
a. Business Manager job description
Ms. Langille motioned, seconded by Mrs. Farnham, to accept the 2nd reading of the Business Manager job description, as presented.
Unanimous (6)

Item VII: New Business

A. First Reading of Job Description

Mrs. Farnham motioned, seconded by Ms. Langille, to accept the 1st reading of the Athletic Groundskeeper job description, as presented.

Unanimous (6)

B. First Reading of Policy

a. DJ-R Federal Procurement Manual

Ms. Langille motioned, seconded by Mrs. Farnham, to accept the 1st reading of Policy DJ-R Federal Procurement Manual, as presented.

Unanimous (6)

b. FF Naming of School Facilities

Ms. Langille motioned, seconded by Mrs. CoWallis, to accept the 1st reading of Policy FF Naming of School Facilities, as presented.

Mr. Harris suggested that it should address the length of time a facility should be named for, or whether it could be renamed after a period of time or for special circumstances. Mr. Gonyar mentioned he would check with the Town to see if they have any rules regarding renaming.

Unanimous (6)

c. JL Student Wellness

Ms. Langille motioned, seconded by Mr. Keith, to accept the 1st reading of Policy JL Student Wellness, as presented.

Unanimous (6)

C. Increase Substitute Teacher Pay

Mrs. Farnham motioned, seconded by Ms. Langille, to increase substitute teacher pay to \$84 for a full day (7 hours) to meet minimum wage.

Discussion to revisit increasing Substitute Teacher Pay for budget purposes for the 20-21 school year ensued. It was requested to see what neighboring districts are paying substitutes.

D. 4-year Capital Improvement Plans (CIPs)

Mr. Gonyar went over the 2020-21 Capital Improvement Plans received from Carpenter & Associates. Along with Jason Davis, Facilities Director and Howard Kroll, Town Manager they took the biggest, most pressing items and split them over the next 4 years. Mr. Gonyar will be bringing the plan to the Town Council on February 7th.

Item VIII: Reports

A. Superintendent

In addition to his written report, Mr. Gonyar stated that he would have a date for the R.K.O audit presentation once it is set up by Mr. Kroll, Town Manager. The district drop-out committee did meet. The graduation rate is great. Mr. Gonyar stated that realistically, the first draft of the budget will be at the March 2nd meeting. The Committee may have to meet a couple of times in March to get ready for April 6th for the 2nd reading and acceptance of the budget. The first reading of the budget to the Town will be April 9th.

B. Principals

In addition to his written report, Mr. Walsh stated that Neilly Raymond, MPA winner, won the Voice of Democracy over the weekend. She will receive a check for \$750 and an all expense trip to Washington, DC to compete at the national level. In addition to that she won a trip to Valley Forge to take part in their student youth leadership program in June.

In addition to his written report, Mr. Grant mentioned that the Builders Club, sponsored by the Kiwanis, will have their inauguration and awarding of pins and medal on January 22nd at the high school. The club is planning on fixing the footbridge for their summer project.

In addition to her written report, Mrs. Perry stated that they sent out prior notification that they are starting the PreK / Kindergarten registration in February. She also mentioned that their family nights will be held next month, broken up by grade levels.

C. Finance Report

Mr. Gonyar mentioned we were about half-way through the year, so should have expended about 50% in each cost center line:

- Regular Instruction is at 51.57%
- Special education is at 62.5 %
- Other instruction is at 60%
- Student and Staff Support is at 48.9%. It is because we spent a lot of money early and that gap is closing in over time.
- Systems Administration is 57%
- School Administration is 52.9%
- Transportation is low at 46% because we have carried an extra bus driver for a while, but it has been good for bus service.
- Facilities and Maintenance is almost at 55%
- Debt is -10% because we made the interest loan payment that was not budgeted.
- All other cost centers are right on
- Total budget is at 51.75%

D. School Committee Follow-up and Request for Information

Ms. Langille and Mrs. Farnham congratulated Mr. Gonyar on his pending retirement.

Mr. Hatch asked why there are no school zones speed limit signs outside of the schools. Mr. Gonyar explained that the roads are State roads and they do not have lower speed limits because the schools are set so far back from the roads. They are reluctant to slow down traffic more than it is because it creates log jams, which has happened in other parts of the State. We asked about having a crosswalk from the sidewalk that goes up from middle school towards the elementary school to the development across the street. We were told no because there is no safe landing (sidewalk) on the other side.

Mr. Harris asked Mr. Keith if he was planning on running again for his seat; Mr. Keith stated that he was. Mr. Harris also inquired about how to post for the superintendent position due to Mr. Gonyar announcing his resignation. The School Committee asked to contact Steve Bailey at Maine School Management Association as soon as possible to see what they can offer for assistance with the process.

E. Other

Ms. Stepp stated that Show Choir is up and running. Student council has winter carnival in the works with the theme, "Opposites".

Item IX: Approval of warrant(s)

Ms. Langille motioned, seconded by Mr. Keith to approve warrant #12 of December 13, warrant #13 of December 27, 2019, and warrants #14 and #14B of January 10, 2020.

Unanimous (5)

Item X: Executive Session – Contract Negotiations [1 M.R.S.A. § 405 (6) (D)]

Ms. Langille motioned, seconded by Mr. Keith to enter Executive Session at 8:02 p.m. pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405 (6) (D) to discuss Contract Negotiations.

Unanimous (5)

The School Committee returned to public session at 8:18 p.m.

Ms. Langille motioned, seconded by Mr. Hatch to ratify the Negotiated Agreement between the Hermon School Committee and the Hermon Education Association for The Educational Technicians I, II & III for September 1, 2020 To August 31, 2023
Unanimous (5)

Item XI: Adjournment

Ms. Langille motioned, seconded by Mrs. Farnham to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 p.m.
Unanimous (5)

Respectfully submitted,
Gary J. Gonyar
Superintendent of Schools