

Hermon School Committee  
Minutes – Regular Meeting  
Monday, March 2, 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  
Liana Shaw, Student Representative

Absent

Mackenzie Stepp, Student Representative

Staff: Cindy Badger, Stephanie Biberstein, Janice Clain, Melissa Davis, Micah Grant, Amanda Lovejoy, Chelsea Pinette, Rick Sinclair and Brian Walsh

Guests: 2020 State Champion Cheerleaders, Coaches and their families

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

- Under Item VII: New Business, add D. Approval of Bids for Summer Capital Improvement and E. Discussion of plans for Coronavirus and what is being done to prepare.
- Under Item IX, add Warrant 11 A add 7 of 11/29/2019 for a check voided and reissued

Item III: Approval of Minutes

Ms. Langille motioned, seconded by Mrs. Farnham, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of February 3, as presented.

Unanimous (6)

Item IV: Proclamations and Presentation

- A. The School Committee, Superintendent Gonyar and Athletic Director Rick Sinclair recognized the 2020 State Cheering Champions:  
Coach Kristie Reed, Assistant Coach Kaitlenn Turner, Alanna Berube, Jasmine Boulier, Brooklyn Brown, Ally Coxson, Kalley Curry, Cali Cyr, Madison Despault, Megan Dorr, Hailey Gogan, Madison Higgins, Alexis Raymond, Lyndsee Reed, Michaela Saulter, Madison Smith, Caitlin Whitehouse, and Torria Wittmer.  
Assistant Coach Christina Paradis and Riley Perry were unable to attend.
- B. Public Comments: None

Item V: Personnel

A. Resignations

Mr. Gonyar accepted with regrets the resignations of:

- Eila Wiseman, HMS Self Contained Ed Tech III
- Kimberly Lyons, PADS .8 Music Teacher

B. Employment

Ms. Langille motioned, seconded by Mrs. CoWallis to employ Jamie Rennebu, as Business Manager.

Unanimous (5)

C. Co-curricular / Extra-curricular

- Heather Haskell – One Act Play Technical Director \*
- Michelle Henderson – 2nd session PADS/HMS Ski \*

Item VI: Old Business

A. Excused Absence of School Committee Member/s:

Mr. Harris motioned, seconded by Mr. Keith, to excuse the absence of Miss Stepp, Student Representative.

Unanimous (6)

B. Second Reading of 2020-21 School Calendar

Ms. Langille motioned, seconded by Mr. Hatch, to accept the 2<sup>nd</sup> reading of the 2020-21 School Calendar, as presented.

Unanimous (6)

C. Third Reading of Policies

a. FF Naming of School Facilities policy

Mrs. CoWallis motioned, seconded by Ms. Langille, to accept the 3<sup>rd</sup> reading of policy FF Naming of School Facilities.

Unanimous (6)

Item VII: New Business

A. Probationary Teachers

Mr. Harris motioned, seconded by Ms. Langille, to accept the following probationary teachers as year 2 of 3.

**Probationary (Year 2 of 3)**

**Patricia A. Duran School:** Courtney Klages

**Hermon Middle School:** Allison LeClair

Evan Marshall

Caroline Phillips

Elizabeth Walls

Caroline Washington

**Hermon High School:** Liam Adams

Unanimous (6)

Mr. Harris motioned, seconded by Ms. Langille, to accept the following probationary teachers as year 3 of 3.

**Probationary (Year 3 of 3)**

**Patricia A. Duran School:** Kathryn Callahan

Courtney Cleaves

Katherine Crocker

Heather McFarlin

Lauren Rioux

Morgan Robinson

**Hermon Middle School:** Suzanna Michaud

Tracy Reardon

Lisa Roy (Guidance)

Unanimous (5)

Mr. Harris motioned, seconded by Ms. Langille, to accept the following probationary teachers as year 3 of 3.

**Hermon High School:** Brandon Crocker  
Jessica Fusco  
Tiffany Howard  
Susan Shapiro  
Annette Weed

Unanimous (6)

Mr. Harris motioned, seconded by Ms. Langille, to accept the following teachers as continuing contract, year 4.

**Continuing (Yr 4)**

**Patricia A. Duran School:** Heather Fidler  
Alicia Staffierre  
**Hermon Middle School:** Kelly Donato  
Adam Gray  
Kristen Whitney

Unanimous (5)

Mr. Harris motioned, seconded by Ms. Langille, to accept the following teachers as continuing contract, year 4.

**Hermon High School:** Megan Garbe  
Matthew Murray  
Heather Pelletier (Guidance)  
Elizabeth Trenckmann  
Christopher Woodside

Unanimous (6)

B. First Reading of Policies

a. JED Attendance

Ms. Langille motioned, seconded by Mrs. CoWallis, to accept the 1st reading of JED Attendance policy, as presented.

Unanimous (6)

b. JHB Truancy

Ms. Langille motioned, seconded by Mrs. CoWallis, to accept the 1st reading of JHB Truancy, as presented.

Unanimous (6)

C. Contribution to Employee's Retirement Celebration

Mr. Harris motioned, seconded by Mrs. Farnham, to contribute \$250 each to employee's retirement celebration(s).

Unanimous (6)

D. Approval of Bids for Summer Capital Improvement

Ms. Langille motioned, seconded by Mrs. Farnham, to accept the bid from Penobscot Temperature Controls, Inc. for \$59,350 for the Patricia A. Duran School large boiler replacement.

Unanimous (5)

- E. Discussion of plans for Coronavirus and what is being done to prepare  
Superintendent Gonyar stated that we are aligning ourselves with the Center for Disease Control (CDC), Maine Department of Education (MDOE), the Superintendent's Association and Nurses Association. For now we are treating as we would for the flu, such as cleaning and disinfecting high touch surfaces, reminding students and staff to wash hands frequently, how to cough and sneeze, and using sanitizer.

Three talking points:

1. Hermon administrators are closely monitoring and following the advice and recommendations of the Maine Department of Education and the Center of Disease Control pertaining to the Coronavirus.
2. Please help our school administrators and nurses by reminding students of the Everyday Preventive Actions that everyone should practice to prevent the spread of the common cold and flu.
3. The Hermon School Department is prepared to take additional actions recommended by the Maine Department of Education and Center for Disease Control.

Superintendent Gonyar is going to meet with Howard Kroll, Town Manager and Hermon Public Safety to discuss what to do as a community. We are going to post information and useful resources on the school department webpage.

#### Item VIII: Reports

##### A. Superintendent

In addition to his written report, Mr. Gonyar notified the school committee of 2 ovens being disposed of. The first one has not worked in years and will be going for scrap metal. The second one has never been used and Flagg's will take it as a \$700 trade-in on a new grill for the high school food services staff.

##### B. Principals

Mr. Grant mentioned the results of winter Math Meet. They competed in the large school division. Grade 6 had a 1<sup>st</sup> place winner. Grade 7 had 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place winners. The Grade 6 and Grade 7 teams won 1<sup>st</sup> place, and the Grade 8 team came in 2<sup>nd</sup>. The State competition will be April 7<sup>th</sup> at Eastern Maine Community College.

Mr. Walsh stated the One Act Plays Regionals would be held Friday, March 13<sup>th</sup> in Skowhegan, with Hermon being the last performance of the evening at 8:30 p.m.

##### C. Finance Report

##### D. School Committee Follow-up and Request for Information

Ms. Langile thanked Mr. Gonyar for calling a snow day and keeping everyone safe. She also congratulated all of the winners and wished One Act Plays good luck.

Mr. Keith congratulated the Eastern Maine champion girls' basketball team.

Mrs. Farnham inquired about the progress on solar power. Superintendent Gonyar said stated that solar would go to bid, but preliminary work needs to be done to determine whether the investment will be worthwhile prior to the bidding process. That is being done by Mike Griggs of Bangor IT. He has discovered a lot of good things already such as some work that can be done for the high school circulatory pumps. Jason Davis, Facilities Director, has attended a webinar on lighting. Carpenter & Associates will help us with the bidding process when the time comes. Mr. Gonyar suggested a presentation from Mike Griggs, Bangor IT, on the progress he has made on the project.

Mr. Harris asked for an update on the track. Superintendent Gonyar stated the survey results came back with 70% were in favor of the track and 30% had more questions. The Track Committee voted to move ahead with the project. Next comes the real work of the design and cost before going to vote. Mr. Harris reminded everyone to get out and vote.

E. Other

Ms. Shaw mentioned that Step-up Day was scheduled for March 4<sup>th</sup>. One Act Plays was participating in their showcase on March 13<sup>th</sup>. Seniors were ordering their caps and gowns. Student counsel was going to be holding a blood drive. Semiformal was scheduled for March 28<sup>th</sup>.

Item IX: Approval of warrant(s)

Ms. Langille motioned, seconded by Mrs. Farnham to approve Warrant 11 A of November 29, 2019, Warrant #16 of February 7, 2020 and Warrant #17 of February 21, 2020.

Unanimous (5)

Item X: Executive Session – Disciplining of Officials / Appointees / Employees [1 M.R.S.A. § 405 (6) (A)]

Motioned by Mrs. Farnham, seconded by Mr. Keith to enter Executive Session pursuant to 1M.R.S.A. § 405 (6) (A) to discuss Employment of Officials/Appointees/Employees at 7:52 p.m. Executive Session

Unanimous (6)

The School Committee returned to public session at 8:50 p.m.

Item XI: Adjournment

Ms. Langille motioned, seconded by Mrs. CoWallis to adjourn the meeting at 8:51 p.m.

Unanimous (6)

Respectfully submitted,  
Gary J. Gonyar  
Superintendent of Schools