

MINUTES OF THE HINGHAM SCHOOL COMMITTEE

July 31, 2017

1. Call to order.

The meeting was called to order by School Committee Chair Liza O'Reilly at 7:06 p.m.

Members Present: Michelle Ayer, Aylene Calnan, Carlos Da Silva, Cynthia Galko, Liza O'Reilly, Kay Praschma, and Ed Schreier.

Central Office Present: Dorothy Galo, James LaBillois, John Ferris

Visitors Present: Dan Coughlin, Aisha Oppong

2. To hear an update on the 2017 School Building Committee appointment process

School Committee Chair Liza O'Reilly noted that the Board of Selectmen deferred their votes on their appointments to the Foster School Building Committee to their meeting on August 8, 2017 and that she has scheduled a meeting with Selectman Karen Johnson to follow-up and she may get more information. Ms. O'Reilly also noted that she has communicated with the individuals the School Committee has appointed. Dr. Galo noted that informational packets with background documents and information for members have been prepared and are ready for distribution.

The Committee discussed and provided feedback relative to the appointment of a Chair of the Foster School Building Committee. The consensus of the Committee was to ask which of the appointed members of the School Building Committee is interested in serving as Chair and move forward from there. Ms. O'Reilly said that she will bring the Committee's feedback to the Town Moderator and Selectmen and try to move the process along as quickly as possible.

3. To review format and timeline for the long-range financial planning development process

School Committee Chair Liza O'Reilly reviewed the longer-term planning document in the Committee packet. She noted that she would like the Committee to review this document, coupled with feedback received during the community forums and leadership retreat. Using all sources of information the Committee can move forward with revised areas of focus. Discussion relative to each component (longer-term planning document, community feedback, and the leadership retreat) ensued. Discussion relative to the district's budget, when compared with benchmarked communities, occurred as did discussion of the complexities of the per-pupil expenditure report relative to variations in accounting from district to district. Ms. O'Reilly reminded the Committee of the review that was completed by the Acton-Boxborough School Committee that contained Hingham as a benchmark town, and encouraged the Committee to review this document.

Ms. O'Reilly reviewed the School Committee Goals document and asked Michelle Ayer, new to the Committee, for her input and areas of priority. Discussion ensued and Ms. O'Reilly also reviewed the School Committee Vision Grid. She asked the Committee to be thoughtful relative to the goals that will come from each subcommittee, as they will inform the overall district goals. Ms. O'Reilly then asked the Committee what, if any, priorities have changed since the initial iteration of the draft planning documents. The Committee shared their revised priorities which included the Foster Building project and district-wide staffing.

4. To review and discuss 2015-2016 School Committee planning, feedback from community forums, administrative staff and School Committee Sub-Committees

This agenda item was covered under item 3. (It was noted that this was a discussion about 2016-2017 planning, not 2015-2016 planning.)

5. To begin discussion of long-range financial plan

This agenda item was covered under item 3.

6. To hear Subcommittee Reports and Project Reports

Edward Schreier noted that the Fire Station Building Committee has organized a second walkthrough of the Depot for Thursday, August 17, 2017 at 8:30 a.m.

7. Other items not reasonably known 48 hours in advance

Dr. Galo and Dr. LaBillois informed the Committee that the Title 1 funding for Hingham has increased to \$280,000 in the coming year. Title 1 programming will continue at East and Foster Schools, and a new program will be added in the 6th Grade. Dr. Galo also noted the noted contained in the folder regarding additional secondary staffing needs.

8. Adjourn

On a motion by Aylene Calnan and seconded by Carlos DaSilva,

It was

Voted: To adjourn the School Committee meeting at 9:13 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:
Cynthia Galko