

Hermon School Committee
Minutes – Regular Meeting
Monday, January 9, 2017
Hermon High School Room #139

Providing Leadership to Enhance the Aspirations of our Children

Present

Mr. Anthony Reynolds, Chairperson
Mrs. Debora Farnham
Mr. Ted Harris
Mrs. Anne Smith
Mrs. Debbie CoWallis
Mrs. Shannon Knowles
Mr. Eric Byers, Student Representative
Mr. Michael Lana, Student Representative

Absent

Mr. Ralph Carr, Vice Chairperson

Staff: Mr. Micah Grant, Mr. Jerry Kiesman, Mrs. Jenny Perry, Mr. Brian Walsh
Guests: Members of the Hermon Education Association

Item I: Mr. Reynolds, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Item II: Agenda Adjustments

Mrs. Duran, Superintendent, requested the following adjustments:
(1) Under Personnel, add Extracurricular appointments

Item III: Approval of Minutes of Regular Meeting of December 19, 2016.

Mr. Harris motioned, seconded by Mrs. Smith, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of December 19, 2016, amended to include:

Mr. Carr motioned, seconded by Mrs. Smith, to rename Hermon Elementary School after the renovation to Patricia A. Duran Elementary School.

Unanimous Vote

Item IV: PROCLAMATIONS AND PRESENTATION

A. Proclamations and Presentations

Mr. Jesse Hargrove, President of the Hermon Education Association (HEA), Brandi Butterfield, Special Ed teacher, Heather Haskell, Math/Science tutor, and Hazel Chick, Ed Tech II, all addressed Board member questions regarding the HEA request to have the school committee voluntarily recognize Ed Techs as a bargaining unit under the umbrella of the HEA.

Mrs. Smith motioned, seconded by Mr. Harris, to have the Hermon School Committee voluntarily recognize Ed Techs as a bargaining unit under the umbrella of the Hermon Education Association.

Voting for: Farnham, Harris, Smith

Voting Against: Reynolds

B. March / April 2017 Key Club Trip to Springfield, MA

Mrs. Cook, Advisor, and Allison Treat, HHS Key Club member, spoke to the DECON trip scheduled for March 31st - April 2nd.

Mr. Harris motioned, seconded by Mrs. CoWallis, to approve the trip as proposed.

Unanimous vote (6)

C. Public Comments

None

Item V: PERSONNEL

A. Resignations

Mrs. Duran, Superintendent, announced the resignations of Ken Frederick, Guidance Director at Hermon High School effective June 30, 2017.

B. Extra Curricular Appointments 2016-2017

The following appointments were announced:

High School

* New to position

* Jeff King, Assistant Track Coach

Middle School

* Nate Petersen, Grade 6 Boys Basketball Coach

* Phyllis Bull, Civic Oration

Mr. Harris moved, seconded by Mrs. Smith, to elect Phyllis Bull as the new Civic Oration Advisor at the Middle School.

Unanimous vote (4)

Item VI: OLD BUSINESS

A. Excused Absence of School Committee Member/s

Mrs. Smith motioned, seconded by Mr. Reynolds, to excuse the Mr. Carr's absence.

Unanimous vote (6)

B. HSC Goals and Objectives 2016-2017

Members discussed goals and objectives for 2016-17.

- o Policy manual review
- o Lunch for all program, Pre-K to 12
- o Continue to take advantage of all opportunities to collaborate with RSU 87/ SAD 23.
- o Continue to explore opportunities to provide Spanish instruction at Hermon Middle School.

Item VII: NEW BUSINESS

A. 2017 – 2018 Budget Process

Mrs. Duran discussed the Special Education Cost Center portion of the budget. She asked the board members what information they would like for the process. It was stated that they would like the cost center information, as presented, as well as bulleted talking points.

Item VIII: REPORTS

A. Principals

Mr. Walsh stated there will be a faculty and staff training on legal, social, emotional and medical transgender issues on Wednesday, January 18th.

Mrs. Perry discussed the SWIS graphs showing minor and major office discipline referrals. She also stated that she worked with Mrs. Gordon to obtain projectors, white boards and laptops for classrooms that currently do not have that technology.

Mr. Grant stated that December is typically a high referral month.

B. Superintendent

Mrs. Duran along with Melissa Biehn, Gail Gordon and Brian Walsh attended another session at United Technologies Center (UTC) on proficiency based diplomas with the 7 UTC sending schools hopefully finding some common ground.

She also wanted to commend Mrs. Perry for the Celebration of Learning at the Elementary School which she attends. She stated it was a pleasure to see the caring and sportsmanship of the students and that she felt it was a direct reflection of their teachers.

C. School Committee Follow-up and Request for Information

Mr. Harris asked as to when we would find out about a new bus. Mrs. Duran stated that the request went out in November. He also inquired about the attendance of seniors at the high school.

Mrs. Smith asked if there was still a scholarship awarded in her name. She asked if students reported back after they have attended trips, such as the one the Key club is going on.

Mrs. Farnham asked about Mrs. Kitchin's report regarding 5th grade technology. It was explained that was an issue that could have been addressed with the portable cart. She also asked about Hermon area local scholarships and any changes to the Courses of Study for next year.

Mrs. CoWallis had no questions.

Mrs. Knowles inquired about the December tutoring sessions, and the possibility of a breakdown by grade.

Mr. Reynolds inquired about a steamer for the Elementary School.

D. Other

Neither Michael Lana, nor Eric Byers student representatives, had anything to discuss.

Item IX: Approval of Warrant # 14 of December 30, and Warrant # 15 of January 13, 2017.

Mr. Harris, motioned, seconded by Mrs. Smith, to approve Warrant # 14 of December 30, and Warrant # 15 of January 13, 2017.

Unanimous vote (4)

Item X: Mrs. Smith motioned, seconded by Mrs. CoWallis, to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

Unanimous vote (6)

Respectfully submitted,

Jody White
Recording Secretary