

HAMILTON-WENHAM REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE

MINUTES - SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

Date: 25 August 2011
Location: District Office
Present: Sean Condon, Kym Donnellan, Jack O'Keefe, Dacia Rubel, Alexa McCloughan, Ann Minois (arrived 6:10 p.m.)
Others: Peter Gray, Celeste Bowler
Community: Harriet Davis, members of the media

1. Call to order at 6:04 p.m.
2. Ratification of Custodial Contract
Peter and Naomi negotiated contract mirroring previous agreements with bargaining units including health insurance changes (which went into effect as of 1 July) with the exception of amendment to carry over additional vacation days. Need to reopen health insurance to discuss GIC before October deadline Jack made motion: "I move that the HW Regional SC vote to approve the ratification of the Custodial contract July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2014." Alexa seconded; all in favor.
3. Facilities Update by Peter Gray
Fire Dept personnel were in this week to check on facilities and all looks good. In addition, they were impressed at how clean, bright, and shiny the schools were; compliments were given to the custodial staff for all their summer efforts
Custodial staff used current students to help get schools ready for opening, which worked well
4. Appointment of Assistant Superintendent for Learning
Jack made motion: "I move that the HW Regional SC vote to approve the appointment of Dr Celeste Bowler as the Assistant Superintendent for Learning." Kym seconded; all in favor.
Comments and conversation: Peter introduced Celeste, provided resume and qualifications; she will be the educational leader
paying primary attention to curriculum and grant writing Alexa questioned the economic impact of the hire Peter presented analysis and readjustment of the budget to accommodate the restructuring of the
Central Office with adjustments of new positions: .65 less positions equaling approx \$100K less in monies annually. Jack compliments Peter: delighted to see changes and positions filled for District especially MS
principal, which is sorely needed Dacia: Leadership Team and administration will bring needed professionalism to District, which
has been lacking, and will provide advice and support to the SC. With everyone in place, there will be time to get up to speed, but move forward and get issues dealt with in an expedient manor Peter: NEASC also looking good for forward motion and getting off warning status based on
forward motion of HS principal
Alexa: calls for vote; all in favor.
5. Appointment of H-W Regional HS Nurse
Peter presented resume and qualifications, also update and concerns about position: fifth nurse in seven years, need to have further discussion as salary is substantially lower than position can provide for compared to private sector pay scale; responsibilities are huge including

state and federal mandates (ie: new responsibility includes monitoring of concussion issues in all sports activities) Alexa: can we be competitive? Dacia: may not be able to change, it is a different position than working for a hospital, etc, but good to understand the whole picture Jack made motion: "I move that the HW Regional SC vote to approve the appointment of Coleen Reska as the full time HS registered nurse." Dacia seconded; all in favor.

6. **Out of state HS Annual Field Trip Request**
Peter presents request of HS principal and athletic director to track team to travel to RI; request is in compliance with District policy Jack made motion: "I move that the HW Regional SC vote to approve the cross country track team to attend the annual New Balance Ocean State Cross Country Invitational on Saturday, September 24, 2011." Dacia seconded; all in favor.
7. **Freshmen Sports Update**
Dacia wants District to maintain forward motion of adopting Freshmen sports and update to be included in next full SC meeting Peter: fall soccer is going forward with no changes in financial impact to current participants;
Booster Club with provide support as needed
8. **Hurricane Update**
Peter: Leadership Team has discussed and agreed if weather is an issue for Monday's opening day meeting, it will be postponed to a later date.
9. **The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, 8 September 2011 at Buker's Multipurpose Room.**
10. **Jack makes motion: "I move that the HW Regional SC vote to adjourn." Kym seconded; all in favor. Adjourned at 6:38 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Kym Marie Donnellan, Secretary School Committee