

**HAMPTON BOARD OF EDUCATION****HAMPTON, CONNECTICUT****Hampton Elementary School Library****October 23, 2024****Meeting Minutes**

- 1. Call to Order** – Chair Rose Bisson called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.
  - a. Members Present:** Chair Rose Bisson, Maryellen Donnelly, Elizabeth Lindorff, Diane Gagnon, Dennis Timberman, Mark Becker, David Halbach, and Juan Arriola. Also present, Superintendent Andrew Skarzynski, Interim Principal Vikki Smith, and Business Coordinator Sally Lehoux.
  - b. Not Present:** John Russell.
- 2. Possible Executive Session: Discussion concerning an attorney client privileged communication regarding a complaint pertaining to the conduct of a Board Member**
  - a.** Mark Becker made a motion to enter Executive Session at 7:03 PM / Dennis Timberman seconded. Those in favor: Chair Rose Bisson, Maryellen Donnelly, Elizabeth Lindorff, Diane Gagnon, Dennis Timberman, Mark Becker, David Halbach. Those opposed: Juan Arriola. *Motion passed.*
  - b.** The Board exited Executive Session at 7:29 PM.
- 3. Discussion and possible action regarding a complaint pertaining to the conduct of a Board Member**
  - a.** Dennis Timberman made a motion to authorize the Board Chair person in consultation with the Board’s legal counsel to retain the services of a third party to investigate the complaint made against a Board Member / Mark Becker seconded. Those in favor: Chair Rose Bisson, Maryellen Donnelly, Elizabeth Lindorff, Dennis Timberman, and Mark Becker. Those opposed: Juan Arriola, David Halbach, and Diane Gagnon. *Motion passed.*
- 4. Audience for Citizens and Staff**

- a. Several audience member's addressed the Board about their thoughts regarding the school and the school staffing levels.

**5. Correspondence to the Board – None received.**

**6. Approval of Minutes from Board Meeting September 25, 2024**

- a. Maryellen Donnelly made a motion to approve the minutes / Elizabeth Lindorff seconded.
  - i. The Board discussed that all the names are to be shown for how each member voted even if the votes are unanimous. Items "12 A." and "12 B." in the previous minutes are to show that "Chair Rose Bisson, Maryellen Donnelly, Elizabeth Lindorff, Diane Gagnon, Dennis Timberman, Mark Becker, David Halbach, John Russell, and Juan Arriola all voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously."
- b. Maryellen then made a motion to approve the amended minutes / Mark Becker seconded. Those in favor: Chair Rose Bisson, Maryellen Donnelly, Elizabeth Lindorff, Diane Gagnon, Dennis Timberman, Mark Becker, and David Halbach. Those opposed: Juan Arriola. *Motion passed.*

**7. Principal's Report**

- a. Interim Principal Vikki Smith gave her report which discussed the recent fire drill and being new to the position.

**8. Superintendent's Report**

- a. Andrew Skarzynski gave his report which discussed the After School Grant, staffing update, the budget, and school safety.

**9. Business Coordinator's Report**

- a. Sally Lehoux gave her report to the Board.

**10. Committee and Liaison Reports**

- a. **Finance & Operations** – Mark Becker gave the update to the Board.
- b. **EASTCONN** – Maryellen Donnelly gave the update to the Board.

**11. Discussion and possible action: Board Training**

- a. The Board agreed a Training would be beneficial and agreed to schedule a time with Nick Caruso from CABE to present that training.

#### **12. Discussion and possible action: Board Goals**

- a. Dennis Timberman made a motion to extend the Board Goals until November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024 / Diane Gagnon seconded. Those in favor: Chair Rose Bisson, Maryellen Donnelly, Elizabeth Lindorff, Diane Gagnon, Dennis Timberman, Mark Becker, David Halbach, and Juan Arriola. *Motion unanimously passed.*

#### **13. Next Agenda Planning**

- a. Discussion on Non-Certified Staff Representation and Current Year Calendar.

#### **14. Second Audience for Citizens and Staff**

- a. The Emergency Management Director for the Town of Hampton addressed the Board about obtaining a roster of the people in the school.
- b. Several audience members addressed the Board with their thoughts and concerns about communication between the school and the parents, background checks, Board members, and support for the students.

#### **15. Adjournment**

- a. Juan Arriola moved to adjournment at 9:19 PM / Mark Becker seconded. Those in favor: Chair Rose Bisson, Maryellen Donnelly, Elizabeth Lindorff, Diane Gagnon, Dennis Timberman, Mark Becker, David Halbach, and Juan Arriola. *Motion unanimously passed. Adjourned at 9:19 PM.*

Respectfully submitted,

Cassie Haddad.