

Hancock School Committee Meeting Minutes

November 10, 2020

Present: Alex Kastrinakis, Missy Turner, Patty Bishop via zoom, Bruce Weiner, Mark Gaskill

Also Present: Jay Merselis (Hancock Principal), Rebecca Phillips (Superintendent/Sped Director)

1. Call to Order – Alex called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm.
2. Public Concerns
 - a. None
3. Correspondence
 - a. Motion was made to dissolve the 3-member town union, Richmond, Hancock, and New Ashford, by Bruce and 2nd by Mark. Vote to dissolve was unanimous.
 - b. Motion to reconfigure union with 2 member towns, Hancock and New Ashford, was made by patty and 2nd by Bruce. Vote was unanimous.
 - c. Pavilion update. Opt 1 would be 12,000 for material and we supply the labor. Option 2, the Amish group that erected a local building gave a price of a 24x50 building of \$14,120, or a 24x60 building at \$17,216. Bruce made a motion to approve \$15,500 for the Amish to construct a 24x50 building, Missy 2nd, general discussion about use, vote was unanimous.
 - d. Rebecca gave an update on the costs of portable class rooms. A 64x24 2 room unit would be a lease of \$76,000 a year. A 50x12 single room unit would be a lease of \$37,655 a year. There was some general discussion.
 - e. Patty left meeting at 6:30 for another meeting, but will join us again in about an hour.
 - f. There was some general discussion about the need for space, especially with the covid issue. Finding it very tight for meetings, therapy, storage, room for art and music, even room for our superintendent.
4. Review and approval of Minutes of Meeting Oct 6, and October 9, 2020
 - a. On a motion from Missy, 2nd from Alex as amended, approved unanimously
5. Principal's Report
 - a. Professional Development Day
 - i. Had an engaging PD day on Tuesday via zoom
 - b. Enrollment is at 54: 3 are remote
 - c. Remote learning
 - i. Sent survey out to parents, have received 30 responses out of 37 families.
 - ii. Some of the comments, worked well, long day in front of a computer. Teachers did great! Very challenging for working parents; proper adult supervision is a challenge. Much better than spring.
 - iii. A takeaway, perhaps allow a small number of people (IEPs, child care, internet) into the school, supervised by paras and/or administrators. On a remote day.
 - d. Cannot do Community Thanksgiving. School is planning to send a note to the seniors.
 - e. Patty back in meeting @ 7:32
6. Superintendent's report
 - a. The State, states there are no wavers on MCAS.

- b. Priority from the state is for in person learning
 - c. Professional Development last week went well.
 - d. Teachers have asked about after school enrichment, and the homework club. Question as to where the funds will come from, due to it being in their contract now, but after the budget was set.
 - e. Motion made by Missy and Alex 2nd, to generate a hold harmless agreement for Ward Johnson to attend team meetings as a licensed psychologist. All voted in favor, Bruce abstained.
 - f. Custodial account has overspent due to covid, will take money from covid relief for that and the nurse salary.
 - g. After school acct is at a deficit of \$7,589, checking to see why.
 - h. Need to have a homework club.
 - i. Dufor did in fact pay their drivers properly during shutdown, We need to pay the invoice now.
7. Special Education report
- a. None
8. Finance Report
- a. Reviewed.
9. Executive Session
- a. Not needed.
10. Other Business
- a. None
11. Adjournment – Patty motioned to dissolve the meeting at 7:21, 2nd from Mark. Vote was unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted:

Mark Gaskill