

Hancock School Committee Meeting Minutes
Nov 5th, 2024

Present: Jim Rodda, Elisa Kryskow, Alex Kastrinakis, Kayt Turner, Bruce Weiner

Also Present: Rebecca Phillips (Superintendent/SPED Director), Jay Merselis (Principal), Rose Carlson and Sarah Kangas (Community Members/Parents)

1. Call to Order - Kayt called the meeting to order at 6:06pm
2. Public Concerns: None
3. Correspondence
4. Alex motioned to approve 10/1/24 minutes. 2nd- Bruce . All in favor.
5. Principal's Report:
 1. Accolades
 1. Fire Chief and his staff for coming into the school for educational purposes.
 2. Staff and HOPE for Grandparent's Day
 3. Shawn Derby prepped and got everything ready for the shed installation
 4. Sweetwood for hosting our kids and having engaging Halloween activities
 5. SPED team: Cornelia and Donna have worked together so nicely to get the students' needs met
 6. Lisa Buell has done a great job stepping up to a new role with little notice
 2. Enrollment:
 1. Remains current at 48. One child left to their own district and within the same week a new family inquired with a 1st grader and possible PreK! 38 from Hancock, 10 School Choice
 3. Project Updates:
 1. Shed is here and has already been useful with organization of PE and maintenance equipment
 2. This has now allowed Stage cleaning/organization to begin.
 3. Fixed leaky faucets
 4. State Water tests have been conducted and came out clean.
 4. Upcoming Events/Schedules
 1. School closed today (11/5) because of voting; PD Day
 2. Closed Monday (11/11) due to Veteran's Day
 3. Grades 3-6 will go to Mt Greylock for a Shakespeare Performance on Nov 14
 4. Community Thanksgiving Nov 21
 5. 27-29 School Closed for Thanksgiving
 6. Town tree lighting on Nov 30; students will be singing Christmas carols
 7. K-6 jiminy ski program will continue again this year
 1. Responsible Adult must be present as this is not a School Program
 5. Discussion: Implementing a Cell Phone Policy
 1. Dr. Phillips will have a first draft ready at our December meeting.
 6. Superintendent's Report:
 1. FY 22 Financial Audit Draft
 1. State, Local, Grants (90 page report). Findings were reviewed
 2. Berkshire County Superintendent Round Table
 1. Presentation by Youth Development Project
 - a. Grades 8, 10, 12 assessment: Drug use, mental health, bullying and safety in school. Some concerning issues to be addressed from a community-wide standpoint (transportation to out of school activities [i.e. bowling, rec center) as our students are much younger than what this survey incorporated.
 3. Professional Development Day (11/5, today)

1. Each teacher was able to 'teach' the other teachers their own grade level math and it was neat to watch the curriculum build from K to 6.
4. Search for new DESE commissioner and survey for feedback
6. SPED Director Report
 1. General Update: Ms. Alden has been doing a great job getting integrated and also has plenty of allotted time for consultation between she and teachers.
7. Financial Report - Reviewed
8. New Business: None
9. Kayt motioned to adjourn 7:10, Elisa - 2nd, all in favor.