

WHITMAN-HANSON REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE RE-ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING  
Minutes of May 22, 2017  
Held at the Whitman-Hanson Regional High School

Meeting convened: 7:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned: 7:30 p.m.

Members present: Robert Hayes, Frederick Small participated remotely, Daniel Cullity, Robert Trotta, Kevin Lynam, Christopher Howard, Michael Jones, Robert O'Brien, Jr., Alexandria Taylor, and Steve Bois

Members absent: None

Administrators present: Dr. Ruth Gilbert-Whitner, Superintendent of Schools  
Dr. Patrick Dillon, Asst. Superintendent of Schools  
Christine Suckow, Director of Business Services

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Dr. Ruth Gilbert-Whitner, Superintendent of Schools, convened the meeting in order to re-organize the School Committee. The School Committee re-organization meeting was brought to order at 7:00 p.m. Dr. Whitner noted the School Committee meeting was being recorded and broadcast live. In addition, Mr. Small is participating remotely due to geographical distance. All votes will be done by roll call.

Dr. Whitner reported that town elections were held Saturday, May 20, 2017. Dr. Whitner also congratulated Robert O'Brien on his successful re-election to School Committee for the Town of Hanson. Dr. Whitner congratulated Alexandria Taylor and Steve Bois on their successful re-elections to the School Committee for the Town of Whitman.

Dr. Whitner asked for nominations for the Chair of the School Committee.

**SCHOOL COMMITTEE REORGANIZATION VOTES**

Robert Hayes was nominated for Chair by Fred Small for the position of Chair. Robert O'Brien seconded the nomination. Dr. Whitner closed nominations.

**VOTE: Mr. Small motioned; Mr. O'Brien seconded; roll call voted unanimously to appoint Robert Hayes as Chair.**

Chair Robert Hayes conducted the remaining appointments to organize the Committee.

Chair Hayes asked for nominations for Vice Chair.

Fred Small was nominated for Vice Chair by Mr. Cullity. Mrs. Taylor seconded the nomination. Chair Hayes closed nominations.

**VOTE: Mr. Cullity motioned; Mrs. Taylor seconded; roll call voted unanimously to appoint Fred Small as Vice Chair.**

Chair Hayes asked for nominations for Secretary.

Daniel Cullity was nominated for Secretary by Mr. Small. Mr. Bois seconded the nomination. Chair Hayes closed nominations.

**VOTE: Mr. Small motioned; Mr. Bois seconded; roll call voted unanimously to appoint Daniel Cullity as Secretary.**

Chair Hayes asked for nominations for the Treasurer.

Robert O'Brien was nominated for Treasurer by Mr. Small. Mr. Cullity seconded the nomination. Mr. O'Brien declined the nomination. Alexandria Taylor was nominated by Mr. O'Brien. Mr. Jones seconded the nomination. Chair Hayes closed nominations.

**VOTE: Mr. O'Brien motioned; Mr. Jones seconded; roll call voted unanimously to appoint Alexandria Taylor as Treasurer.**

Chair Hayes asked for nominations for the Assistant Treasurer.

Robert Trotta was nominated for Assistant Treasurer by Mr. O'Brien. Mr. Bois seconded the nomination. Chair Hayes closed nominations.

**VOTE: Mr. O'Brien motioned; Mr. Bois seconded; roll call voted unanimously to appoint Robert Trotta as Assistant Treasurer.**

Chair Hayes took the agenda out of order to form sub-committees.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### *Negotiations Subcommittee*

Chair Hayes discussed the notification to the towns for a municipal representative for collective bargaining. Dr. Whitner clarified that one municipal official represents both member towns when regional school districts are in the process of collective bargaining. The municipal representative does not have a seat at the bargaining table, unless appointed by the school committee chair, to the negotiating subcommittee. However, the statute permits the municipal representative to participate and vote as a member of the school committee when the committee, as a whole, addresses the collective bargaining agreement. The Superintendent suggested a municipal representative and alternate be appointed. The typical times and length of the negotiations executive session meetings were discussed for availability purposes. Fred Small, Robert Trotta, Mike Jones, Chris Howard, Daniel Cullity, and Robert Hayes were appointed to the Negotiations Subcommittee.

#### *Facilities and Capital Projects Sub-Committee*

Fred Small, Mike Jones, Daniel Cullity, and Robert O'Brien were appointed to the Facilities and Capital Projects Subcommittee.

#### *Policy Subcommittee*

Robert Trotta, Kevin Lynam, Chris Howard, and Fred Small were appointed to the Policy Subcommittee.

#### *Warrant Subcommittee*

Alexandria Taylor, Robert O'Brien, and Kevin Lynam were appointed to the Warrant Subcommittee.

#### *Legislative Representative*

Mike Jones and Fred Small were appointed as the Legislative Representatives.

#### *Collaborative Representative: Pilgrim Area Collaborative*

Steve Bois was appointed as the Pilgrim Area Collaborative representative.

#### *MASC/MASS Joint Conference Delegate/Alternate*

Steve Bois was appointed as the MASC/MASS Joint Conference voting delegate.

Robert Hayes was appointed as the MASC/Mass Joint Conference voting alternate.

### *21<sup>st</sup> CCLC Grant Member Representative*

Dr. Whitner reported that a member representative is needed for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers Grant. The Superintendent explained the details of the grant that funds the after school program at the high school. Part of the grant application includes a question seeking a council for the grant. The Superintendent recommended a school committee member be part of the council. The Superintendent also discussed the sustainability concerns with the grant. Robert O'Brien and Robert Trotta were selected at members of the council for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers Grant with Fred Small as an alternate.

### **APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES**

*May 10, 2017 Meeting Minutes*

**VOTE: Mr. Small motioned; Mr. Cullity seconded; roll call voted to approve the meeting minutes of May 10, 2017 School Committee, as presented. The motion passed 9-0-1. Kevin Lynam abstained.**

### **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

*Superintendent's Evaluation*

Chair Hayes will report on the Superintendent's End of Cycle Evaluation at the next meeting.

*Representative to North River Collaborative*

**VOTE: Mr. Small motioned; Mr. O'Brien seconded; roll call voted to appoint Dr. Ruth Gilbert-Whitner as the North River Collaborative representative effective July 1, 2017, as discussed. The motion passed unanimously.**

Chair Hayes announced upcoming important dates.

6/1/17	Community Evening School Class of 2017 Graduation @ 6:00 PM
6/2/17	Class of 2017 Graduation @ 6:00 PM
6/14/17	School Committee @ 7:00 PM

The June 14, 2017 school committee meeting is subject to change due to several members unavailable to attend. The Superintendent will notify the Committee of a new date as soon as possible.

The Committee discussed the joint budget meeting planned for June 12, 2017. The joint meeting will be held with School Committee members, Town officials from the Board of Selectmen, Finance Committee, and Town Administrators of both Whitman and Hanson. In further discussion, it was recommended to include other town departments and committees, including the capital improvement committees and town department heads. It was also recommended to include the local and state representatives: State Representative Josh Cutler, State Representative Geoff Diehl and State Senator Mike Brady. Town officials and legislators will be sent written invitations. The School Committee discussed hosting this meeting as an organizational meeting and to begin FY2019 budget discussions to prioritize and identify the needs of all school and town departments. Mr. Trotta discussed the previous attempts to hold joint budget meetings with the towns and expressed concerns that there tends to be no counter action from the towns. Mr. Trotta recommended initiating a discussion about no cost full day kindergarten as a priority for the District. Dr. Whitner discussed aligning budget discussions with the pillars of success in the Strategic Plan. Other potential items for discussion include the closing of the Maquan Elementary School and enrollment projections.

*Regional Agreement Committee*

It was reported that Whitman Town Administrator, Frank Lynam, notified the District that Board of Selectman, Dan Salvucci, was selected for the Town of Whitman Board of Selectmen representative for the Regional Agreement Committee.

**VOTE: Mr. O'Brien motioned; Mrs. Taylor; seconded; roll call voted to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.**

Minutes respectfully submitted Michelle Kelley

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Handouts:

- 1) Meeting Agenda for May 22, 2017
- 2) Meeting Minutes of May 10, 2017
- 3) School Committee meeting dates for 2017-18 SY