

**GROTON-DUNSTABLE REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE**

Prescott School Conference Room

Special Business Meeting Minutes

May 29, 2012

Approved 06.19.12

**PRESENT:**

Luis DeLoureiro

Ms Berta Erickson

Mr. Jim Frey

Mr. John Giger

Ms Leslie Lathrop

Ms Alison Manugian

Mr. Jon Sjoberg

**ADMINISTRATION:**

Mr. Joseph Mastrocola, Superintendent

Mr. Gerald Martin, Director of Business and Finance

**STAFF, PRESS, OTHERS:** P. Comtois, Groton Landmark

**I. Call to Order:**

The GDRSC Special Meeting was called to order by Superintendent Joseph Mastrocola at 6:04 p.m. for the purpose of reorganization. He recognized new Dunstable member Luis DeLoureiro and congratulated B. Erickson and A. Manugian for their re-election wins. He thanked Jim Frey for his time with him as chair the past two years.

**II. Reports**

**A. Superintendent**

**1. School Committee Reorganization**

J. Mastrocola called for nominations for chairperson.

J. GIGER NOMINATED A. MANUGIAN FOR CHAIRPERSON. SECONDED BY B. ERICKSON

There were no other nominations. A. Manugian accepted the nomination.

**SO VOTED IN FAVOR UNANIMOUSLY**

**Election of Vice Chairperson**

J. SJOBERG NOMINATED J. GIGER FOR VICE CHAIRPERSON. SECONDED BY B. ERICKSON

There were no other nominations and J. Giger accepted the nomination.

**SO VOTED IN FAVOR UNANIMOUSLY**

**Election of School Committee Secretary**

B. ERICKSON NOMINATED LUIS DELOUREIRO FOR SECRETARY. SECONDED BY L. LATHROP

A. MANUGIAN NOMINATED L. LATHROP FOR SECRETARY. SECONDED BY J. FREY

There were no other nominations. L. Lathrop declined the nomination and L. DeLoureiro accepted.

**SO VOTED**

**In Favor:** J. Giger, J. Frey, A. Manugian, J. Sjoberg, B. Erickson, L. Lathrop

**Abstention:** L. DeLoureiro

J. Mastrocola turned the gavel over to A. Manugian

**B. Chair****2. Motions to Continue Reorganization****Motion to Set Day, Time and Place for Regular Meetings**

J. SJOBERG MOVED THAT THE GROTON-DUNSTABLE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT SCHOOL COMMITTEE GENERALLY MEET ON THE SECOND AND FOURTH WEDNESDAY OF EVERY MONTH IN THE GROTON-DUNSTABLE HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY, AT 7:00 P.M. UNLESS THERE IS AN EXECUTIVE SESSION. SECONDED BY J. FREY

J. Mastrocola distributed a yearly reports calendar for 2012-2013. He explained the meeting day is being changed from Tuesdays to Wednesdays because there are several Tuesday holidays and elections. He had requested the change to the second and fourth Tuesday of the month for this school year to allow for a better flow for subcommittees to report to the school committee in a shorter period of time and to allow for better logistics in Central Office.

**SO VOTED IN FAVOR UNANIMOUSLY****Motion to Appoint Any Subcommittees**

J. FREY MOVED THAT THE GROTON-DUNSTABLE REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE AUTHORIZE THE CHAIRPERSON TO PROPOSE SUBCOMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS ACCORDING TO SCHOOL COMMITTEE POLICY FOR BUSINESS AND FINANCE, POLICY, PERSONNEL AND NEGOTIATIONS AND CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION. SECONDED BY L. LATHROP

**SO VOTED IN FAVOR UNANIMOUSLY**

A. Manugian asked members to submit their interest forms to her.

**Motion to Appoint Ad Hoc Committee and Liaisons**

J. SJOBERG MOVED THAT THE GROTON-DUNSTABLE REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE AUTHORIZE THE CHAIRPERSON TO ASSIGN AN AD HOC COMMITTEE AND ALSO LIAISONS FOR THE FOLLOWING: LEGISLATIVE, DUNSTABLE BOARD OF SELECTMEN, GROTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN, GDAY, GDEF, GD SEPAC AND GD STEM, PRESCOTT SCHOOL. SECONDED BY J. FREY

**SO VOTED IN FAVOR UNANIMOUSLY****Motion to Appoint Fred Aponte, Treasurer**

J. FREY MOVED THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPOINT FRED APONTE AS TREASURER FROM JULY 1, 2012 TO JUNE 30, 2013 AT AN ANNUAL SALARY OF \$10,147.50.

SECONDED BY J. SJOBERG

**SO VOTED IN FAVOR UNANIMOUSLY****Motion to Appoint Howard Greenspan, Attorney**

J. GIGER MOVED THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPOINT HOWARD GREENSPAN AS THE ATTORNEY FOR THE SCHOOL DISTRICT FROM JULY 1, 2012 TO JUNE 30, 2013 AT A RATE OF \$200.00 AN HOUR. SECONDED BY L. LATHROP

J. Giger would like to table this appointment at this time. An analysis is underway to see if it would be more economical to have an attorney on staff. G. Martin and J. Mitchell are getting comps from other districts. A. Manugian said it would be premature to do so before July 1<sup>st</sup>. They have looked at the expenses and said it may be viable to bring in a fulltime attorney. J. Frey said they could be at risk not having an attorney. J. Mastrocola advised the regional agreement says they need to appoint an attorney.

**The motion failed unanimously.**

J. FREY MOVED THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPOINT HOWARD GREENSPAN AS THE ATTORNEY FOR THE SCHOOL DISTRICT FROM JULY 1, 2012 TO DECEMBER 31, 2012 AT A RATE OF \$200.00 AN HOUR. SECONDED BY L. LATHROP  
**SO VOTED IN FAVOR UNANIMOUSLY**

**Motion to Appoint Dr. Coleman, School Physician**

A. MANUGIAN MOVED THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPOINT DR. RUSSELL COLEMAN AS THE SCHOOL PHYSICIAN AND KAREN FLYNN AS NURSE PRACTITIONER FROM JULY 1, 2012 TO JUNE 30, 2013 AT THE COMPENSATION AMOUNT OF \$6,000. SECONDED BY J. GIGER

L. Lathrop asked if the \$6000 is for both and was told yes. J. Mastrocola said they advise Lorinda Dishington Ortiz, provide state health advisories and sometimes see children for medical reasons.

**SO VOTED IN FAVOR UNANIMOUSLY**

**Revised Motion to Appoint Dr. Coleman, School Physician**

J. GIGER MOVED THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPOINT DR. RUSSELL COLEMAN AS THE SCHOOL PHYSICIAN AND KAREN FLYNN AS NURSE PRACTITIONER FROM JULY 1, 2012 TO JUNE 30, 2013 AT THE COMPENSATION AMOUNT OF \$6,000 IN TOTAL FOR BOTH. SECONDED BY J. FREY

**SO VOTED IN FAVOR UNANIMOUSLY**

**Motion to Appoint Susan Smith, School Committee Recording Secretary**

J. FREY MOVED THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPOINT SUSAN SMITH AS RECORDING SECRETARY FOR ALL OF OUR REGULAR BUSINESS MEETINGS FROM JULY 1, 2012 TO JUNE 30, 2013 AT A RATE OF \$180.00 PER MEETING. SECONDED BY J. GIGER

**SO VOTED IN FAVOR UNANIMOUSLY**

**Motion to Appoint Dina Mancini, Attendance Supervisor**

J. FREY MOVED THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPOINT DINA MANCINI AS ATTENDANCE SUPERVISOR FOR THE SCHOOL DISTRICT FROM JULY 1, 2012 TO JUNE 30, 2013 FOR A STIPEND IN THE AMOUNT OF \$3,000 ANNUALLY. SECONDED BY B. ERICKSON

This will be a new annual appointment. L. DeLoureiro asked what an attendance supervisor does.

J. Mastrocola said she has a variety of activities but her main focus has been on verifying that students and families live in the district.

**SO VOTED IN FAVOR UNANIMOUSLY**

**A. DESE Performance Indicators (Action)** - J. Mastrocola advised last Thursday he received an advisory from the MASS (Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents) attorney which says a public hearing needs to be held on New Teacher Evaluation - Public Comments Sought. He recommends the committee hold a 15 minute public hearing prior to the start of their next meeting. He said this gives the committee protection. The advisory does not state they have to accept the performance indicators but it would be a good idea. J. Giger said they can say they are leaning toward these and they would like public input. J. Frey agreed it would be good to hear any comments people might have. He and L. Lathrop have heard not meeting the guidelines will bring trouble but they can go above them. J. Mastrocola said these are bargaining

components the committee will use during teacher negotiations.

It was agreed their next meeting will include a public hearing at 6:45 p.m.

**B. Appoint Superintendent or Designee to the MSEC Board July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013 (Action)**

B. ERICKSON MOVED TO APPOINT JOHN GIGER TO THE MSEC BOARD JULY 1, 2012 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2013. SECONDED BY J. SJOBERG

J. Giger said it is important to think about whether they want a school committee member, rather than the interim superintendent, to sit on the board. J. Mastrocola said he has to resign from the board and their choices are a school committee member or the interim superintendent. He noted there are major changes in the organization and a leadership team is in place. It is important to have someone in place who will advocate for the district, particularly if a financial settlement comes through in the future. The district has three students that attend and the committee meets every three to six weeks. The board is currently made up of superintendents but five of them are leaving, four for new positions and one is retiring.

J. Sjoberg asked if they could have someone from SEPAC be on the board. J. Mastrocola said the board is more about management and governance rather than discussion about programs. L. DeLoureiro asked if being the parent of a special education child precludes him from voting and he was told no.

B. Erickson withdrew her motion.

A. MANUGIAN MOVED THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPOINT A SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBER TO THE MSEC BOARD, RATHER THAN THE INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT, FOR THE COMING YEAR FOR CONTINUITY. SECONDED BY J. SJOBERG

**SO VOTED IN FAVOR UNANIMOUSLY**

B. ERICKSON MOVED THEY APPOINT JOHN GIGER TO THE MSEC BOARD JULY 1, 2012 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2013. SECONDED BY L. LATHROP

**SO VOTED IN FAVOR UNANIMOUSLY**

**C. School Committee Member(s) Serving on Evaluation Subcommittee (Action)**

J. Mastrocola said M. Brisson, S. Silverman, R. Hoyt and P. Myerson volunteered to serve on the subcommittee. He and J. Mitchell will also be present at tomorrow's meeting.

B. Erickson asked if a school committee member could be a liaison and J. Mastrocola said they need 8 people in the room when they negotiate. B. Erickson pointed out having four school committee members on the subcommittee would be a quorum.

J. SJOBERG MOVED THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPOINT M. BRISSON, S. SILVERMAN, R. HOYT AND P. MYERSON TO SERVE AS REPRESENTATIVES ON THE EVALUATION SUBCOMMITTEE. SECONDED BY J. FREY

J. Sjoberg said these individuals are professionals and represent each school building. J. Mastrocola said he does not see a problem having one or two school committee members on the subcommittee.

Three things can happen - the evaluation tool can be adopted, adapted or revised. If adopted by the teachers' union, it is settled. Adapting it will take about five weeks and revising it will be time consuming and challenging. He said they have all ready created a model and Dr. Bent will give a lot of advice as well. Members agreed none of them are prepared to attend tomorrow's meeting as a representative.

**SO VOTED IN FAVOR UNANIMOUSLY**

J. Giger said they need to sort out whether these are open meetings or held in executive session.

J. Frey asked if members are willing to reschedule the June 12<sup>th</sup> meeting to June 19<sup>th</sup>. It was agreed they will meet on June 19<sup>th</sup> and a public hearing for comments on the new teacher evaluation will be posted for 6:45 p.m.

**IV. End Regular Meeting**

J. FREY MOVED TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 7:21 P.M., NOT TO RETURN TO OPEN SESSION, TO CONDUCT STRATEGY SESSIONS IN PREPARATION FOR NEGOTIATIONS WITH NON-UNION PERSONNEL OR TO CONDUCT COLLECTIVE BARGAINING SESSIONS OR CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS WITH NON-UNION PERSONNEL UNDER M.G.L. CH 30A, SECTION 21a -2.  
SECONDED BY J. GIGER

**SO VOTED IN FAVOR UNANIMOUSLY BY ROLL CALL**

Respectfully submitted,

Susan H. Smith  
Recording Secretary