

Hampton Falls School District

Joint SAU #21 Hampton Falls School Board and Joint #90 Hampton School Board Minutes Monday, June 19, 2017

Winnacunnet High School – Lecture Hall at 6:30 p. m.
2 Alumni Drive
Hampton, NH
www.sau21.org

Tonight's meeting can be viewed on the Winnacunnet Home Page – Community – press "here".

- Hampton Falls School Board present: Mark Lane; Chair, Greg Parish; Vice-chair, and Pamela Miller.
- John Bailly joined the meeting remotely by I-Phone from Clinton, Iowa at 6:35 p.m.
- SAU #21 Administration present: Matt Ferreira; Business Administrator, and Mark Deblois; Principal.
- Robert Sullivan, Ed.D; Superintendent, joined the meeting at 8:00 p.m.
- Absent: Greg Marrow. Ronna Cadarette, D.A.; Assistant Superintendent,
- Hampton School Board present: Les Shepard; Chair, Andrea Shepard; Vice-Chair, Frank Deluca, and Charlotte "Pepper" Ring.
- SAU #90 Administration present: Kathleen Murphy; Superintendent, and Nathan Lunney; Business Administrator,
- Absent: Virginia "Ginny" Bridle Russell, David O'Connor; Principal of Hampton Academy.

Minutes are subject to amendments

At 6:35 p.m., Les Shepard; Chair and Mark Lane; Chair called the Joint Hampton School Board and the Hampton Falls School Board meeting to **order** and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

John Bailly joined the meeting remotely by I-Phone from Clinton, Iowa at 6:35 p.m.

2. Tuition Agreement

Matt Ferreira and Nathan Lunney provided information and answered questions during a slide show presentation.

The purpose of this joint meeting is to discuss, and question the potential options that could benefit the educational experience for our students in a fiscally responsible manner. Preliminary

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conversation could possibly take well up until 2019-2020 before the new addition/renovation project will be completed.

Preliminary questions and answers were discussed:

- + What is offered to the Hampton Falls Community by joining the Hampton Academy? The Hampton Academy programming was discussed. Everything is preliminary.
- + What is the anticipated per student tuition that Hampton would charge Hampton Falls students? A rough estimate of \$1.3 million for approximately 95 students, or approximately \$14,000 per student.
- + Are transportation costs included in the tuition fee? It is likely that Hampton Falls would pay separately for bus service with an estimated cost of \$150,000.
- + Are SPED costs included within the tuition? No, it is likely that Hampton Falls would be responsible for SPED costs for their students.

Superintendent Murphy informed:

- ❖ A Response to Instruction Program would be offered to all of the students.
 - ❖ SPED costs are very different depending on the needs of the students.
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- + Questions to identify all things that might stand in an agreement? What is the bond rate and is that a cost that would be added in the details of the tuition? “Likely” as nothing has been formerly proposed.
 - + What will happen to the Hampton Falls Middle School Teachers? The Hampton Falls estimated cost of \$550,000 would be the cost of hiring additional teachers including benefits. The classroom sizes would increase with a cap of 23 students per class. This information is still preliminary. Teachers may possibly choose for themselves a different alternative.
 - + Are there other costs to Hampton Academy in addition to the middle school certified teacher hiring? Yes, custodial, coaching, and other to be determined. A rough estimate is \$200,000 to \$250,000.
 - + Would Hampton Falls have representation on the school board? One member would represent Hampton Falls as a non-voting member.
 - + How do you govern your own affairs when you don’t have any say? Find commonality, public representation with parents who participate at meetings, working to prepare our students so that they are all ready to continue at the high school using common efforts

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that are the same as other schools that feed into Winnacunnet High School or any other high school that they choose. Hampton would make this part of the agreement.

- + Would Hampton Falls' residents vote on future Hampton Academy budgets and teacher contracts? No.
- + Would Hampton Falls' residents be responsible for any of the Hampton Academy renovation addition bond costs or the SAU # 90 administrative costs? No.
- + Will the potential tuition agreement between Hampton Falls and Hampton Academy function in perpetuity? No, a contract will be drafted every so many years to be determined.
- + What is the bottom line? Costs and revenue are rough estimates – approximately \$500,000 to \$900,000 costs. Discussions are still preliminary.
- + Depending on the tuition rate – is it going to balance out? How does this benefit Hampton Falls and the Hampton Academy? Discussions are still preliminary.
- + Is the Hampton Academy addition in two years prepared to meet the two additional classrooms in grades 6, 7, 8 to accommodate Hampton Falls? – Yes.

3. Public Comment

Supports the concept of joining the Hampton Falls Middle School with Hampton Academy and spoke of declining enrollment.

- ❖ Superintendent Murphy informed that we have not seen a decline in enrollment. Marston and Hampton Academy have seen steady increases in enrollment. We would have to hire teachers depending on the class size numbers.

Favors the joining of Lincoln Akerman Middle School Students and Hampton Academy. They would benefit by a modernized facility, believes in towns helping towns and to protect the cost to the taxpayers.

- ❖ Looking out for the tax payers of Hampton Falls, How does Hampton Falls save with approximately \$550,000 for teachers, \$1.3 million for student tuition, among other costs? The Hampton Falls cost per pupil is currently \$20,000.
 - The cost would be reduced by overhead that is no longer needed in Hampton Falls.
 - Determine what are the real costs?

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It is hard to determine costs at this point, the invitation seems that Hampton just passed something and we need Hampton Falls to pay the bill. This discussion is distracting from our project in Hampton Falls. This conversation will be lengthy. If we move forward then our project in Hampton Falls gets shelved. Or if we decide not to do this, then we can move forward with our project.

What is the project yearly bond payment? \$1,500,000

Strongly opposed to moving Hampton Falls student's to Hampton Academy.

Not in favor of breaking up our team of Hampton Falls teachers.

- ❖ Superintendent Murphy informed that we would honor the teacher positions. It's just that we don't know how we would do it as yet, and additional discussions would be needed. This is still preliminary.

We have a frugal, responsive, and outstanding SAU #90 staff. The Hampton cost per student is \$14,000. Spoke in favor of the Hampton Falls students joining with the Hampton Academy. We would welcome your students to the Hampton Academy. Let the process work.

We are looking at our goals, we don't want to move past this point.

We don't want to move our children to Hampton. We like what we have. I don't see cost savings, and there are repairs that still need to happen in Lincoln Akerman School.

In favor of joining the Hampton Academy. Think of the opportunities, competition, students are challenged with a larger group of students to compete against.

In favor of both boards to continue with the conversation of joining the Hampton Falls middle school joining the Hampton Academy. Is the seat on the board negotiable?

Matt Ferreira informed that everything is negotiable but it never happens. The budget encompasses the entire Hampton community - Marston Elementary, Center School and Hampton Academy.

In favor of the K-8 school. In favor of staying in Hampton Falls.

Superintendent Murphy informed that seven out of ten 2017 Winnacunnet graduating students who made the top ten academically in Winnacunnet High School were from Hampton.

Not in favor of Hampton Falls, children coming to Hampton Academy. We were building a school for 6 teams and making an effort to reduce class size.

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What was the purpose of inviting Hampton Falls, student's to join the Hampton Academy Community? It had to do with the LAS building not being voted in, declining trends in student enrollment numbers, (HF K-8 dropped from 275-240 students), property value increases (young people cannot afford the area, older couples with older students are moving in).

Many schools throughout the state have had to talk about joining municipal buildings with other towns – fire, police and schools. Towns are making good neighboring gestures and looking at efficiencies and cost.

In favor of the K-8 experience, look at cooperative schools where all schools have voter representation on the school board, and Lincoln Akerman School still has facility issues left.

Commentators included: Norman Silberdick, Jerry Znoj, Mark Lane, Brian O'Leary, Jillian Tanida, Colleen Farias, Tim Bonesho, Doug Goodman, Tricia Kelley, Mary Louise Woolsey, Jill Swasey, Don Janik, Tim Samway, Lorry Lemire, Julie Cochrane, James Mitchell, and Sheila Tanguay,

The Hampton and the Hampton Falls Board members collectively agreed to close Public Comment.

Les Shepard and Mark Lane recessed the meeting at 8:15 p.m. for a break.

Les Shepard and Mark Lane reconvened the meeting at 8:22 p.m.

Motion: Greg Parish motioned to move into Non-public Session RSA 91-A: 3 II for the purpose of (K-contracts) at 8:23 p.m. Second: Mark Lane. Roll call vote. Pamela Miller says yes, Greg Parish says yes, John Bailly says yes, and Mark Lane says yes. Motion passed 4-0-0.

Les Shepard and Mark Lane reconvened the meeting at 8:37 p.m.

Mark Lane expressed appreciation for the invitation to join Hampton Academy and is incredibly happy for the town who made the decision to improve their school building. The fact that Hampton Falls would not have a vote on the board, and the burden of the tax, is of a deep concern, the Lincoln Akerman School, and the K-8 experience is very special to us at Hampton Falls.

Motion: Mark Lane moved to discontinue the conversation with Hampton Academy and the SAU #90 in regards to moving forward with the potential of moving Hampton

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Falls Grades 6, 7, and 8 into Hampton Academy. Second: Greg Parish. Motion passed 4-0-0.

Motion: Frank Deluca adjourned the meeting at 8:40 p.m. Second: Greg Parish. Motion passed 8-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Maureen Hastings

Recording Secretary

(Approved August 10, 2017)