

# South Hadley Public Schools School Committee Meeting Minutes

August 3, 2023

Video Conference Meeting Accessible via SHCTV1 or SHCTV1.com

**I. Call to Order:** At 6:00pm noticing a quorum, Chair, Eric Friesner called to order the remote South Hadley School Committee meeting, a Zoom Meeting accessible via SHCTV15 and SHCTV.com

**In Attendance:** Eric Friesner, Chairperson; Danielle Cooke, Vice Chairperson Lawrence Dixon, Member; Daniel Vieu, Member; & Mark McLaughlin, Interim Superintendent for South Hadley Public Schools & Jennifer Voyik, Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Business Operations for South Hadley Public Schools.

**Excused:** Lynda Pickbourn-Smith, Member.

**Guests:** Chris Fontaine, MESMS Principal.

**II. Public Comment:** None.

**III. SHEA Report:** None.

**IV. Routine Items**

**A. Approval of Warrants (2 VOTES)**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Warrant</u>	<u>Amount</u>
June 20, 2023	Warrant #2023-314	\$191,724.05
June 20, 2023	Warrant #2023-319	\$2,318.00
June 27, 2023	Warrant #2023-320	\$225,823.13
July 20, 2023	Biweekly Payroll	\$729,011.39
August 3, 2023	Biweekly Payroll	\$735,549.27

**(VOTE)** Danielle Cooke made a motion to approve the following warrants, warrant dated June 20, 2023, warrant #2023-314, in the amount of \$191,724.05, the next is dated June 20, 2023, it is warrant #2023-319, in the amount of \$2,318.00, the next is dated July 20, 2023, it is a biweekly payroll in the amount of \$729,011.39 and last is warrant dated August 3, 2023, it is a biweekly payroll in the amount of \$735,549.27.

Vieu seconded.

No further discussion.

Cooke – Aye; Vieu – Aye; & Friesner – Aye.

This motion passed unanimously 3-0.

**At 6:30pm this vote was returned to**

**(VOTE)** Danielle made a motion for all those eligible to vote to approve the following warrant, it is warrant dated June 27, 2023, warrant # 2023-320, in the amount of \$225,823.13.

Vieu seconded.

No further discussion.

Cooke – Abstained; Dixon – Aye; Vieu – Aye; & Friesner – Aye.

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This motion passed with 3 in favor and one abstention.

**B. Approval of Minutes – 7/6/23 & 7/27/23 (VOTE)**

**(VOTE)** Chair Friesner entertained a motion to approve the minutes from 7/6/23 & 7/27/23.

Cooke so moved.

Vieu seconded.

Cooke – Aye; Vieu – Aye; & Friesner – Aye.

This motion passed unanimously.

**V. Reports of Standing Committees**

**A. Subcommittee Reports:** None.

**B. Report of Interim Superintendent:** Dr. McLaughlin shared how some may believe that summer is quiet, but it is one of the busiest times of the year. He shared that the Admin Team divvied up summer school principal duties, so it didn't land on just any one member of leadership. Jenn Voyik provided an update to the Committee of the mitigation project. Dr. McLaughlin commended the custodial staff and all staff members who helped with summer school. Jenn Voyik reported about her recent experience with other members of the Administrative Team and a couple of teachers who attended the DESE Leadership Institute pertaining to mathematics.

**C. Report of the Chair & School Committee:** Chairperson Friesner stated the School Committee held an annual retreat to meet with the District Administrative team, prioritizing discussion amongst the leaders of the schools from the lens of the master improvement plan.

**D. Appreciations:** E. Friesner – South Hadley Recreation Department; M. McLaughlin – Summer School & Custodial Staff; J. Voyik – Lisa Beauchemin, Stefani Holmes & Dianne Young

**VI. Update Concerning Recent Grant Awards:** Jenn Voyik disclosed that the District was awarded \$139,902.00 which was recently announced by the Healy Driscoll Administration. Assistant Superintendent Voyik expressed gratitude to the Director of Technology Steve Ziobrowski and School Resource Officer Josh Helems for their hard work gathering all the information needed to apply for this grant which will be used to rekey schools, fix exterior doors, a fob system and cameras where needed. MESMS Principal, Chris Fontaine revealed that the middle school was awarded just over \$49,000 through the Massachusetts Life Science Center which will bring in 26 robotics kits. Dr. McLaughlin read a statement from District Math Interventionist Lisa Beauchemin, "South Hadley has applied for the tiered Math Academy program through DESE for the past few years, and this year we have been accepted into the program. This initiative supports the district's goal of improving math for students by providing high quality professional development for teachers. We planned without the Academy to provide math recovery professional development participating in this Academy allows us to train more teachers and significantly less time with the cost being covered by the State. The

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goals and outcomes of the Math Academy are developing educators' math content and pedagogical knowledge through a series of professional development courses and follow up support increasing capacity at the school and district level by developing an in-district trainer, coach supporting distributed leadership. establishing routines and structures that support continuous improvement in instructional practices and improving student outcomes by utilizing data and enhancing teacher practice." Dr. McLaughlin stated that the amount that will be awarded to our district will be between \$90-140,000 to go toward this work and expressed appreciation for Lisa's hard work.

## **VII. Appointment for Human Rights Committee (VOTE)**

**(VOTE)** D. Cooke made a motion to appoint the two-year seat on the Human Rights Commission to Nina Nedrebo.

Vieu seconded.

D. Cooke – Aye; L. Dixon – Aye; D. Vieu – Aye; & E. Friesner – Aye.

This motion passed unanimously.

**VIII. Transportation Contract:** The Transportation Sub-Committee met because bids were due at 10am. The District did receive one bid from 5 Star Transportation which were opened and discussed with their representatives. They are currently in negotiations with 5 Star. An update will be forthcoming.

**IX. Information Only:** None.

**X. Unfinished Business:** None.

**XI. New Business:** None.

**(VOTE)** Chair Friesner entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting.

D. Cooke so moved.

I. Dixon seconded.

D. Cooke – Aye; L. Dixon – Aye; D. Vieu – Aye; & E. Friesner – Aye.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Kiesha Keitt, Executive Assistant, South Hadley Public Schools