

**MINUTES OF MEETING
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
EDUCATION COMMITTEE
March 22, 2021**

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A meeting of the Education Committee was held on Monday, March 22, 2021. This meeting was held electronically via Zoom, due to the Covid-19 Pandemic. The meeting was called to order at 7:28 P.M. by the Chair, Austin Cesare.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Austin Cesare, Chair; Valerie Horsley, Vice-Chair; Jeron Alston; Jody Clouse; Berita Rowe-Lewis; Betty Wetmore; Mick McGarry, LC President (Ex-Officio)

MEMBERS ABSENT: Brad Macdowall

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Tom Ariola, BOE Finance Director; Julie Smith, Director of Arts, Culture & Special Projects

The following items were addressed:

1. Order to approve amendment to agreement between the Town of Hamden and TSKP Studio, LLC for Architectural/Engineering Services – Hamden Middle School Renovation Project
-- Moved by Ms. Horsley, seconded by Mr. Alston. DISCUSSION: Ms. Smith started by saying that this amendment is a not to exceed amount of \$55,000. She then said some of the changes are the lower level health clinic was moved to the North side of the building for better security. The gym and locker rooms have been removed but there is still a large fitness room to be used for fitness classes of any sort, and she mentioned art and music rooms for 6th grades.

Ms. Wetmore stated she would have to vote against this because the taxpayers can't bear the burden of this.

Mr. Alston said he's not against it but he wonders where the additional money is coming from. Ms. Smith said it is part of the Contingency funding.

Ms. Horsley asked why the project changed. Ms. Smith said it became clear as they went along that another gym in the building was not the best use for the space and the current design provides flexibility. Ms. Horsley thinks the cost savings of this project is encouraging and she thinks the health center will benefit the students.

Ms. Rowe-Lewis thanked everyone for this and said she's all for it.

There being no further business, the meeting was duly adjourned at 7:53 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Kim Renta, Clerk
for Austin Cesare, Chair