

MINUTES OF THE HINGHAM SCHOOL COMMITTEE

November 19, 2020

Remote meeting via Zoom

1. Call to Order

Chair Kerry Ni called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. She stated that the meeting was being held remotely as an alternate means of public access pursuant to an Order issued by the Governor of Massachusetts dated March 12, 2020 Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law. Attendees were advised that the meeting and all communications during the meeting may be recorded by the Town of Hingham in accordance with the Open Meeting Law. Any participant who wished to record the meeting was asked to notify the chair at the start of the meeting in accordance with M.G.L. c. 30A, § 20(f) so that the chair may inform all other participants of said recording. Chair Ni advised that the Harbor Media was recording the session.

Members Present: Kerry Ni, Carlos AF Da Silva, Libby Lewiecki, Liza O'Reilly, Michelle Ayer, Nes Correnti, Jennifer Benham

Central Office Present: Paul Austin

Visitors Present: No sign in as this was a remote meeting.

2. Discussion of Memorandum of Agreement with HEA Unit B.

Liza O'Reilly presented an overview of the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with HEA Unit B, which was previously discussed by the School Committee in Executive Session. The MOA for Unit B is based on the MOA for Unit A. It covers remote-only learning, in-person learning, hybrid learning and other general provisions.

Highlights include providing PPE and instructions on how to use it for all members of the unit. It includes workers' rights regarding safety, rules about six-foot social distancing, as well as working in close personal proximity. Special sick leave provisions are the same as were provided to Unit A. Paraprofessionals working as substitutes for regular classes will receive two additional hours of pay for setting up and managing both in-person and remote learning. Staff can work remotely on Wednesdays according to their schedule. Human Resources will address any needs for accommodations. Any members employed at the start of the school year will receive one hour of additional pay per week to cover the additional responsibilities and duties of remote learning. Meetings will be kept to ten people for in-person activities. Paraprofessionals have agreed to follow all the health and safety protocols mutually agreed upon.

On a motion by Liza O'Reilly and seconded by Michelle Ayer,

It was

Voted: To ratify the Memorandum of Agreement with HEA Unit B.

Michelle Ayer – aye
Jennifer Benham - aye
Nes Correnti – aye
Carlos AF Da Silva – aye
Libby Lewiecki – aye
Liza O’Reilly – aye
Kerry Ni – aye

3. Discussion of an amendment to Article XLV of the HEA Unit A Collective Bargaining Agreement for 2020-2023.

Dr. Austin shared that an agreement has been reached on longevity, and noted that Article 45.1 includes specific language that identifies the standards for earning longevity. Effective school year 2020-21, the amendment identifies the process for determining longevity payments for teachers who take a leave of absence.

On a motion by Liza O’Reilly and seconded by Michelle Ayer,

It was

Voted: To ratify the amendment to Article XLV of the HEA Unit A Collective Bargaining Agreement for 2020-2023

Michelle Ayer – aye
Jennifer Benham - aye
Nes Correnti – aye
Carlos AF Da Silva – aye
Libby Lewiecki – aye
Liza O’Reilly – aye
Kerry Ni – aye

4. Other Items as May Not Reasonably be known 48 hours in advance of the meeting.

Chair Ni suggested that the Committee submit a statement to the community, in advance of the Special Town Meeting, stating that the School Committee will work collaboratively with other boards and leaders in the Town of Hingham to positively affect the future of all Hingham residents.

The School Committee members discussed the content of the statement and made some suggested revisions. Dr. Austin added that he feels that the District works collaboratively with the town in the best interest of the Hingham community.

Dr. Austin introduced Marianne Gates as the new Executive Assistant to the Superintendent and Recording Secretary to the School Committee.

5. On a motion by Liza O’Reilly and seconded by Carlos DaSilva,

It was







Voted: To Adjourn to Executive Session at 6:25pm, not to return to Open Session, for the purpose of:

1. Discussing strategy related to collective bargaining negotiations with HEA Unit A, the public discussion of which may be detrimental to the committee's bargaining position.

Michelle Ayer – aye
Jennifer Benham - aye
Nes Correnti – aye
Carlos AF Da Silva – aye
Libby Lewiecki – aye
Liza O'Reilly – aye
Kerry Ni – aye

Respectfully Submitted By:
Libby Lewiecki

Documents Included:

Name	↑
 Agenda_2020_1119.pdf	 
 Item 2 - HEA Unit B.pdf	
 Item 3 - Settlement Agreement_Longevity Article XLV.pdf	