

Item 4a.

**Hingham School Committee
Joint ACES**

March 17, 2021

7:00 PM

Remote meeting via Zoom:

Dial-in number:

Meeting ID:

Passcode:

Website: <https://zoom.us/join>

Members present: Kerry Ni, Carlos Da Silva, Libby Lewiecki, Liza O'Reilly, Michelle Ayer, Nes Correnti, Jen Benham

Admin: Paul Austin, John Ferris

ACES members present: Dave Anderson, Andrew McElaney, Evan Sheehan, Eryn Kelley, George Danis

1. Call to Order.

The school Committee was called to order at 7:02 PM.

2. To attend and participate in a joint session with Advisory Committee Education Subcommittee.

Dave Anderson Chair of ACES provided a framework to talk about ACES impressions of student achievement data presented by Dr. Labillois, and how the data will inform ACES decision making regarding the recovery budget as it pertains to the number of proposed FTEs and how to pay for it. Evan Sheehan credited the school administration for giving a succinct picture of the regression and describing the needs of the schools. Eryn Kelley mentioned that she believes the statistical analysis is factual and quantitative and that the recovery budget contains reasonable requests. She asked how do we address the regression in a financially prudent and responsible way. George Danis added that he received positive confirmation that DIBELS scores are predictive, and he believes the historical data helps to understand the variances in special needs. He asked when the needs of the recovery budget will go away, and what are the needs from pre-covid that won't go away. Andrew McElaney questioned the discrepancy in high MCAS, SAT, and AP scores in Hingham as documented by DESE in comparison to the achievement gaps in Dr. LaBillois' presentation and how do they translate into the need for more special ed teachers. Dr. LaBillois responded that the presentation provided trends within the last four years which documented achievement gaps within special ed and children with disabilities (subgroups with Hingham population). Furthermore, Hingham's subgroups do not perform as well as our benchmark communities. There is also an achievement gap from previous years for neurotypical students as a result of COVID. We must

resolve historic problems and the COVID related problems. E. Sheehan pointed out that many parents supplement their students' education, and this handicaps students whose families don't have the economic means; D. Anderson shared a few slides from Dr. LaBillous presentation. He asked what is the timeline for recovery.

L.O'Reilly advised that some of the partial FTEs at the High School do not necessarily mean that we are hiring another person; they could be making a part-time teacher into a full time teacher. So we are not actually asking for 34 more people. Total new hires is less than 34.

Questions and comments from the public were addressed.

ACES scheduled a meeting for March 22, 2021 at 7:00 to vote on the proposed school budget.

3. On a motion made by M.Ayer and seconded by C. DaSilva was voted to adjourn the School Committee at 9:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Libby Lewiecki, School Committee Secretary