

MINUTES OF THE HINGHAM SCHOOL COMMITTEE

September 8, 2021

Remote via Zoom Webinar

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Kerry Ni.

Chair Kerry Ni read the following statement: This meeting is being held remotely as an alternate means of public access pursuant to Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021 temporarily amending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law. You are hereby advised that this meeting and all communications during this meeting may be recorded by the Town of Hingham in accordance with the Open Meeting Law. If any participant wishes to record this meeting, please 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.

Members Present: Chair Kerry Ni, Vice-Chair Michelle Ayer, Secretary Nes Correnti, Liza O'Reilly Carlos DaSilva, Jen Benham, and Tim Dempsey

Central Office Present: Interim Superintendent Dr. Gary Maestas

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

Adjourn to Executive Session:

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

It was **voted:** to enter into Executive Session and to reconvene in Open Session, for the purposes of:

- a. Discussing a Memorandum of Agreement with HEA Unit A discussing matters related to the HEA Unit A collective bargaining negotiations
- b. To discuss Memorandums of Agreement with non-union interim administrators Jennifer Arnold and Gregory Lamothe
- c. To discuss the contract of Interim Superintendent Dr. Gary Maestas
- d. To approve the minutes of the Executive Session of August 3, 2021
- e. To approve the minutes of the Executive Session of August 23, 2021

Michelle Ayer – aye
Jen Benham- aye
Nes Correnti – aye
Carlos A.F. DaSilva - aye
Tim Dempsey – aye
Liza O'Reilly - aye
Kerry Ni – aye

Return to Open Session:

Chair Kerry Ni called the meeting back to order at 7:00 PM, and again read the above statement regarding remote meetings.

Members Present: Chair Kerry Ni, Vice-Chair Michelle Ayer, Secretary Nes Correnti, Liza O'Reilly, Carlos DaSilva, Jen Benham, and Tim Dempsey

Central Office Present: Interim Superintendent Dr. Gary Maestas, Assistant Superintendent Dr. James LaBillois, Director of Human Resources Susan D'Amato, Director of Business and Support Services John Ferris, and Executive Director of Student Services Dr. Suzanne Vinnest.

Harbor Media indicated that they would be recording the meeting, as well as Jenna Manto from the Hingham Journal.

Action from Executive Session:

- Kerry Ni Stated that the Committee was not ready to act on the Memorandum of Agreement with the HEA
- On a motion by Liza O'Reilly and seconded by Michelle Ayer,
It was **voted**: To approve the contract for the 2021-2022 school year for Interim Foster School Principal Jennifer Arnold

Michelle Ayer – aye
Jen Benham- aye
Nes Correnti – aye
Carlos A.F. DaSilva - aye
Tim Dempsey – aye
Liza O'Reilly - aye
Kerry Ni – aye

- On a motion by Liza O'Reilly and seconded by Michelle Ayer,
It was **voted**: To approve the contract for the 2021-2022 school year for Interim Plymouth River School Principal Gregory Lamothe

Michelle Ayer – aye
Jen Benham- aye
Nes Correnti – aye
Carlos A.F. DaSilva - aye
Tim Dempsey – aye
Liza O'Reilly - aye
Kerry Ni – aye

- On a motion by Liza O'Reilly and seconded by Michelle Ayer,
It was **voted**: To approve the contract for the 2021-2022 school year for Interim Superintendent Dr. Gary Maestas

Michelle Ayer – aye
Jen Benham- aye
Nes Correnti – aye
Carlos A.F. DaSilva - aye
Tim Dempsey – aye
Liza O'Reilly - aye
Kerry Ni – aye

Approval of Minutes:

- On a motion by Michelle Ayer and seconded by Nes Correnti
It was **voted**: To approve the minute of the School Committee meeting of August 9,2021

Michelle Ayer – aye
Jen Benham- aye
Nes Correnti – aye
Carlos A.F. DaSilva - aye
Tim Dempsey – aye
Liza O’Reilly - aye
Kerry Ni – aye

- On a motion by Michelle Ayer and seconded by Nes Correnti,
It was **voted**: To approve the minutes of the School Committee meeting of August 23, 2021

Michelle Ayer – aye
Jen Benham- aye
Nes Correnti – aye
Carlos A.F. DaSilva - aye
Tim Dempsey – aye
Liza O’Reilly - aye
Kerry Ni – aye

Questions and Comments from the Community included:

There were no comments or questions at this time.

Superintendent’s Report:

Interim Superintendent Dr. Gary Maestas welcomed back the Hingham School Community and thanked everyone for their efforts to get the students back to school. He gave a report that included:

- Information about the test-and-stay program for COVID testing in schools
- Answers to frequently asked questions
- An expected timeline for the development of a strategic plan

Questions from the community included:

- A question about the testing program with regard to vaccination status

Communications:

Kerry Ni noted that the School Committee had recent training with Dr. Darnisa Amante-Jackson as part of the Equity and Inclusion Task Force.

Face Covering Policy:

The School Committee discussed aligning the current face mask policy with the DESE guidelines. They discussed including language to clarify the policy in relation to mask wearing during music and physical education classes. The School Committee agreed to wait to get clarification from the schools regarding music classes before acting to make changes to the current policy.

Adult Meal Price Increase:

Director of Business and Support Services John Ferris explained that the price for adult meals has not increased for many years and that the price cannot be lower than the government reimbursement amount for student meals. He stated that the program needs the increase in revenue, as costs have increased considerably. The Committee discussed the proposed increase amount and made suggestions regarding the price change.

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

It was **voted**: To approve the price increase of adult meals as proposed

Michelle Ayer – opposed
Jen Benham- aye
Nes Correnti – aye
Carlos A.F. DaSilva - aye
Tim Dempsey – aye
Liza O’Reilly - aye
Kerry Ni – aye

Proposed Field Trip:

Hingham High School music teacher Joe Young was present to explain the proposed field trip to take place in April of 2022. He stated that the group would go to Vienna, Prague, and Salzburg. Mr. Young explained that the trip will take place at the beginning of April vacation, and that the students would only miss one day of school. He also explained the cancellation policy and the COVID related trip insurance. The School Committee discussed the proposal, asking about the refund policy in the event of cancellation.

On a motion by Michelle Ayer and seconded by Nes Correnti,

It was **voted**: To approve the proposed field trip to Europe in April of 2022

Michelle Ayer – aye
Jen Benham- aye
Nes Correnti – aye
Carlos A.F. DaSilva - aye
Tim Dempsey – aye
Liza O’Reilly - aye
Kerry Ni – aye

Homeschool Application:

Dr. Maestas recommended that the School Committee approve the two Homeschool Applications on the agenda, one for a student in grade 3, the other for grade 4

On a motion by Michelle Ayer and seconded by Nes Correnti,

It was **voted**: To approve the Homeschool applications for a student in grade 3, and another in grade 4, as recommended by the Superintendent for the 2021-2022 school year.

Michelle Ayer – aye
Jen Benham- aye
Nes Correnti – aye
Carlos A.F. DaSilva - aye
Tim Dempsey – aye
Liza O’Reilly - aye
Kerry Ni – aye

Fall Coaching Recommendations:

The School Committee acknowledged having received the memo from Athletic Director Jim Quatromoni listing the Fall 2021 Coaching Recommendations.

Lane Changes

The School Committee acknowledged having received notification of teacher advancements to the next lane in the salary schedule.

Subcommittee and Project Reports/Warrants Signed

Michelle Ayer reported that she and METCO Director Carols Perez will be scheduling monthly meetings with METCO families and the Superintendent. She also noted that the School Building Committee is also meeting tonight.

Jen Benham reported that she attended the Foster School PTO meeting to answer parent questions and that there is a SNAP meeting on September 14th.

Nes Correnti reported that there are warrants in the packet and that the Equity and Inclusion Task Force met with Dr. Darnisa Amante-Jackson.

Carlos DaSilva reported that the Climate Action Committee will be holding a meeting on September 22nd.

Tim Dempsey reported that the Unity Council is working on updating the Cultural Calendar.

Liza O'Reilly reported that the Salary and Negotiations Subcommittee will be scheduling a meeting to continue negotiations with the HEA.

Kerry Ni noted that the School Committee will be having its workshop on Saturday, October 2nd.

Other items as may not reasonably be known 48 hours in advance of the meeting:

Carlos DaSilva asked if he would be able participate in the workshop on October 2nd remotely.

Adjourn:

On a motion by Michelle Ayer and seconded by Nes Correnti

It was **voted:** To adjourn at 8:09 PM.

Michelle Ayer – aye

Jen Benham- aye

Nes Correnti – aye

Carlos A.F. DaSilva - aye


































Tim Dempsey – aye

Liza O'Reilly - aye

Kerry Ni – aye

Respectfully Submitted By:
Nes Correnti

Documents Included:

	09.08.21 Agenda_revised 
	09.08.21 Agenda_revised 
	09.08.21 Agenda_revised.pdf 
	09.08.21 Agenda.pdf 
	Item 4 08_19_2021_Minutes.pdf 
	Item 4 08_23_21 Minutes.pdf 
	Item 6: 2021-2022 COVID TESTING.pdf 
	Item 6: Schools Reopening Update FAQ.pdf 
	Item 8.1 DESE 2021-0825mask-requirement.pdf 
	Item 8.1 EBCFA - Approved 8_23_21.pdf 
	Item 9.2 Itinerary Revised_Proposed Field Trip April 2022_Hingham HS_9 Day Central Europe Tour.pdf 
	Item 9.2 Proposed Field Trip application.pdf 
	Item 9.2 Travel_COVID19-FAQ-Consumers-020221.pdf 
	Item 9.3 Homeschool Applications.pdf 
	Item 9.4 2021 Fall Coaching Recommendations.pdf 
	Item 9.5 Lane Changes to date.pdf 
	Item 10 Warrants Signed.pdf 