

MINUTES OF THE HINGHAM SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Saturday October 2, 2021 at 8:00 AM
In the North/South Hearing Room
Hingham Town Hall

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 8:02 AM by Kerry Ni.

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

Central Office Members present: Interim Superintendent Dr. Gary Maestas, Director of Business and Support Services John Ferris, Director of Human Resources Susan D'Amato, and Executive Director of Student Services Dr. Suzanne Vinnes

Members of the Advisory Committee present included: Chair Julie Strehle, Vice-Chair Robert Curley, Nancy MacDonald, Evan Sheehan, David Anderson, George Danis and Caitlyn Kirk.

Also present: Select Board members Chair Joe Fisher (present from 8:00-9:00) and Liz Klein from 9:00-to the end of the meeting) and Hingham Town Administrator Tom Mayo.

Visitors Present: There were no members of the public present.

Update on the Foster School Building Project

Director of Business and Support Services John Ferris updated the Committees on the status of the project. He explained the application process with the Massachusetts School Building Association (MSBA). Mr. Ferris stated that the designer has been chosen and that visioning sessions will be taking place to get community input. Members of the Advisory Committee asked questions about the process, budgeting, and the timeline of when the cost estimate may be in place. Mr. Ferris stated that by April they should have a good estimate of costs and be able to put this on the warrant for Town Meeting. Other issues discussed included where students may be housed during construction, wetland and conservation issues, and green construction.

Appointing a School Committee Representative

Chair Kerry Ni appointed Jen Benham to the Foster School Education Visioning Committee.

Interim Superintendent Goals

Interim Superintendent Dr. Gary Maestas reviewed his goals for the 2021-2022 school year. Dr. Maestas discussed the development and timeline of a Strategic Plan. He also discussed the creation of the Sustainable Budget Taskforce. The Committees discussed the budget process and the importance of demonstrating the need for the programs put in place last year to address learning loss related to the pandemic. Town Administrator Tom Mayo discussed the budget process and explained that the town uses the capital plan and the master plan that was recently done to make decisions. Dr. Maestas also discussed the search for a new Superintendent and the process that has already begun with NESDEC. He also described previous experience he has had with the MSBA process.

School Committee goals and priorities for the 2021-2022 school year

The School Committee discussed developing goals and priorities for each Subcommittee and to report them at the meeting on October 18th.

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

Chair Kerry Ni noted the lawsuit that has been filed by a group that names many Massachusetts communities, including Hingham, with regard to the mask mandate.

Adjourn

- On a motion by Michelle Ayer and seconded by Nes Correnti
It was **voted**: To adjourn at 10:07 AM

Michelle Ayer – aye

Jen Benham- aye

Nes Correnti – aye

Carlos A.F. DaSilva - aye

Tim Dempsey – aye

Liza O'Reilly - aye

Kerry Ni – aye

Documents Included:

 10.02.21 Agenda Saturday Workshop.pdf 

 Interim Superintendent Goals.pdf 
