

HINGHAM SCHOOL COMMITTEE
December 12, 2022 7:00PM

MEETING MINUTES

School Committee Chair Michelle Ayer called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM, and began by reading the following statement for those participating by zoom:

This meeting is being offered 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 Ayer advised that the Harbor Media was recording the session. No other participants indicated that they would be recording the meeting.

Michelle Ayer took a moment to thank the Community for continued support for the schools and mentioned the upcoming budget meetings.

School Committee members present: Chair Michelle Ayer, Vice-Chair Nes Correnti, Secretary Jen Benham, Kerry Ni, Tim Dempsey, Alyson Anderson

School Committee members participating remotely: Matt Cosman

School Committee members absent: none

This meeting incorporated the use of the OWL camera to broadcast the meeting via Zoom.

Central Office Members present: Superintendent Dr. Margaret Adams, Interim Assistant Superintendent Kathryn Roberts, and Director of Business and Support Services Aisha Oppong
Also present: Executive Assistant Sherry Robertson

Visitors present:

There were approximately 12 people attending remotely.

Approval of minutes:

Vice-Chair Nes Correnti suggested edits of the minutes of the meeting held on November 14, 2022.

On a motion by Nes Correnti and seconded by Jen Benham

- It was **voted** to approve the minutes of the School Committee meeting held on November 14, 2022 with the edits discussed

Michelle Ayer - aye

Jen Benham - aye

Nes Correnti - aye

Tim Dempsey - aye

Kerry Ni - aye

Alyson Anderson - aye

Matt Cosman – aye

Vice-Chair Nes Correnti suggested edits of the minutes of the meeting held on November 28, 2022.

On a motion by Nes Correnti and seconded by Jen Benham

- It was **voted** to approve the minutes of the School Committee meeting held on November 28, 2022

Michelle Ayer - aye
Jen Benham - aye
Nes Correnti - aye
Tim Dempsey - aye
Kerry Ni - aye
Alyson Anderson - aye
Matt Cosman – aye

Questions and Comments

There were no questions at this time.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Adams noted that she had shared information in the packet related to elementary and secondary curriculum updates. She also noted that included in the meeting packet is the recent district newsletter, as well as a newsletter from Director of Student Services Dr. Suzanne Vinnes.

Dr. Adams shared that she and METCO Director Amy Jackson recently visited the Boys' and Girls' Club in Dorchester to recruit families to apply for the METCO program. Dr. Adams mentioned that on January 11, at 6:30PM there will be an information session at Town Hall for parents about Kindergarten registration.

Dr. Adams noted recent enrollment numbers from December 2022 are in the packet as well as an intended timeline for the Assistant Superintendent Search.

Community SEL and Mental Health Resource: Care Solace

Dr. Adams explained the partnership with Care Solace as a resource for families and gave a presentation on services offered and how the resources can be accessed. Director of Guidance, Heather Rodriguez was present and answered questions from the Committee.

Proposed Model UN Student trip in January 2023

Teacher Kathryn Black was present to describe the trip, which is one that has been taken in years past. The Model UN Conference is a four-day international relations simulation held in downtown Boston. This year's conference will be in January 2023 for 20 High School students. She stated that COVID restrictions that were in place last year are more relaxed this year.

On a motion by Nes Correnti and seconded by Jen Benham

- It was **voted** to approve the proposed Model UN student trip to Boston in January 2023

Michelle Ayer - aye
Jen Benham - aye
Nes Correnti - aye
Tim Dempsey - aye
Kerry Ni - aye
Alyson Anderson - aye
Matt Cosman – aye

East Elementary School's School Improvement Plan

East Elementary School Principal Jonathan Hawes was present accompanied by Assistant Principal Amanda Donovan. Mr. Hawes gave a presentation that included a

- review of last year's school improvement plan goals
- new action steps being taken and success measurement
- analysis of student performance data
- diversity, equity and inclusion
- an explanation of social-emotional learning supports

Mr. Hawes noted that the new current plan is shaped by the goals and actions developed within HPS' Strategic Plan.

Questions and Comments from the Community included:

- a question about restorative justice curriculum

Dr. Adams stated that restorative practices are part of best strategies to approach social-emotional learning and discipline and are a skill set for teachers.

On a motion made by Nes Correnti and seconded by Jen Benham

- It was voted to approve the 2022-2023 East School Improvement Plan

Michelle Ayer - aye

Jen Benham - aye

Nes Correnti - aye

Tim Dempsey - aye

Kerry Ni - aye

Alyson Anderson - aye

Matt Cosman – aye

Winter Coaching Assignments, and fall/winter MIAA waivers

Athletic Director Jim Quatromoni was present and reported on the MIAA waivers granted this year, one is to be able to have a co-op team for girls' gymnastics to allow Hull students to combine with Hingham. Another waiver is to allow grade 8 girls to play on the JV Girls' Hockey Team, and the third is to allow grade 8 boys to play on the JV Boys Hockey Team. He also included the list of winter coaching assignments in the meeting packet.

Update on beginning of year assessment data

Interim Assistant Superintendent Kathryn Roberts introduced directors Mary Andrews and Dave Jewett. Mary Andrews reviewed English Language Arts data and summarized with general conclusions and next steps. The Committee asked about comparisons from last year's data. Dave Jewett presented math data for grades K-6 explaining general conclusions.

Update on the Class of 2022

Guidance Director Heather Rodriguez reviewed data noting the colleges to which the class of 2022 applied, and where they attend. She reviewed the SAT data which was above both the state and national average. She noted that fewer students are taking the SATs than in recent years and the number of students taking the ACTs have increased.

Drivers' Education

Director of Business and Support Services Aisha Oppong submitted a memo to the Committee proposing an increase in the fee for Drivers' Education as well as a proposal to have a higher fee for out of town students to attend the program. She stated that there is an interest and right now the program is self-sustaining and making these changes could generate revenue.

On a motion by Nes Correnti and seconded by Jen Benham

- It was **voted** to approve the new rate increase in the Driver's Education program to \$850 for Hingham residents starting in the summer of 2023 and to allow non-resident students to participate in the Drivers' Education program at a cost of \$950.

Michelle Ayer - aye
Jen Benham - aye
Nes Correnti - aye
Tim Dempsey - aye
Kerry Ni - aye
Alyson Anderson - aye
Matt Cosman – aye

Grant from Cape Cod Bank for the World Language Program

Dr. Adams noted the memo received from Foreign Language Director Erica Pollard for a \$497 mini grant from Cape Cod Bank for things like flexible seating, camp chairs, cushions, and things like that to provide access to the language classrooms.

On a motion by Nes Correnti and seconded by Jen Benham

- It was **voted** to accept the grant of \$497 from Cape Cod Bank for the purpose of purchasing flexible seating for the Hingham High School World Language classrooms

Michelle Ayer - aye
Jen Benham - aye
Nes Correnti - aye
Tim Dempsey - aye
Kerry Ni - aye
Alyson Anderson - aye
Matt Cosman – aye

Subcommittee and Project Reports/Warrants Signed

- Alyson Anderson reported that the Plymouth River School Council will be meeting this week on 12/13, and the Climate Action planning Committee also has a meeting this week on 12/14 via zoom.
- Tim Dempsey reported that the Special Education Subcommittee met on 12/1, Educational Programming Subcommittee met on Dec. 8, and the Hingham Human Rights Committee met on November 30th.
- Kerry Ni reported that the Hingham Middle School Council will be meeting on December 19th, and that the Salary and Negotiations Subcommittee had a productive meeting on December 7th and will meet again on January 11, 17, and February 1st with Unit B, the Paraprofessional Unit, and will be working on successor contracts this year.
- Jen Benham reported that there is a SNAP meeting tomorrow 12/13, and a Policy Subcommittee meeting next week on 12/21.
- Nes Correnti noted the financial warrants in the packet and stated that the Finance/Capital & Facilities Subcommittee met today with all 6 building principals, and will be having more meetings with other groups in the coming weeks. She also reported that the Foster School Council will be meeting next week. She also noted the Sustainable Budget Taskforce has an upcoming meeting on 12/1.
- Michelle Ayer reported that there has been preliminary work at the site of the new Foster Elementary School and that the next phase will be building the temporary playground.

Other items as may not reasonably be known 48 hours in advance of the meeting
none

On a motion by Nes Correnti and seconded by Jen Benham

- It was **voted** to adjourn at 9:20 PM

Michelle Ayer - aye

Jen Benham - aye


Nes Correnti - aye

Tim Dempsey - aye

Kerry Ni - aye


Alyson Anderson - aye


Matt Cosman – aye


 12.12.2022 Agenda.pdf [↗](#)

 Item 2.1 Minutes of the School Committee meeting held on November 14, 2022.pdf [↗](#)


 Item 2.2 Minutes of the School Committee meeting held on November 28, 2022.pdf [↗](#)


 Item 4.0 Curriculum Update Elementary Fall 2022.pdf [↗](#)


 Item 4.0 Curriculum Update Secondary Fall 2022.pdf [↗](#)


 Item 4.0 District Newsletter November 2022.pdf [↗](#)

 Item 4.0 Student Services Fall 2022 Newsletter.pdf [↗](#)


 Item 4.1 Care Solace Update (2).pdf [↗](#)


 Item 4.1 Letter - Family - English - Resource Center - Care Solace.pdf [↗](#)

 Item 4.1 School Committee Update .pptx.pdf [↗](#)


 Item 4.2 December 1, 2022 Enrollment Summary.pdf [↗](#)


 Item 4.3 Search Timeline Asst. Superintendent.pdf [↗](#)

 Item 7.1 Model UN Trip.pdf [↗](#)

 Item 7.2 22_24 SIP EAST.pdf [↗](#)


 Item 7.2 East Elementary SIP presentation.pdf [↗](#)


 Item 7.3 WalverMemo.pdf [↗](#)


 Item 7.3 Winter Coaches Memo.pdf [↗](#)

 Item 7.4 BOY Assessment Data-SC Presentation-12-12-22.pdf [↗](#)


 Item 7.4 Elementary Reading Data Source Descriptions.pdf [↗](#)


 Item 7.4 Sample Data Sheet.pdf [↗](#)

 Item 7.5 2022 CEEB data.docx.pdf [↗](#)

 Item 7.5 College Entrance and Testing Report 2022.pdf [↗](#)

 Item 7.6 Memo to SC RE_ Expanding Driver's Ed to other Districts.pdf [↗](#)

 Item 7.7 Cape Cod 5 Grant Memo.pdf [↗](#)

 Item 8 Warrants.pdf [↗](#)
