

**HINGHAM SCHOOL COMMITTEE**  
**November 28, 2022 at 7:00 PM**

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.

**School Committee members present:** Chair Michelle Ayer, Vice-Chair Nes Correnti, Secretary Jen Benham, Kerry Ni, Tim Dempsey, Alyson Anderson, 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, and Student Advisory Representative Nathan Tesler

**Visitors present:** Derek Smith, David Riordan, Richard Swanson, Jacqueline Beaupre  
There were approximately 20 people attending remotely.

**Approval of minutes:** Secretary Jen Benham stated that the approval of minutes would be tabled until the next meeting.

**Questions and Comments**

There were no questions at this time.

**Superintendent's Report**

Dr. Adams reported on several news items in the district which included:

- **French Student Exchange Program**

Dr. Adams noted that Hingham High School and the HPS World Language Department recently announced the inauguration of the Hingham - Cahors Exchange Program. Seventeen French students from Cahors, France recently visited Hingham for a week and a half, and in the spring of 2023, Hingham students will have the opportunity to travel to Cahors, France and reunite with the students and experience French culture.

- **Special Education Determination**

Dr. Adams stated the district received a letter from DESE notifying the district that the MA Department of Elementary and Secondary Education's local special education determination under Part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) has determined that the Hingham Public School District Meets Requirements.

**Communications**

There were no other communications to discuss at this time.

### **Student Communications**

Student Representative Nathan Tesler noted that the High School Drama production of *The Music Man* will be taking place December 1-4. He also congratulated the Girls' Soccer Team in winning the State Championship. He discussed that the Student Advisory Committee has been discussing ways to bring back a community service component to graduation requirements.

### **Other Communications**

none

### **Unfinished Business**

none

### **New Business**

#### **Hingham Middle School's School Improvement Plan**

Hingham Middle School Principal Derek Smith gave a presentation reviewing the 2021-2022 school year goals and discussing progress and accomplishments. He noted the goals for this school year 2022-2023 and next year as well, discussing plans to meet the goals at the middle school. The presentation included a slide show depicting many of the celebrations and activities that are ongoing at the middle school. The Committee asked questions about Restorative Justice training and when the Restorative Justice practices might be started.

On a motion by Nes Correnti and seconded by Jen Benham

- It was voted: To approve the 2022-2023 Hingham Middle School Improvement Plan

Michelle Ayer – aye

Nes Correnti - aye

Jen Benham – aye

Kerry Ni - aye

Tim Dempsey – aye

Alyson Anderson - aye

Matt Cosman – aye

#### **Hingham High School's School Improvement Plan**

High School Principal Rick Swanson gave a presentation that reviewed the goals of the past school year noting both challenges and successes. He reviewed the goals for the 2022-2023 school year, and mentioned new clubs at the high school that help promote social justice and unity. He also stated that Unity Week will be happening again in February. The Committee asked questions related to the flex block, pathways and expanding community service.

On a motion by Nes Correnti and seconded by Jen Benham

- It was voted: To approve the 2022-2023 Hingham High School Improvement Plan

Michelle Ayer – aye

Nes Correnti - aye

Jen Benham – aye

Kerry Ni - aye

Tim Dempsey – aye

Alyson Anderson - aye

Matt Cosman – aye

#### **Hingham Unity Council METCO Scholarship**

Andrew Turner of the Hingham Unity Council joined via Zoom and explained that the Unity Council is announcing two new scholarships, each for \$1000. He stated that one will go to a METCO student, and the other to a student recognized for showing a commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion. The Committee asked if the award will be given directly to the student or would it run through the school Department's accounts. If it's paid directly to the student then the School Committee would not need to take action on it. Mr. Turner stated that he will get more information for the Committee and return at a future meeting to provide an update.

#### **Request from Hingham Little League for placement of a shed on Hingham Middle School field**

Dr. Adams noted that there is a memo and memorandum of agreement in the packet. Jeff Deady who is the Hingham Little League Fields and Equipment Commissioner was present and explained the need for storage at the Middle School field. He stated that the proposed shed will include a separate section that will be available for the School Department to use.

On a motion by Nes Correnti and seconded by Jen Benham

- It was voted: To approve the memorandum of agreement between the Hingham Public Schools and the Hingham Little League for the building, placement, and maintenance of a 10'X20' shed on the fields at Hingham Middle School

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

#### **Proposed overnight trip to Vermont for both the Girls' and Boys' Ice Hockey teams in December 2022**

Athletic Director Jim Quatromoni was present to explain the details of the trip which include opportunities for both the Girls' and Boys' Hockey teams to scrimmage opponents in Vermont during the December 10th weekend. He noted that this is a trip that has been done in the past and stated that there will be an adequate coach to athlete ratio for proper supervision.

On a motion by Nes Correnti and seconded by Jen Benham

- It was voted: To approve the proposed overnight trip to Vermont for the Girls' and Boys' Hockey Teams teams in December 2022

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

#### **Strategic Plan Update**

Dr. Adams and Interim Assistant Superintendent Kathryn Roberts gave a presentation updating the Committee on progress related to the Strategic Plan.

#### **DESE Tiered Focused Monitoring Update**

Dr. Adams reviewed the memo from the state's Department of Elementary and Secondary Education that is in the meeting packet in reference to a review that was done in March conducted by the Department's Office of Public School Monitoring (PSM) during the 2021-2022 school year. The purpose of the Tiered Focused Monitoring

Review is to monitor compliance with regulatory requirements focusing on special education and civil rights. Dr. Adams explained the summary of the compliance ratings that resulted from the review.

**Proposed change to school handbooks to add discipline due process**

Dr. Adams stated that this is a request for approval to update the school handbooks, based on policy, to add proposed language outlining the due process procedures for discipline procedures for students with disabilities, students on 504 Accommodation Plans, and students not yet determined eligible for special education.

On a motion by Nes Correnti and seconded by Jen Benham

- It was voted: To approve the update to the Hingham Elementary Family Schools Student Handbook for the 2022-2023 school year with the proposed changes.

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

On a motion by Nes Correnti and seconded by Jen Benham

- It was voted: To approve the update to the Hingham Middle School Student Handbook for the 2022-2023 school year with the proposed changes.

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

On a motion by Nes Correnti and seconded by Jen Benham

- It was voted: To approve the update to the Hingham High School Student Handbook Code of Discipline for the 2022-2023 school year with the proposed changes.

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

**To authorize the Chair of the School Committee to sign documents on behalf of new elementary school building project on behalf of School Committee**

Dr. Adams stated that this is a request that came from a recommendation of the Town Counsel to have a formal vote to allow for the Chair to sign the documents related to the School Building Project.

On a motion by Nes Correnti and seconded by Jen Benham

- It was voted: To authorize the Chair of the School Committee to sign documents relating to the new Elementary School Building project on behalf of the School Committee.

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

#### **Subcommittee and Project Reports/Warrants Signed**

- Matt Cosman reported that the East School Council recently met and discussed the school's improvement plan.
- Alyson Anderson reported that the Climate Action Planning Committee will be meeting on December 1st via Zoom.
- Tim Dempsey reported that the Special Education Subcommittee has a meeting this week as well as the Hingham Human Rights Committee. He also reported that the Academic Programming Subcommittee (formerly the Curriculum Subcommittee) will be meeting on December 8<sup>th</sup>, and that the School Committee office hours will be held next week on December 5th.
- Jen Benham reported that the South School Council has a meeting scheduled on December 7<sup>th</sup>.
- Nes Correnti reported that the Equity Task Force met on November 21<sup>st</sup>.
- Michelle Ayer reported that the site work for the new Foster Elementary School will be beginning soon and there will be a School Building Committee meeting on December 1<sup>st</sup>. She also stated that there will be a joint meeting with the Advisory Board this week to hear from Town Counsel about override legal requirements.

#### **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 9:07 PM  
Michelle Ayer – aye  
Nes Correnti - aye  
Jen Benham – aye  
Kerry Ni - aye  
Tim Dempsey – aye  
Alyson Anderson - aye  
Matt Cosman – aye

Respectfully Submitted By: Jen Benham

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 11.28.2022 Agenda.pdf 

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 Item 4.0 Hingham High School Students Bid Adieu to Their French Exchange Partners.pdf 

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 Item 4.1 \_2023 Special Education Determination.pdf 

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 Item 7.1 Hingham Middle School School Council Report 2022.pdf 

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 Item 7.1 HMS SIP 22-23.pdf 

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 Item 7.2 HHS School Improvement 21-22.pptx.pdf 

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 Item 7.2 HHS School Improvement Plan 22-24.pdf 

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 Item 7.4 HMS Hingham School Committee Formal Shed Request.pdf 

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 Item 7.4 MOA with Little League Shed at HMS Updated.pdf 

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 Item 7.5 HockeyFieldTrips.pdf 

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 Item 7.6 Hingham Public Schools Strategic Plan Overview Update #1.pdf 

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 Item 7.6 Strategic Plan Update #1.pdf 

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 Item 7.7 Hingham TFM Final Report11.22.docx.pdf 

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 Item 7.7 Memo on Tiered Monitoring.pdf 

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 Item 7.7 Time on Learning Worksheet HMS.pdf 

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 Item 7.8 Updated School Disciplinary Due Process Language for School Handbooks (1).pdf 

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