

HINGHAM SCHOOL COMMITTEE

March 27, 2023

MEETING MINUTES

Called to Order at 6:00 PM

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

School Committee members absent: Matt Cosman

Central Office Members present: Superintendent Dr. Margaret Adams

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

On a motion by Kerry Ni and seconded by Nes Correnti

It was **voted** to adjourn to executive session Executive Session pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, s. 21(a)(3)

To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining for HEA Unit A Teachers and Unit B Paraprofessionals as an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the public body and the chair so declares

To discuss strategy with respect to Administrative Assistants negotiations as an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the public body and the chair so declares

Michelle Ayer - aye

Jen Benham - aye

Nes Correnti - aye

Kerry Ni – aye

Tim Dempsey - aye

Alyson Anderson - aye

Reconvene

School Committee Chair Michelle Ayer called the meeting to order at 7:03 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 Representatives Nathan Tesler and Alex Doggett

Visitors present: HEA Co-President Jacqueline Beaupre, South Elementary School Principal Mary Eastwood and Assistant Principal Lori Jacobs, Teachers Tracy Manning and Lauren Sacco, as well as many South Elementary students and family members.

School Showcase: South Elementary School

Teacher Lauren Sacco and Tracy Manning introduced the students from South Elementary School who then narrated a digital storybook slideshow depicting the student experience at South Elementary, as one progresses from Kindergarten through grade 5. The students completed their presentation with a song about kindness. The Committee thanked the staff, students, and their families for attending and for giving such an uplifting and positive presentation.

Approval of minutes:

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 March 13, 2023

Michelle Ayer - aye

Jen Benham - aye

Nes Correnti - aye

Kerry Ni – aye

Tim Dempsey - aye

Alyson Anderson - aye

Matt Cosman – aye

The Committee agreed to table the minutes of the School Committee Meeting with the Advisory Committee held on March 14, 2023 until the next meeting.

Questions and Comments

There were no public comments or questions at this time.

Superintendent's Report

Entry Plan Final Report

Dr. Adams gave a presentation of the Entry Plan that included the themes of academic excellence, meeting the needs of all students, equity, communication and collaboration, and operational challenges. She detailed the progress made in all of these areas, and the progress made incorporating the strategic plan throughout the district.

Enrollment Update

Dr. Adams provided the March 1st 2023 enrollment data showing a total of 3,803 students in the Hingham Public Schools.

Budget Update

Dr. Adams gave a budget update with revised numbers showing the updated town-wide shortfall to be \$6,015,216 and the school's total shortfall to be \$3,909,890. She discussed the potential cuts in positions and services that

would take place if the override does not pass. The Committee discussed the importance of informing the community about the override vote.

Student Communication

Student Advisory Committee Representatives Nathan Tesler and Alex Doggett reported that the High School recently practiced a lock-down drill during transition time. Tim Dempsey also congratulated the Middle School Drama Club for a great performance of Shrek the Musical.

Unfinished Business

2023-2024 School Year Calendar

The Committee noted that there were no changes to the draft of the calendar that was discussed at the previous meeting.

On a motion by Nes Correnti and seconded by Jen Benham

- It was **voted** to approve the 2023-2024 school year calendar as presented

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

New Business

Winter Sports Update and Waiver for Spring Sports

Athletic Director Jim Quatromoni was present and gave a recap of the success of the winter sports programs. He explained the league waiver process and the reasons for requesting the waiver to allow eighth graders to participate in jv softball for the spring season.

On a motion by Nes Correnti and seconded by Jen Benham

- It was **voted** to allow the waiver

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

Mr. Quatromoni also was present to request permission for student athletes to attend several out of state competitions for the Boys' Varsity Lacrosse Team to travel by coach bus.

On a motion by Nes Correnti and seconded by Jen Benham

- It was **voted** to approve the following out of state competitions for the Boys' Varsity Lacrosse Team to Saratoga High School in Saratoga, NY on April 1, 2023
Glastonbury High School in Glastonbury, CT on May 6, 2023
And Bishop Guertin High School in Nashua, NH on May 11, 2023

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

Mr. Quatromoni also requested permission for student athletes to attend an out of state competition for the Boys' and Girls' High School Crew teams to travel by school buses.

On a motion by Nes Correnti and seconded by Jen Benham

- It was **voted** to approve the out of state competition for the Boys' and Girls' Crew Team:

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

Climate Action Planning Committee Update

Presented by Chair of the Climate Action Planning Committee Brad Moyer. Mr. Moyer gave an overview of where the committee is now in the development of their plan. He reviewed the timeline, and explained that it has been extended, as the need to focus on the upcoming override has taken precedence for many people. He explained that there are six contours of the plan that include: electricity, supply buildings, transportation, waste, community, and natural resources. He discussed that the committee reviewed plans in other larger communities and how these plans are implemented. The Committee agreed to put this item on the next agenda to take time to review the report and to respond as a Committee.

School Committee Policy ACAB- Sexual Harassment (first read)

Chair of the Policy Subcommittee, Jen Benham, stated that this policy already exists and the proposed change is an updated version with more data regulations and laws. She stated that the definition is written out more clearly with more references to Massachusetts General Law. She also stated that in the last section it lists the appropriate parties to whom you would file a complaint. She noted that it will be important to check that section yearly to ensure it is the correct person.

School Committee Policy AC-Non-Discrimination Policy Including Harassment and Retaliation (first read)

Jen Benham explained that the policy is unchanged, but the non-discrimination policy has been combined to include the language related to harassment and retaliation as well as our current policy ACA, the non-discrimination policy on the basis of sex. She explained the policy goes into more detail specifically with the definition. She also read the language the Policy Subcommittee is proposing to include.

School Committee Policy JICK- Harassment of Students (first read)

Jen Benham and Dr. Adams explained that the language is written to follow the law regarding employee-to-student harassment, as well as student-to-student harassment.

Proposed Contractor Agreement between Hingham Public Schools and The Cape Island Corporation for the Replacement of Tennis Courts at the High School

Director of Business and Support Services Aisha Oppong explained that the Town of Hingham and Hingham Public Schools together organized the procurement of the Cronin Fields Street Hockey Court and the High School Tennis Courts. Two bids were received for the Tennis and Street hockey courts. It was determined that Cape and Island Corporation was the lowest responsible bidder. The contract for Cape and Island Tennis and Track is included in the folder with a memo recommending the Committee authorize Superintendent Dr. Margaret Adams to sign the contract on the School Department's behalf.

On a motion by Nes Correnti and seconded by Jen Benham

- It was **voted** to authorize the Superintendent to sign an agreement with the Cape and Island Corporation on behalf of the School Committee

Michelle Ayer - aye

Jen Benham - aye

Nes Correnti - aye

Kerry Ni – aye

Tim Dempsey - aye

Alyson Anderson - aye

Matt Cosman – aye

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

none

Subcommittee and Project Reports/Warrants Signed

- Alyson Anderson reported that there is an upcoming meeting of the Special Education Task Force and that the Climate Action Planning Committee has a meeting Wednesday evening.
- Tim Dempsey reported that the Special Education Subcommittee will be meeting on April 5th. He also reported that office hours will be held next week with Alyson Anderson and Jen Benham at the High School.
- Kerry Ni reported that the Salary and Negotiations Subcommittee will be meeting with Unit and Unit B this week as negotiations continue for a successor contract. She also reported that the Middle School Council will be meeting on April 24th.
- Jen Benham reported that the South School Council will be meeting this Wednesday. She also reported that she and Alyson Anderson attended the METCO conference at the State House, and that Pizza Palooza hosted by South Shore SNAP will be this Wednesday at the High School.
- Nes Correnti reported that there are warrants in the packet. She noted there was a Finance Committee meeting on March 15th and the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Task Force met on Thursday and are continuing their equity audit.
- Michelle Ayer reported that the High School Council met on March 15th and discussed the Community Service requirement.

On a motion by Nes Correnti and seconded by Jen Benham at 9:00 PM

It was **voted** to adjourn to executive session Executive Session pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, s. 21(a)(3)

To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining for HEA Unit A Teachers and Unit B Paraprofessionals as an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the public body and the chair so declares

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Michelle Ayer - aye

Jen Benham - aye

Nes Correnti - aye

Kerry Ni – aye



Tim Dempsey - aye



Alyson Anderson - aye

Matt Cosman – aye


Respectfully Submitted By: Jen Benham



Documents Included:



 03.27.2023 Agenda.pdf 

 Item 4 South School Showcase.pdf 



 Item 5.1 Minutes of the School Committee held on March 13, 202.pdf 



 Item 7.1 Entry Plan Final Report .pdf 


 Item 7.1 Entry Plan Final Report Presentation Revised.pdf 



 Item 7.2 March 1, 2023 Enrollment Summary.pdf 


 Item 7.3 March 27, 2023- FY24 Budget Update Presentation.pdf 



 Item 9.1 2023-2024 DRAFT Calendar.pdf 



 Item 10.1 8thGradeJVSoftball.docx.pdf 

 Item 10.2 LaxGlastonburyCT.pdf 



 Item 10.2 LaxNashuaNH.pdf 

 Item 10.2 LaxSaratogoNY.pdf 



 Item 10.3 CrewGlastonburyCT.pdf 



 Item 10.4 CAP_School Committee Presentation_Mar 27, 2023.pdf 



 Item 10.5 ACAB_Sexual Harassment Policy-Draft.docx.pdf 



 Item 10.6 AC_Non-Discrimination Policy Including Harassment and Retaliation Draft .docx.pdf 

 Item 10.7 ACA_Non-Discrimination on the Basis of Sex.pdf 



 Item 10.8 JICK- Harassment of Students-DRAFT.docx.pdf 


 Item 10.9.0 HHS Tennis Court - Court Construction Cape and Island Corp. Contract.pdf 

 Item 10.9.0 Memo on Tennis Court Construction Bid - Google Docs.pdf 

 Item 10.9.1 Cape and Island Bid Response 3 2 23.pdf 

 Item 10.9.2 Classic Turf bid Response 3 2 23.pdf 

 Item 11 Warrant #S030723.pdf 

 Item 11 Warrant #S031423.pdf 