

HINGHAM SCHOOL COMMITTEE

June 26, 2023

MEETING MINUTES

Called to Order at 5:00 PM

School Committee Chair Nes Correnti called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM, and began by reading the following statement for those participating by zoom:

This meeting is being held in person and/or remotely as an alternate means of public access pursuant to Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2023 and all other applicable laws 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.

School Committee members present: Chair Nes Correnti, Secretary Jen Benham, Tim Dempsey, Alyson Anderson, and Matt Cosman

School Committee members participating remotely: Vice-Chair Michelle Ayer (present until 5:30PM), and Kerry Ni

School Committee members absent: none

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

This meeting incorporated the use of the OWL camera to broadcast the meeting via Zoom. Harbormedia was also present and recorded the meeting.

Visitors present: High School Principal Rick Swanson, Middle School Principal Derek Smith, and Foster Elementary School Principal Matt Scheufele.

Remote visitors: There were approximately 6 remote attendees on Zoom.

Chair Nes Correnti moved to take items out of order.

Summative Evaluation of the Superintendent

Chair Nes Correnti explained the process of the evaluation of the Superintendent as required by DESE guidelines. She noted the rating that Dr. Adams received with an overall summative rating of Proficient, and noted many of the positive ways Dr. Adams has made progress and improvements in her first year as Superintendent.

On a motion by Michelle Ayer and seconded by Jen Benham

- It was **voted** to approve the initial Superintendent Summative Evaluation for Dr. Adams' first year with a rating of Proficient.

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

Review of School Handbooks

Foster Elementary School Principal Matt Scheufele summarized the changes within the Elementary Handbook, noting the five items that were updated. Middle School Principal Derek Smith summarized the changes to the Middle School handbook, noting the changes with regard to the updated harassment policy, and the make-up work policy related to absences for religious reasons. High School Principal Rick Swanson summarized the changes to the High School Handbook, noting the memo he submitted for the meeting packet citing the 18 points of the changes that were made. Some of these changes included changes to the Saturday detention language, attendance policy update, and student parking.

On a motion by Jen Benham and seconded by Alyson Anderson

- It was **voted** to approve the changes to the 2023-2024 Hingham Elementary Family Student Handbook as proposed

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

On a motion by Jen Benham and seconded by Alyson Anderson

- It was **voted** to approve the changes to the 2023-2024 Hingham Middle School Handbook as proposed

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

Matt Cosman - aye

On a motion by Jen Benham and seconded by Alyson Anderson

- It was **voted** to approve the changes to the 2023-2024 Hingham High School Student Handbook Code of Discipline as proposed

Nes Correnti - aye

Michelle Ayer - aye

Jen Benham - aye

Kerry Ni - aye

Tim Dempsey - aye

Alyson Anderson – aye

Matt Cosman - aye

*Michelle Ayer left the meeting at this time (5:30PM)

Approval of minutes:

The approval of the minutes of June 12, 2023 was tabled until the next meeting.

Questions and Comments:

There were no questions or comments at this time.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Adams noted recent HPS press releases including:

- The Plymouth County Education Association recently honored 37 teachers from the District
- Registration information for the new Elementary After School Strings Program
- The recent appointments of Kathryn Roberts as the permanent Assistant Superintendent, Dr. Barbara Cataldo as the Interim Executive Director of Student Services, and Michelle Romano as the permanent K-12 Science Director.

Equity Audit

Dr. Adams and Kathryn Roberts presented an overview of the final draft of the Equity Audit. They reviewed the equity audit process, datasets reviewed, information gathered from organized equity walks, surveys, recommendations, and next steps.

New Business

Social Studies Program Review

This item was tabled until the next meeting.

Summer School Pilot Program

High School Principal Rick Swanson provided the Committee with information regarding the intent to pilot a summer program designed to assist students in regaining credit. The proposal requests the

Committee's approval of a fee of \$200 per course, and he noted that the Hingham Education Foundation will be funding the stipend for the Coordinator's position for this program. Mr. Swanson explained that the program, Edgenuity, is an online platform that provides full courses aligned to the Massachusetts State Curriculum Frameworks across all content areas. Students in need of summer school could enroll in an online course to complete the needed courses for credit recovery. HHS intends to use the courses for students who have failed to meet course requirements during the school and not for acceleration.

On a motion by Jen Benham and seconded by Alyson Anderson

- It was **voted** to approve the fee of \$200 per online course for the Edgenuity Credit Recovery program

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

Grants and Donations

Director of Business and Support Services Aisha Oppong noted the memo in the packet from METCO Director Amy Jackson reporting that the Hingham Public Schools has been awarded a professional development Racial Equity Inclusion grant from METCO Inc for \$15,000. METCO, Inc.

On a motion by Jen Benham and seconded by Alyson Anderson

- It was **voted** to accept the METCO grant in the amount of \$15,000

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

School Committee Meeting Dates for 2023-2024 School Year

On a motion by Jen Benham and seconded by Alyson Anderson

- It was **voted** to approve the meeting dates in the packet for the 2023-2024 school year

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 Hingham Education Foundation end of year social was well-attended
- Alyson Anderson reported that the Climate Action Committee has an upcoming meeting on June 28th, and that the Policy Subcommittee will have a meeting on July 6th.
- Tim Dempsey reported that he attended a recent SNAP meeting, and that the Educational Programming Subcommittee had a meeting during the previous week
- Jen Benham reported that the Finance/Capital & Facilities Subcommittee met on June 16th and that there are financial warrants in the meeting packet.
- Kerry Ni reported that the Salary & Negotiations Subcommittee met with Unit B, the Paraeducator Unit on June 14th, and will be having a strategy meeting with participation of the full School Committee on July 10th. She also reported that the next negotiation meetings will be with Unit B on July 25th, and Unit A (teachers) on August 30th.

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

None

On a motion by Jen Benham and seconded by Alyson Anderson

It was **voted** to adjourn to Executive Session pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, s. 21(a)(3) not to return to Open Session

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 approve minutes of the Executive Session held on June 12, 2023, as an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the public body and the chair so declares

Nes Correnti - aye

Jen Benham - aye

Kerry Ni - aye

Tim Dempsey - aye

Alyson Anderson – aye

Matt Cosman - aye

The Open Session was adjourned at 6:18 PM

Respectfully Submitted By: Jen Benham

Name ↑

- [06.26.2023 Agenda.pdf](#)
- [Item 4.0 37 HPS teachers honored Press Release.pdf](#)
- [Item 4.0 After School Strings Registration Begins June 17th - Press Release HPS.pdf](#)
- [Item 4.0 HPS Appoints Dr. Barbara Cataldo as Interim Executive Director of Student Services - Press Release.pdf](#)
- [Item 4.0 HPS Appoints Kathryn Roberts as Permanent Assistant Superintendent.pdf](#)
- [Item 4.0 HPS New Student Registration .pdf](#)
- [Item 4.0 Romano Selected as Permanent Science Director.pdf](#)
- [Item 4.1 Equity Audit Overview .pdf](#)
- [Item 4.1 Equity Audit Overview Presentation.pdf](#)
- [Item 4.1 Equity Audit.pdf](#)
- [Item 7.1 Elementary Handbook.pdf](#)
- [Item 7.1 HHS Handbook Memo 06-21-23.pdf](#)
- [Item 7.1 HHS-Student-Handbook-2022-2023 \(2\).pdf](#)
- [Item 7.1 HMS Handbook Memo 06-21-23.pdf](#)
- [Item 7.1 Memo RE_ Spring 23 Elem Handbook Changes \(1\).pdf](#)
- [Item 7.1 Updated HMS 2022-2023 Handbook \(1\).pdf](#)
- [Item 7.2 endcycle-sumeval- Dr. Adams FY23.pdf](#)
- [Item 7.2 Margaret Adams FY23 Evaluation summary.pdf](#)
- [Item 7.3 Strategic Plan SSBUS Year1 Memo for SC 6_12_23.pdf](#)
- [Item 7.3 Strategic Plan SSBUS Year1 Memo Slides.pdf](#)
- [Item 7.4 Edgenulity Fee.pdf](#)
- [Item 7.5 PD METCO Grant School Committee .pdf](#)
- [Item 7.6 Proposed SC Meeting Calendar 2023-2024.pdf](#)
- [Item 8 Warrant #5061323.pdf](#)