



January 8, 2024

Dear HPS Families,

Below are discussion highlights from the January 8th School Committee meeting. These include minute markers and links to relevant documents. These notes are not official School Committee minutes, which will be on the agenda for our next meeting, but are intended to keep the community updated on decisions and topics discussed in our meetings.

### **Upcoming Meeting Details**

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- School Committee Meeting, Thursday, January 18, 2024 @7:00 PM
- School Committee Meeting, Monday, January 22, 2024 @6:00 PM

You can view agendas for all town board and committee meetings [here](#)

### **January 8th, School Committee Meeting Highlights**

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A full recording of the meeting is available on the [Harbor Media](#). Referenced documents can be reviewed in the [meeting packet](#). Additionally, recent documents and communications about [contract negotiations](#) and the [budget process](#) are available.

We have included timestamps below so you can skip ahead to discussions that may be of particular interest to you.

- [\(3:04\)](#) Superintendent's Report
  - Open houses will be held this week for HPS' integrated Preschool and Kids in Action Preschool programs and registration is available on the HPS website
  - Kindergarten open house will be held on 1/17, 6:30pm at Hingham Middle School
  - Hingham High School childhood development program is recruiting for their Preschool which runs 3/4 - 3/20
  - The Visual Arts program currently has a display at Hingham Public Library
  - Hingham Unity Council in collaboration with teachers will be holding a dinner for multicultural families on 1/18
  - Families are encouraged to enroll in Aspen as all report cards will now be provided electronically
  - A meeting was held with METCO to help further develop the program moving ahead



- A list of projects that were completed by Facilities and Maintenance over the winter break was shared
- [\(9:39\)](#) Communications
  - [\(9:39\)](#) An update was provided by Alex Doggett from the Student Advisory Council
  - [\(12:05\)](#) Michelle Ayer communicated that she had reached out to Joann Bellis in regards to the Hingham Arts Alliance event held last week to share how inspirational it had been and the great feedback from alumni
- [\(13:57\)](#) Unfinished Business
  - New policy JFAB - Enrollment of Children of Personnel to the HPS preschool programs was approved unanimously
  - Revised policy CBI - Evaluation of the Superintendent was approved by the committee
- [\(18:16\)](#) New Business
  - [\(18:16\)](#) Joann Bellis presented a HHS drama club student trip to NYC in May 2024 which was approved
  - [\(21:51\)](#) Jackie Sansone provided a report on Kids in Action (KIA) programming
  - [\(41:00\)](#) Jackie Sansone presented and the committee approved KIA after-school K-5 program fees for 2024-2025
  - [\(42:59\)](#) An update on the elementary Spanish immersion exploration was provided by Erica Pollard
  - [\(57:41\)](#) Discussion with Rick Swanson on the addition of possible community service requirements at Hingham High School
  - [\(1:42:43\)](#) Discussion of a potential increase in activity/club fee at Hingham High School for the 2024-2025 school year
  - [\(2:03:58\)](#) New elementary school name was discussed in regards to bringing a warrant article to Town Meeting 2024. It was approved to put forth the name Foster Elementary School on the warrant.
  - [\(2:09:09\)](#) An overview of the financial FY25 budget was provided
- [\(2:50:20\)](#) Subcommittee and Project Reports
  - Hingham Middle School Council met 1/8
  - Salaries and Negotiations met with teachers (1/3), paras for first mediation session (1/5) and administrative assistants (1/4)
  - South School Council meeting 1/17
  - Hingham Arts Alliance held an alumni panel on 1/8
  - Climate Action Committee meeting 1/10
- [\(2:53:37\)](#) Under 48 Hours



- [\(2:53:37\)](#) There was a request for authorization for the placement of utility easements necessary in connection with the new elementary school, and to authorize the chair or other member of the Committee to serve as the signatory on the easement and for the insertion of a warrant article to approve these which were approved by the committee