

HINGHAM SCHOOL COMMITTEE

January 18, 2024

MEETING MINUTES

Called to Order at 7:00 PM

School Committee Chair Nes Correnti 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 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, Kerry Ni, and Matt Cosman

School Committee members participating remotely: Vice-Chair Michelle Ayer and Alyson Anderson

School Committee members absent: Tim Dempsey

Central Office Members present: Superintendent Dr. Margaret Adams, Assistant Superintendent Kathryn Roberts, and Executive 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.

Visitors present: ACES Subcommittee member Brian Stack, Joe Griffin and Caitlin Kirk, HEA President Jacqueline Beaupre, Technology Director Joe Andrews, and Facilities Director Katie St. Clair

Remote visitors: There were approximately 3 remote attendees on Zoom.

FY 25 Budget Overview

Dr. Adams presented an overview of the FY 25 budget. She explained how specific items drive the budget such as contracts, substitutes, fuel costs, fees, and increases in student needs for services. She reviewed teacher salaries and per pupil expenditures, and how these numbers compare with benchmark communities. Executive Director of Business and Support Services Aisha Oppong explained the existing revolving accounts that are designated for specific purposes, and provided an overview of the summary of the budget comparing costs from the past two years with expected costs for FY25.

Teaching and Learning FY 25 Budget Overview

Assistant Superintendent Kathryn Roberts reviewed curriculum and professional development highlights from the 2023-2024 school year. She also explained that professional development reimbursement will have an effect on the FY 25 budget, noting that course reimbursement, and mentoring stipend costs will increase with the new contract. She also noted anticipated costs for the 2024-2025 school year, such as piloting a new math program for K-5 during FY25.

Special Education FY 25 Budget Overview

Interim Executive Director of Student Services Dr. Barbara Cataldo gave an update on Special Education enrollment data and costs. Dr. Cataldo explained that the out-of-district tuition costs are determined by the state.

Technology FY 25 Budget Overview

Technology Director Joe Andrews gave a presentation that included a summary of the operating budget for technology and capital requests. He explained the needs such as updating the servers, and continuing the installation of Viewsonic Viewboards to replace outdated smart boards, as well as repair costs for existing hardware.

Facilities FY 25 Budget Overview

Director of Facilities Katie St. Clair highlighted facility improvements done during the 2023-2024 school year. She reviewed the needs of each building and capital requests for the coming year.

Transportation FY 25 Budget Overview

Executive Director of Business and Support Services gave a presentation that included a summary of the drivers of the transportation budget, the inventory of the department, and the capital requests for FY25.

Grants and Donations

Hingham Arts Alliance and Hingham Music Parents Association Grant

The Committee received a memo from Fine Arts Director Joann Bellis regarding the notification that the Hingham Public Schools was successful in its application for a grant from the Hingham Arts Alliance and the Hingham Music Parents Association. The \$750 will be used to fund clinician fees for a workshop at Hingham Middle School designed to inspire and motivate middle school performers.

On a motion by Michelle Ayer and seconded by Jen Benham

- It was **voted** to approve the Hingham Music Festival and Celebration 2024 Arts Alliance Grant in the amount of \$750.00.
 - Nes Correnti - aye
 - Michelle Ayer - aye
 - Jen Benham - aye
 - Kerry Ni - aye
 - Alyson Anderson - aye
 - Matt Cosman – aye

BSO/Isabella Stewart Gardner Arts Pathway Field Trip

The Committee received a memo from Fine Arts Director Joann Bellis regarding the notification that the Hingham Public Schools was successful in its application for a grant amount totaling \$1,250 from the Hingham Arts Alliance. The Hingham grant award will be used to fund tickets and transportation for a field trip initiative of the Arts Pathway Program for students to attend the BSO/Isabella Stewart Gardner Arts Pathway Field Trip.

On a motion by Michelle Ayer and seconded by Jen Benham

- It was **voted** to approve the grant from the Hingham Arts Alliance in the amount of \$1,250 to be used for the BSO/Isabella Stewart Gardner Arts Pathway Field Trip

Nes Correnti - aye

Michelle Ayer - aye

Jen Benham - aye

Kerry Ni - aye

Alyson Anderson - aye

Matt Cosman – aye

BAE Systems, Inc. FIRST Grant

The Committee received a memo from K-12 Science Director Michelle Romano that the Hingham High School's FIRST Robotics Team was successful in its application for the BAE Systems, Inc. FIRST Grant. The BAE Systems, Inc. FIRST Grant, of \$2,000.00, will be applied to the Team 5000 Hammerheads FIRST dashboard account and will be used to cover registration and competition fees for the team to participate in this year's FIRST Robotics Competitions.

On a motion by Michelle Ayer and seconded by Jen Benham

- It was **voted** to approve the BAE Systems, Inc. FIRST Grant Award in the amount of \$2,000

Nes Correnti - aye

Michelle Ayer - aye

Jen Benham - aye

Kerry Ni - aye

Alyson Anderson - aye

Matt Cosman – aye

East Elementary School Playground Project

The Committee received a memo from East Elementary School Principal Jonathan Hawes seeking approval to update and install playground equipment on the East Elementary campus. Mr. Hawes' memo explained that the East School PTO already has \$65,000 and will be fundraising to raise the remaining funds needed to meet the approximate cost of \$95,000 for the project.

On a motion by Michelle Ayer and seconded by Jen Benham



- It was **voted** to approve the donation of \$95,00 from the East Elementary PTO for the construction and installation of new playground equipment



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



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



On a motion by Michelle Ayer and seconded by Jen Benham
It was **voted** to adjourn to at 9:10 PM



Respectfully Submitted By: Jen Benham



 01.18.2024 Agenda.pdf 



 Item # 2.0 - FY25 Budget Presentation -1-18-24.pdf 

 Item # 2.0 - Special Education Staffing FY24.pdf 



 Item # 2.1 - FY 25 Budget Summary Report.pdf 


 Item # 2.2 - FY 24-25 - School Enterprise Funds Rollforwards.pdf 

 Item # 2.3 FY 24-25 Grant & Revolving Analysis.pdf 

 Item # 3 - 2023 Arts Alliance Grant - HPS Fine Arts Memo - Google Docs.pdf 

 Item # 3 - 2024 Arts Alliance Grant, HPS Fine Arts Memo, 1_11_24 - Google Docs.pdf 

 Item #3 - 2024 BAE Systems FIRST Grant HPS Science Memo - Google Docs.pdf 

 Item #3 - Playground Memo - Google Docs.pdf 
