

## HINGHAM SCHOOL COMMITTEE

January 22, 2024

### MEETING MINUTES

#### **Called to Order at 6:00 PM**

School Committee Chair Nes Correnti called the meeting to order at 6:00 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, Vice-Chair Michelle Ayer, Secretary Jen Benham, Kerry Ni, Tim Dempsey, and Matt Cosman

**School Committee members participating remotely:** Alyson Anderson

**School Committee members absent:** none

**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 and Student Advisory Committee representatives Alex Doggett and Slater Fairfield

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

**Visitors present:** High School Principal Rick Swanson, Middle School Principal Derek Smith, South Elementary School Principal Mary Eastwood, Plymouth River Elementary School Principal Greg Lamothe, Foster Elementary School Principal Matt Scheufele, East Elementary School Principal Jonathan Hawes, and Athletic Director Jim Quatromoni, as well as member of the Advisory Committee Educations Subcommittee (ACES), and several high school students.

**Remote visitors:** There were approximately 40 remote attendees on Zoom.

**ACES called to order by Tina Sherwood at 6:00PM.**

**Approval of minutes:**

On a motion by Michelle Ayer and seconded by Jen Benham

- It was **voted** to approve the minutes of the School Committee meeting held on January 4, 2024

On a motion by Michelle Ayer and seconded by Jen Benham

- It was **voted** to approve the minutes of the School Committee meeting held on January 8, 2024

On a motion by Michelle Ayer and seconded by Jen Benham

- It was **voted** to approve the minutes of the School Committee meeting held on January 18, 2024

**Questions and Comments:**

none

**Superintendent's Report**

Dr. Adams provided an update to the School Committee on happenings in the district. Topics mentioned included: Elementary Report Cards, Preschool/Pre-Kindergarten Open Houses, Kindergarten Registrations, High School Chorus Mattress Fundraiser, and Student Attendance.

**Student Communications**

Student Advisory Committee Representative Alex Doggett reported that the new website with volunteer opportunities has been launched; midterms are ongoing; and information regarding upcoming service trips will be going out soon.

**New Business****HHS Student: U.U. Presidential Scholar Nominee**

The Committee honored Hingham High School student Nora Andrews who has been selected to represent MA as one of the U.S. Presidential Scholar nominees

**FY 25 Budget Overview**

Dr. Adams reviewed the current budget drivers, and Executive Director of Business and Support Services Aisha Opong explained the preliminary town budget forecast.

Elementary Principals Mary Eastwood, Greg Lamothe, Jonathan Hawes, Matt Scheufele, Middle School Principal Derek Smith, and High School Principal Rick Swanson, each presented their school improvement goals, an overview of the proposed FY 25 budget, staffing and student-teacher ratios, and gave summaries of potential reductions. Athletic Director Jim Quatromoni discussed highlights and accomplishments of the athletic program, and discussed the fee structure and an overview of the proposed FY 25 budget.

At 6:48 PM there was a temporary disruption by a zoom attendee. The Committee apologized to the community due to the offensive language used by the caller. The remote meeting was muted momentarily while the attendee was removed and reported to zoom.

**ACES voted to adjourn at 7:42 PM.**

**Hingham Middle School Program of Studies**

Middle School Principal Derek Smith presented the Middle School Program of Studies.

On a motion by Michelle Ayer and seconded by Jen Benham

- It was **voted** to approve the 2024-2025 Hingham Middle School Program of Studies, as presented

**Hingham High School Program of Studies**

Hingham High School Principal Rick Swanson gave a presentation highlighting the updates to the High School Program of Studies that included a discussion on the potential of a community service requirement for graduation.

On a motion by Michelle Ayer and Seconded by Kerry Ni

- It was voted to accept the new High School Program of Studies with the proposed change to the community service graduation requirement. The change would be to allow for a pilot program that will be required beginning with the class of 2028. The incoming ninth grade students will be required to complete 10 hours of community service. At the conclusion of the pilot there will be an assessment of the program which will include a survey of students, parents, and the administrators of the pilot program, which will be provided to the School Committee for their consideration of implementing a community service graduation requirement.

Nes Correnti – aye

Michelle Ayer – aye

Jen Benham – no

Kerry Ni – aye

Tim Dempsey – aye

Alyson Anderson – aye

Matt Cosman - no

**Grants and Donations**

none

**Declaration of Surplus**

none

**Subcommittee and Project Reports/Warrants Signed**

- Matt Cosman reported that the East School Council will be meeting on January 23<sup>rd</sup>; the Hingham Education Foundation held a meeting about grant opportunities; and the next Special Education subcommittee meeting will be scheduled soon.
- Tim Dempsey reported that the Hingham Human Rights Commission had a recent meeting; there was also a recent meeting of SNAP; there will be an upcoming meeting of the Educational Programming Subcommittee.
- Kerry Ni reported that the Middle School Council met on January 8<sup>th</sup> and she updated the Committee on the upcoming meeting schedule of the Salary and Negotiations Subcommittee.
- Jen Benham reported that there are signed warrants in the meeting packet; there will be a

meeting of the Finance/Capital and Facilities Subcommittee on January 26<sup>th</sup>.

- Nes Correnti reported that there was a meeting last week of the Wellness Committee and that the School Committee will attend the Capital Outlay meeting on January 29<sup>th</sup>; and the Public Hearing on the Budget will be on February 5<sup>th</sup>.
- Michelle Ayer reported that the Hingham Unity Council and SEPAC will be hosting a Community Conversation on disabilities on March 16<sup>th</sup>.
- Alyson Anderson reported that the Plymouth River School Council meeting will be on January 23<sup>rd</sup>; the Hingham Arts Alliance fundraiser is scheduled for March 24<sup>th</sup>; and that the Policy Subcommittee will be scheduling a February meeting.

**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 Executive Session at 9:01 PM, not to return to Open Session pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, s. 21(a)(3) not to return to Open Session for the purposes of:
- To approve minutes from the Executive Session held on January 8, 2024 as an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the public body and the chair so declares
- To provide an update on negotiations with HEA Unit A, B, and D as an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the public body and the chair so declares

Respectfully Submitted By: Jen Benham


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 01.22.2024 Agenda.pdf 



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 2.1 Minutes of the School Committee meeting held on January 4, 2024.pdf 



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 2.2 Minutes of the School Committee meeting held on January 8, 2024.pdf 



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 2.3 Minutes of the School Committee meeting held on January 18, 2024.pdf 


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 Item 4.0 January 22 2024 Superintendent Report.pdf 


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 Item 7.1 Acknowledgement of US Presidential Scholar.pdf 



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 Item 7.1 H Andrews (Hingham) .pdf 



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 Item 7.2 FY25 School Principals Budget Presentation.pdf 



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 Item 7.2 Results of User fee Fee Survey 2023-2024 by District 



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 Item 7.3 HMS POS Memo 2024-2025.pdf 



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 Item 7.4 HHS POS Memo 2024-2025.pdf 



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 Item 7.4 HHS PROGRAM OF STUDIES 2024-2025 FINAL.docx.pdf 

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 Item 7.4 PROGRAM-OF-STUDIES-2023-2024-FINAL.docx-Google-Docs (1).pdf 

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 Item 8 Warrants.pdf 

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