

HINGHAM SCHOOL COMMITTEE

March 12, 2024

MEETING MINUTES

Called to Order at 6:30 PM

School Committee Chair Nes Correnti called the meeting to order at 6:30 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, Tim Dempsey, Alyson Anderson, and Matt Cosman

School Committee members participating remotely: 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; Interim Executive Director of Student Services Dr. Barbara Cataldo

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: There were six visitors present including HEA President Jacqueline Beaupre.

Remote visitors: There were approximately 68 remote attendees on Zoom.

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 with the Select Board and Advisory Committee held on February 7, 2024

On a motion by Michelle Ayer and seconded by Jen Benham

- It was **voted** to approve the minutes of the School Committee meeting with the Advisory Committee held on February 15, 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 February 26, 2024

On a motion by Michelle Ayer and seconded by Jen Benham

- It was **voted** to approve the minutes of the School Committee meeting with the Select Board, Advisory Committee, and Capital Outlay Committee held on February 27, 2024

Questions and Comments

Community member Liza O'Reilly, Teacher Ben Louchheim, and HEA President Jacqueline Beaupre made comments regarding the ongoing collective bargaining negotiations.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Adams provided an update to the School Committee on happenings in the district. Topics mentioned included: congratulations to the twelve Middle School students that recently participated in the MMEA Southeastern Junior District Music Festival; a reminder of the All-Town Band Concert on March 13th; an announcement of the hiring of Tara Boening as the new South Elementary School Principal and the resignation of South Elementary Assistant Principal Lori Jacobs; a reminder that the Middle School Drama production will take place on March 14th and 15th; congratulations to the 65 High School juniors who competed in the HHS History Day contest; information for next year's Kids in Action Enrollment; a reminder that members from DESE will be present during the week of April 22nd for the District Comprehensive Program Review; information about the new IEP for the fall of 2024; and an update from the School Building Committee.

Student Communications

Student Advisory Committee Representatives Alex Doggett and Slater Fairfield updated the Committee of recent events that included the All-town Orchestra performance, and student participation in regional History Day.

FY 25 Budget

On a motion by Michelle Ayer and seconded by Jen Benham

- It was **voted** to approve the \$68,003,624 school budget for FY25

Fee Increase

On a motion by Michelle Ayer and seconded by Jen Benham

- It was voted to approve increased athletic fees; maintain Kindergarten full-day fee; increase Facilities rental fees increase of 5%; and to institute a high school activity fee of \$100/student/year

Review of Proposed Layoffs

The Committee discussed at length the proposed layoffs with a divided vote and approval of the following positions to be informed prior to the March 15 Hingham Educators Association (teachers union) required contract deadline.

On a motion by Michelle Ayer and seconded by Jen Benham

- It was **voted** to approve for the Superintendent to implement the following proposed reductions in force: at the Middle School 1 Library Paraprofessional, 1 Math Interventionists, 1 World Language Teacher, .5 Library position, and a .2 Art Teacher, at the High School a .6 Music Teacher, 1 World Language Teacher, 2 History Teachers, .8 Art Teacher, 1 Math Teacher (retirement) and 1 ELA Teacher (retirement), and at the Elementary level 1 Elementary classroom Teacher.

Alyson Anderson – aye

Matt Cosman – aye

Kerry Ni- aye

Tim Dempsey – aye

Jen Benham – No

Nes Correnti – aye

Michelle Ayer - No

Naming of Theatre at New Elementary School

On a motion by Michelle Ayer and seconded by Jen Benham

- It was **voted** to approve the naming of the cafetorium stage at the New Elementary Building in memory of former Foster Elementary Student, Anna Quinlivan.

First Read of Policy Updates

The Committee discussed the first read updates of policies FF - Naming New Facilities; JBB - Educational Equity; JB- Equal Education Opportunities; JFBB-SchoolChoice; JIC - Student Discipline; JICK - Harassment of Students; JFA-Non-Resident Student Admission

School Calendar for 2024-2025

The Committee discussed the proposed calendar for the 24-25 school year.

On a motion by Michelle Ayer and seconded by Jen Benham

- It was **voted** to approve the 2024-2025 School Calendar

Annual Report Submission

On a motion by Michelle Ayer and seconded by Jen Benham

- It was **voted** to approve the School Committee submission for the 2024 Town Annual Report

Subcommittee Reports/Warrants Signed

- Alyson Anderson reported that the Hingham Arts Alliance fundraiser is scheduled for 3/23
- Jen Benham reported that there will be Finance Subcommittee Meeting 3/25
- Kerry Ni reported that the Hingham Middle School Council meeting will be rescheduled































- Nes Correnti reported that the SNAP Pizza-Palooza will be on 4/3 and that there were recent meetings of the Wellness Committee and Equity Committee

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

On a motion by Michelle Ayer and seconded by Jen Benham

- It was **voted** to adjourn to Executive Session at 9:45 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 February 26, 2024 as an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the public body and the chair so declares
- To hear a grievance from HEA Unit B 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

	Item 7.3 Policy Updates
	03.12.2024 Agenda_revised.pdf 
	03.12.2024 Agenda.pdf 
	FY 25 Capital - Approved by Town & SC 
	Item 2.1 Minutes of the School Committee meeting with Select Board held on February 7, 2024.pdf 
	Item 2.2 Minutes of the School Committee meeting with Advisory Committee held on February 15, 2024.pdf 
	Item 2.3 Minutes of the School Committee meeting held on February 26, 2024.docx.pdf 
	Item 2.4 Minutes of the School Committee meeting with Select Board, Capital Outlay Committee and Advisory Committee held on February 27, 2024.pdf 
	Item 4.0 March 12 2024 Superintendent Report.pdf 
	Item 6.1 Capital Approved by Town.pdf 
	Item 6.1 SC - March 12-2024 FY25 Budget Presentation.pdf 
	Item 7.1 Approval for Layoffs .pdf 
	Item 7.2 Naming of Stage-New Elementary Building.pdf 
	Item 7.4 FY24 Annual Report.pdf 
	Item 7.5 2024-2025 DRAFT Calendar-3-12-24.pdf 
	Item 8.0 warrants.pdf 