

HINGHAM SCHOOL COMMITTEE

October 30, 2023

At METCO, Inc.

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, Kerry Ni, Tim Dempsey, Alyson Anderson, and Matt Cosman

School Committee members participating remotely: none

School Committee members absent: none

Central Office Members present: Superintendent Dr. Margaret Adams, Assistant Superintendent Kathryn Roberts, Interim Director of Student Services Dr. Barbara Cataldo, Director of Business and Support Services Aisha Oppong , and METCO Director Amy Jackson

Remote visitors: There were approximately 7 remote attendees on Zoom.

Approval of minutes:

The committee tabled the approval of the minutes of October 16, 2023 to the next meeting.

Questions and Comments:

none

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Adams reviewed the personnel report noting recent hiring and resignations. She also discussed the enrollment numbers in each grade.

Student Communications

Student Advisory Committee representative Alex Doggett was present remotely. He reported that Hingham High celebrated annual spirit week with a series of fun themes. He noted that the volleyball teams led the "Slash the Trash" efforts this past Monday, which is a way for sports teams to volunteer

for a day and organize our compost, recycling and trash. He also mentioned recent homecoming games were held as well as the homecoming dance, and that the soccer program has joined with the Hingham department of veterans' service to support local veterans who are experiencing food insecurity, and they are collecting donations to purchase grocery gift cards for local veterans and their families.

Unfinished Business

On a motion by Michelle Ayer and seconded by Jen Benham

- It was voted to rescind Policies BDFA-E-1 School Improvement Plan; BDFA-E-2 Submission and Approval of the School Improvement Plan; BDFA-E-3 Conduct of School Business

New Business

METCO Inc Workshop

The Committee viewed a presentation detailing the history of the METCO program.

METCO Update

METCO Director Amy Jackson gave an update of the METCO program in Hingham Public Schools, noting there are currently 49 students in the program stating that if the funding from the State is received, they hope to bring in 30 new students to increase enrollment for next year.

Policy JBB, Educational Equity

Alyson Anderson, chair of the Policy Subcommittee reviewed the proposed changes to the policy. As this was the first read, no vote was taken.

Bid for OPM for HHS Wellness Center

Director of Business and Support Services Aisha Oppong explained the process for the bidding related to the wellness center at the High School.

On a motion by Michelle Ayer and seconded by Jen Benham

- It was voted to accept the bid process for obtaining an OPM as outlined by the Director of Business and Support Services to include language provided by town council. John Coughlin, to reflect the full funding of this project by the Hingham Sports partnership and the proposals will be signed upon by Dr. Adams.

Pay Rate for Bus/Van Monitors

The Committee discussed an increase in the pay rate for bus and van monitors.

On a motion by Michelle Ayer and seconded by Jen Benham

- It was voted to approve the increase in pay rate for bus monitors to \$18 and 40 cents an hour for regular bus monitors, and \$20 an hour for the METCO Bus Monitor for the school year, July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024, and to pay any bus monitors who worked prior to October 30, 2023, a retroactive pay adjustment and to increase the current bus substitute rate to \$28 an hour and advanced substitute rate to \$23 an hour, effective November 2, 2023.

Grants and Donations

none

Declaration of Surplus

Director of Business and Support Services discussed the surplus of books.

On a motion by Michelle Ayer and seconded by Jen Benham

- It was voted to declare the library book from South Elementary in the attached listing as surplus materials and authorize the Director of Business and Support Services to dispose of them at the least cost to Hingham

Subcommittee and Project Reports/Warrants Signed

- Matt Cosman reported that the HEF Spelling Bee is coming up on November 5th, and that the Special Education Subcommittee met last week.
- Alyson Anderson reported that the Policy Subcommittee will be meeting on November 20th.days ago. She also reported that the Climate Action Committee had a few presentations trying to socialize the plan with the community.
- Tim Dempsey reported that the Educational Programming Subcommittee will meet this week, and that the Hingham Human Rights Commission met last week.
- Kerry Ni reported that she and Michelle Ayer attended the School Council training last week. She also updated the Committee on the ongoing negotiations with units of the HEA.
- Jen Benham reported that the Finance/Capital and Facilities Subcommittee is working on updating the budget calendar of meetings and are finalizing it with the Advisory Committee.
- Michelle Ayer reported that the High School Council has a meeting on November 15th. She also reported that the School Building Committee will be meeting mid-November, and she updated the Committee on the Foster School project.
- Nes Correnti reported that she received a communication regarding the MSBA and an increase in reimbursements. She also noted that it was nice to get student feedback on the survey results on the wellness committee report, and that the Equity Steering Committee met last week.

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 at 8:20 PM


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


To approve minutes from the Executive Session held on October 16, 2023 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, C, 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,
Jen Benham


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- [PDF 10.30.2023 at METCO Agenda.pdf](#) 


 - [PDF Item 4.0 10.01.2023 Enrollment Summary.pdf](#) 


 - [PDF Item 4.0 Class Size October 1st 2023.pdf](#) 


 - [PDF Item 4.0 Personnel Report for School Committee.pdf](#) 


 - [PDF Item 4.0 Updated Budget Calendar FY25 - 10-16-23.pdf](#) 


 - [PDF Item 6.1 BDFA - SCHOOL COUNCILS 10.16.23 \(1\).pdf](#) 


 - [PDF Item 6.1 BDFA-E - SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN 10.16.23 \(1\).pdf](#) 


 - [PDF Item 6.1 File_ BDFA-E-1, BDFA-E-2 AND BDFA-E-3.pdf](#) 


 - [PDF Item 7.2 METCO School Committee Update -10_30.pdf](#) 

 - [PDF Item 7.3 JBB Education Equity.pdf](#) 

 - [PDF Item 7.3 JHPS BB - EQUITY POLICY .docx.pdf](#) 

 - [PDF Item 7.4 HS Wellness Center OPM RFQ.docx - Google Docs.pdf](#) 

 - [PDF Item 7.5 Memo Transportation Rate Increase - Google Docs.pdf](#) 

 - [PDF Item 7.7 a Declaration of Surplus.docx - Google Docs.pdf](#) 

 - [PDF Item 7.7 b WeedingLogReportJob23Sept.pdf](#) 