



March 25, 2024

Dear HPS Families,

Below are discussion highlights from the March 25th 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

- School Committee Meeting, Monday, April 8, 2024 at 6:30PM
- Town Meeting, Wednesday, April 24, 2024 at 6:30PM

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

March 25th, School Committee Meeting Highlights

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.

- [\(2:31\)](#) East School students and Principal Jonathan Hawes gave an excellent presentation on The East Cool School Times Newspaper Club
- [\(15:05\)](#) Dr. Adams provided a report of district happenings including sharing mental health resources, MCAS schedule, info on the 8th grade Quebec trip, mock primary held at the middle school, Opry's 3rd birthday celebration, and a congratulations to Emma Joyce and Julia Scipione for their awards in the McDonough Writing Contest. Additionally this included an update on the layoffs voted on last meeting and how that impacted staffing numbers. Finally an enrollment update was provided.
- [\(23:13\)](#) Communications
 - [\(23:13\)](#) An update was provided by Alex Doggett and Slater Fairfield from the Student Advisory Council
 - [\(24:43\)](#) School Committee Chair Nes Correnti shared a statement and request to the community that regardless of the challenging budget and negotiations, that we please continue to treat all with kindness, patience and respect. This included a reminder of the role of the School Community.



- [\(27:13\)](#) A letter from Tom Mayo, Town Administrator, was read which detailed the intent of the town to create a task force to review and research the town's current health care offerings and employee split.
- [\(29:38\)](#) Unfinished Business
 - [\(29:38\)](#) Discussion of policy FF - Naming New Facilities which will be updated and reviewed again next meeting
 - [\(29:38\)](#) Review and approval of policies JBB - Educational Equity; JB- Equal Education Opportunities; JFBB - School Choice; JIC - Student Discipline; JICK - Harassment of Students; and JFA - Non-Resident Student Admissions
- [\(40:48\)](#) New Business
 - [\(40:48\)](#) Received the report and next steps on the Special Education program evaluation presented by Barbara Cataldo, Interim Director of Student Services
 - [\(2:05:48\)](#) Reviewed and approved the Student Opportunity Act Plan
 - [\(2:12:59\)](#) Derek Smith shared a proposal for transitional summer camp program at Hingham Middle School which was approved by Committee
 - [\(2:21:14\)](#) Discussed proposal for additional technology fees at Hingham Middle School. It was approved that a fee for damaged Chromebooks would be codified and moved to hold discussions on fees for Chromebooks themselves and revisit in FY2025
 - [\(2:28:40\)](#) Discussed proposal for a transportation fee and moved to hold and revisit in FY2025
 - [\(2:36:15\)](#) Approved donation from Hingham Sports Partnership for Wellness Center
 - [\(2:37:35\)](#) Approved grant from Hingham Arts Alliance for display boards for Foster and East school
 - [\(2:38:25\)](#) Approved surplus items disposal
- [\(2:40:00\)](#) Subcommittee and Project Reports
 - Special Education Subcommittee holding interviews for Special Education legal counsel on 3/27 and 3/28
 - Hingham Arts Alliance fundraiser on 3/23 was a success
 - Policy Subcommittee meeting to be held on 3/27
 - Negotiations with Unit A to be held on 3/26, Unit B 3/27 and Unit D 3/28
 - Hingham Middle School Council meeting met on 3/18
 - Finance Subcommittee met 3/25
 - South School Council meeting 3/27