

**MINUTES OF THE HINGHAM SCHOOL COMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 6, 2018 7:00 PM
SCHOOL DEPARTMENT CONFERENCE ROOM**

1. Call to order.

The meeting was called to order by School Committee Chair Liza O'Reilly at 7:08 p.m.

Members Present: Michelle Ayer, Aylene Calnan, Carlos Da Silva, Liza O'Reilly, Kay Praschma and Ed Schreier.

Central Office Present: Dorothy Galo, James LaBillois, John Ferris

Visitors Present: Tony Keady, Deb Stellar, Katie Gaughen

2. Repair Block Windows at HHS Gymnasium.

Director of Business and Support Services John Ferris reported that the district received a quote on safety netting to install until such time as it takes to replace the windows. The quote was received from Wessling Architects for \$16,450 and then up to \$2,000 for floor protection. Mr. Ferris recommended that the Committee authorize the project, up to \$18,000.

On a motion by Ed Schreier and seconded by Aylene Calnan,

It was

Voted: To expend up to \$19,000 from the operating budget or Building Revolving Account for the repair and stabilization of block windows at the High School gymnasium as a safety measure until funding for a major repair becomes available.

Wessling Architects quoted prices for the actual window replacement. Bids received so far range from roughly \$880,000 – \$1,000,000. Tomorrow Katie Hartman will be meeting with Habib Associates; more information will come in the future.

School Committee Chair Liza O'Reilly noted that John Ferris, Dr. Galo and she attended the forecast meeting last week. What is in the document now is simply a 2% increase over current budget and the document will be updated after tonight's presentation. Liza O'Reilly reported that she has updated the 5-year vision presentation and has it at 15 minutes then Dr. Galo will present FY19 budget, take questions, and will adjourn.

3. School Committee Joins Board of Selectmen and Advisory Committee

At 8:08 p.m. the SC reconvened with the BOS and the Advisory Committee. School Committee Chair Liza O'Reilly began the presentation with a review of the 5-year financial vision reviewing the achievements, challenges, opportunities, and state mandates that the school department is facing. She began the presentation by presenting some information in the district's leadership, enrollment, operational responsibilities, and then highlighted items contained in the 5-year financial vision materials.

4. Presentation of the Proposed FY'19 School Department Budget.

Dr. Galo presented the proposed FY'19 School Department Budget. Dr. Galo began with a review of the FY'19 budget comments and challenges, highlighting SPED, State Aid and Federal Aid, Retirement and LOAs, Overall Staffing; Collective Bargaining and Individual Contract Negotiations, Overall Enrollment, Other Cost Growth Areas including mandates and professional development. Dr. Galo then reviewed student enrollments in grades K-12 and special education.

Dr. Galo presented an overview of the three sections of the budget: general education, special education, and vocational education. She then reviewed new items included in the proposed FY'19 budget and presented a FY'19 budget totaling \$52,800,171, net of any additional funding (e.g., grants, fees, etc.).

5. Comments and Questions by the Advisory Committee and Board of Selectmen.

BOS Chair Mary Power congratulated Dr. Galo on her recent announcement that she plans to retire at the end of the 2018-2019 school year.

BOS member Karen Johnson thanked Dr. Galo for her thoughtful approach to her presentation, noting her need to spend some time with both the conceptual slides and the hard numbers to think through the requests. BOS member Paul Healey also thanked Dr. Galo and noted the need for careful review of the information. He noted a lack of interest, on his part, to discuss tax increases or operational overrides.

Dr. Galo reiterated that it is her role to present the needs of the district in a transparent and open way.

BOS Chair Mary Power also thanked Dr. Galo for the presentation and her advocacy on behalf of the community's children. Mary Power suggested a careful review of the district's revolving accounting to find additional sources of revenue to be applied to the budget. She also noted her attempts to reconcile the increasing requests with stable enrollments. Dr. Galo explained that there is a different population in the district with more complex needs.

Lucy Hancock noted that the Advisory Committee has seen these requests and noted having to work together to ensure progress. Questions and answers ensued relative to staffing requests, and the return of funds at the conclusion of fiscal years, and the need to increase counselling staff.

6. Adjournment.

On a motion by Aylene Calnan and seconded by Ed Schreier,

It was

Voted: To adjourn at 9:49 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:
Cynthia Galko

Documents Included in Meeting Packet

Five Year Forecast

Article 6 – Detail

Revenue Projection FY2019

Ten Year History of Local Receipts

Hingham Public Schools Budget Overview for FY 19 PowerPoint