

MINUTES OF THE HINGHAM SCHOOL COMMITTEE
February 26, 2018 7:30 PM
SCHOOL DEPARTMENT CONFERENCE ROOM

1. Call to order.

The meeting was called to order by School Committee Chair Liza O'Reilly at 7:31 p.m.

Ms. O'Reilly called for 17 seconds of silence to remember those who lost their lives on February 14, 2018 at the Marjorie Stoneham Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida.

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

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

Visitors Present: June MK Gustafson, Seth Pickering, Emma Quilty, Kevin Quilty, George Danis, Dan Coughlin, Deb Stellar, Tony Keady, Donna Smallwood, Brad E. Moyer, Laura Burns, Carol M. Falvey, Aisha N. Oppong, Raymond Estes

2. Approval of Minutes.

2.1 On a motion by Aylene Calnan and seconded by Michelle Ayer,

It was

Voted: To approve the minutes of the School Committee meeting held on January 18, 2018.

2.2 On a motion by Aylene Calnan and seconded by Kay Praschma,

It was

Voted: To approve the minutes of the joint School Committee and Advisory Committee Education Subcommittee Meeting held on January 20, 2018.

2.3 On a motion by Aylene Calnan and seconded by Carlos Da Silva,

It was

Voted: To approve the minutes of the School Committee meeting held on January 22, 2018.

2.4 On a motion by Aylene Calnan and seconded by Michelle Ayer,

It was

Voted: To approve the minutes of the School Committee meeting held on January 25, 2018.

2.5 On a motion by Aylene Calnan and seconded by Kay Praschma,

It was

Voted: To approve the minutes of the School Committee meeting held on January 31, 2018.

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

It was

Voted: To approve the minutes of the joint Board of Selectmen, Advisory Committee Education Subcommittee and School Committee Meeting held on February 6, 2018.

2.7 On a motion by Aylene Calnan and seconded by Michelle Ayer to approve the minutes of the School Committee meeting held on February 12, 2018.

School Committee Chair Liza O'Reilly discussed a proposed revision in item 6.1 regarding her explanation about School Committee policies on class sizes.

On a motion by Aylene Calnan and seconded by Carlos Da Silva,

It was

Voted: To approve the minutes of the School Committee meeting held on February 12, 2018 with the proposed revisions.

3. Questions and Comments. None.

4. Superintendent's Report.

Dr. Galo notified the Committee of an upcoming community speaking event, sponsored by the Hingham SEPAC, to be held on March 22, 2018 at 7:30 p.m. at East Elementary School featuring Dr. Larry Epstein. She further noted that the Marjorie Stoneham Douglas High School Hockey Team won the state title for ice hockey on Sunday – congratulations to them and good news for their school community.

Dr. Galo called the Committee's attention to materials in the packet from the Annual Meeting of the American Association of School Administrators (AASA) held several weeks ago. She also announced that the kindergarten packets were available for pick-up beginning today at the four elementary schools.

Dr. Galo addressed the upcoming call for a student walkout to express feelings regarding recent issues in the news. She will share more when there is a more concrete plan.

5. Communications

5.1 Communications Received by the Superintendent: None

5.2 Student Communications: HHS Student Council representative Emma Quilty updated the committee on the athletic performance of our students, noting that all winter sports teams have qualified for their respective tournaments. She also provided an update on the drama festival and the upcoming all-town band and all-town orchestra performances.

5.3 Other Communications: None

6. New Business

6.1 The Committee receive a presentation from Energy Action Committee regarding the Stretch Goal Warrant Article and Green Community initiative. Brad Moyer of the Hingham Energy Action Committee began his presentation by reviewing what it is to be a "Green Community" in the Commonwealth. Mr. Moyer then reviewed the other local communities who have become "Green Communities." Mr. Moyer discussed the five criteria to become a green community: (1) As-Of-Right-Sitting, (2) Expedited Permitting, (3) Energy Baseline & a Five-Year 20% Energy Reduction Plan, (4) Fuel-Efficient Vehicle Purchase Policy, and (5) Minimize Life-Cycle Costs. Mr. Moyer then reviewed the benefits for the community and the obligations and costs associated with the program, as well as the feedback received from other municipalities relative to their experience with the program. Mr. Moyer explained that there is help available for the program, as well as outlining next steps. Questions and answers ensued throughout the presentation.

- 6.2 The Committee heard an update from the Foster School Building Committee and reviewed the status of the proposed SOI application to the MSBA. Ray Estes, Vice Chair of the Foster School Building Committee updated the Committee on correspondence with the Board of Selectmen (BOS). Mr. Estes noted that the BOS does not need a formal presentation and that all of their questions have been answered. The Foster School Building Committee is reviewing quotes for an enrollment study and will hope to coordinate with the Long Range Planning Subcommittee when the time comes.
- 6.3 The Committee heard an update on the administration's proposed preliminary operating budget for FY'19. Dr. Galo provided an update to the preliminary operating budget proposal. The total proposed budget contains a 5.75% increase over the current year's operating budget. Dr. Galo then presented a slide detailing those items removed or reduced from the initial proposal.
- 6.4 The Committee continued discussion of the proposed preliminary SC FY '19 Operating Budget. School Committee Chair Liza O'Reilly noted that she, as well as members of the administration, attended a forecast meeting earlier in the day. She noted that the overall budget gap has reduced (health insurance has reduced from last to this year and local receipts are up). The Board of Selectmen is voting on all town budgets tomorrow night. Dr. Galo noted that the Committee has several options at this point, including using the proposed increase in the present proposal, reduce the total increase by a set number, or defer a vote until other bodies vote. The Committee then discussed their opinions relative to next steps.

Carlos Da Silva made a motion seconded by Cynthia Galko, to table the action on this item. Discussion ensued. The Committee discussed the implications that tabling the discussion would make to the community. The Committee then discussed reducing the proposed increase, and then discussed priorities contained within the current proposal. Mr. Da Silva withdrew the motion.

On a motion by Carlos Da Silva and seconded by Michelle Ayer,

It was

Voted: To present a FY'19 Operating Budget of \$52,622,818. Michelle Ayer, Carlos Da Silva, Cynthia Galko, Liza O'Reilly and Ed Schreier voted "yea," Kay Prashma and Aylene Calnan voted "nay." Ms. O'Reilly commented that she continues to believe that the Town would benefit from budgeting forecasted expenses as well as revenue.

- 6.5 The Committee continued discussion on the FY '19 Capital Budget as proposed to the Board of Selectmen by the Capital Outlay Committee. School Committee Chair Liza O'Reilly noted that she and Custodial Supervisor Katie Hartman attended the Capital Outlay Committee meeting last week and the proposed allocation for FY'19 was \$1,087,527. Liza O'Reilly noted that more information is likely to come in the coming days, and she thanked Ms. Hartman for her assistance.
- 6.6 The Committee discussed the status of the High School window repair project and the related warrant article. It was noted that the safety netting is being installed in the high school gymnasium. The Committee discussed the procedures associated with any proposed warrant article. Discussion then ensued and there was consensus to ask for design funds now and request funding of the full project in a subsequent year. It was suggested to request up to \$60,000.

On a motion by Carlos Da Silva and seconded by Cynthia Galko,

It was

Voted: To revise the warrant article to request up to \$60,000 to assess, design, bid and provide project management for the replacement of the glass block windows at the High School.

- 6.7 The Committee received notification of the appointment of Julia McCormick, Speech and Language Teacher at HHS and HMS, effective February 26, 2018.
- 6.8 The Committee received notification of the appointment of Sara Collins, paraeducator at PRS, and Jeffrey Scolamiero, Food Services Floater, both effective February 12, 2018.
- 6.9 The Committee received notification of the retirement of Elizabeth Bengler, paraeducator at PRS, effective January 26, 2018 and the resignation of James White, Bus Driver, effective February 9, 2018.

7. Other items as may not reasonably be known 48 hours in advance of the meeting. None.

8. Subcommittee and Project Reports

Special Education: It was announced that Liza O'Reilly and Michelle Ayer are on the search committee for the new Director of Student Services

Policy: Upcoming meeting 3/6, 11:15 am

Community Outreach: Upcoming meeting 3/5, 9am

Long-Range Planning: Planning an upcoming meeting

Salary & Negotiations: Strategy meeting tomorrow morning

9. Adjournment

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

It was

Voted: To adjourn the School Committee meeting at 10:33 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:
Cynthia Galko

Documents Included in Meeting Packet

[2-26-18 Agenda.pdf](#) 

[2-26-18 Annotated Agenda.pdf](#) 

[Item 2.1 1-18-18 Minutes.pdf](#) 

[Item 2.2 1-20-18 SC and ACES Budget Minutes.pdf](#) 

[Item 2.3 1-22-18 Minutes.pdf](#) 

[Item 2.4 1-25-18 Budget Minutes.pdf](#)

[Item 2.5 1-31-18 All Town PTO Forum Minutes.pdf](#) 

[Item 2.6 2-6-18 SC, ACES and BOS Minutes.pdf](#) 

[Item 2.7 2-12-18 Minutes.pdf](#) 

[Item 6.1 EAC Green.pdf](#) 

[Item 6.1 Green Community.pdf](#) 

[Item 6.4 Forecast dated 2.26.18.pdf](#) 

[Item 6.4 General Fund Balance.pdf](#) 

[Item 6.4 Slides For Vote 02.26.18.pdf](#) 

[Item 6.5 COC FY 19 As Recommended Pre Final Vote.pdf](#) 

[Item 6.6 Block Window to BOS.pdf](#) 

[Item 6.6 HHS Block Windows.pdf](#) 

[Item 6.6 HHS Gym Wall Article.pdf](#) 

[SC FYI AASA Alert.pdf](#) 
