

**MINUTES OF THE HINGHAM SCHOOL COMMITTEE**  
**June 4, 2018 at 7:30PM**  
**SCHOOL COMMITTEE CONFERENCE ROOM**

**1. Call to order**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Ayer at 7.30 p.m.

Members Present: Michelle Ayer, Carlos Da Silva, Libby Lewiecki, Kerry Ni, Liza O'Reilly, Kay Praschma, and Ed Schreier.

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

Visitors Present: C. Alan Chambers, Erica Pollard, Alec Porter, Emma Quilty, Kevin Quilty, Andrew Hoey, Dan Coughlin, George Danis, Jen von Gelder Gallagher, Aisha Oppong, Mary Andrews

**2. Approval of Minutes**

2.1 On a motion by Liza O'Reilly and seconded by Kerry Ni,

It was

Voted: To approve the minutes of the School Committee meeting held on May 7, 2018 with one revision: Change "Chair" to "Vice Chair" Liza O'Reilly in section 4 comments.

**3. Questions and Comments**

Al Chambers spoke to the Committee about a presentation relative to the preparation of the Hingham Police Department to respond to an active shooter. Mr. Chambers explained that he would like to organize a community event to bring this presentation to a wider audience, and asked the Committee to help spread the word. Discussion ensued and Dr. Galo suggested he follow-up with John Ferris, Director of Business and Support Services, as Mr. Ferris is chairing the school safety committee.

**4. Superintendent's Report**

Dr. Galo noted a number of events and activities worthy of celebration and discussed the success of the Memorial Day celebrations in the elementary schools. She noted having received a number of correspondences from members of the community commending our schools and students. Dr. Galo further noted that the schools are busy with many end-of-year activities, including concerts and 5th grade celebrations.

Dr. Galo formally introduced Dr. Suzanne Vinnes to the Committee. Dr. Vinnes is the newly appointed Director of Student Services. She currently serves as the Special Education Coordinator at Brookline High School and will be joining the district on July 1, 2018.

School Committee Chair Michelle Ayer thanked the Hingham Recreation Department for hosting the Senior BBQ on May 24, 2018. She also thanked the maintenance and custodial crew for their support of senior activities including senior night and graduation.

**5. Communications**

5.1 Communications Received by the Superintendent: Dr. Galo reported favorable feedback from the Leadership Team regarding the school safety resolution and will be working on the specific wording and will bring the resolution back to the Committee once it is finalized. It was further noted that the HHS Student Council unanimously voted to support the Committee's school safety resolution.

5.2 Student Communications: Emma Quilty was present and noted that the HHS senior prom was a success, as well the graduation ceremony and senior night. HHS students have raised over \$40,000 for charity and Emma noted that spring sports are coming to the end of their seasons. Mrs. Piantes

will no longer be the STUCO advisor and Ms. Black will be stepping in next year. Emma also noted that the HHS food pantry drive has begun.

5.3 Other Communications: None.

## **6. New Business**

- 6.1 The School Committee received the Foreign Language Department Program Review. Erica Pollard, Director of Foreign Languages, was in attendance to present the review. Director Pollard opened the presentation by showing a video, produced in partnership with Harbor Media, highlighting the K-12 foreign language program. Following the showing of the video, Director Pollard began the formal presentation and highlighted the program's connection to the district's mission statement. Director Pollard then reviewed the 5 C's of foreign language teaching: cultures, connections, comparisons, community, and communication. Director Pollard then reviewed the program structure across all three levels (elementary, middle, and high) and then reviewed changes to the program since the last program review, the program strengths, program concerns, and future directions of the program. Questions and answers ensued and the Committee thanked Director Pollard for her presentation.
- 6.2 The Committee heard an end of the year FY'18 Operating Budget closeout forecast. Director of Business and Support Services John Ferris reviewed a memo sent to the Committee outlining the FY'18 budget closeout forecast. Questions and answers ensued and specific questions relative to the Special Education budget will be discussed at the next Special Education Subcommittee meeting next week. Director Ferris did note his projection that the district will close the year on budget.
- 6.3 The Committee discussed leasing another bus for METCO use. Director of Business and Support Services John Ferris reviewed a memo sent to the Committee outlining a request to add another bus to conduct the METCO student runs and end the contract with First Student. Discussion ensued and the Committee asked for the next bus to also have seat belts, as this bus will be making runs on the highway.

On a motion by Liza O'Reilly and seconded by Edward Schreier,

It was

Voted: To spend up to \$20,000 on a three-year lease of a bus for METCO use with the stipulation that the bus has seat belts.

- 6.4 The Committee received a Mid-Cycle Report of the Superintendent's Goals for 17-18. Dr. Galo reviewed the Superintendent's Evaluation cycle and provided a comprehensive update on action steps completed for each of her five goals, as well as those steps that still need to be taken across all five goals. The Committee thanked Dr. Galo for her update.
- 6.5 The Committee received notification of the appointment of Lance Mortland, Custodian at PRS, effective June 4, 2018.

## **7. Other items as may not reasonably be known 48 hours in advance of the meeting.**

## **8. Subcommittee and Project Reports**

Policy: It was noted that a meeting will be scheduled within the next few weeks.

Special Education: Meeting next Tuesday 6:00 p.m. -7:00 p.m. here at Central Office before the next SEPAC Meeting

Long-Range Planning: Meeting tomorrow at 4:30 p.m.

Community Outreach: Waiting for focus groups to be completed and will schedule a meeting after this is completed.

Salary & Negotiations: Meeting tomorrow evening and will be discussing the selection of a search consultant to support the Superintendent Search.

SNAP Update: Thanks to Liz O'Neil who helped to organize a training for SNAP mentors at the opening of the summer program by skilled and experienced Special Educators in the district. It was noted that the training is scheduled for June 13, 2018.

**9. Adjournment**


On a motion by Kerry Ni and seconded by Liza O'Reilly,

It was


Voted: To Adjourn at 10.14 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:  
Kay Praschma

Documents included in meeting packet:


[6-4-18 Agenda.pdf](#) 

[6-4-18 Annotated Agenda.pdf](#) 

[FBRC resolution discussed 5.21.18.pdf](#) 

[Item 2.1 5-7-2018 Minutes.pdf](#) 

[Item 6.1 Foreign Language Program Review 2018.pdf](#)

[Item 6.2 Operating Budget Forecast Update.pdf](#) 

[Item 6.3 METCO Bus Lease.pdf](#) 

[Item 6.4 17-18 Superintendent Midyear Goals Update](#)

[Item 8 S&N Agenda June 5, 2018.docx](#) 