

MINUTES OF THE HINGHAM SCHOOL COMMITTEE
August 20, 2018 at 7:00PM
SCHOOL COMMITTEE CONFERENCE ROOM

1. Call to order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Ayer at 7.07 p.m.

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

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

Visitors Present: Rick Swanson, Aisha Oppong, June Gustafson, Joshua Ross, Sara Abbott.

2. Approval of Minutes None.

3. Questions and Comments None

4. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Galo introduced Ms. Carols Florian, newly appointed Hingham METCO Director. John Ferris, Director of Business and Support Services, provided some background information on Ms. Florian. The Committee welcomed Ms. Florian to the HPS Leadership Team. Dr. Galo then provided a brief update on K-12 student enrollment for the 2018-2019 school year and went on to announce the hiring of 30 professional staff (2 administrators and 28 classroom teachers). Dr. Galo shared her August newsletter with the Committee, as well as the schedule of events that will open the new school year.

Dr. Galo directed the Committee's attention to the "Age at Enrollment" report she has compiled and that was provided to the Committee in the meeting packet. Discussion ensued relative to the next steps and the extent to which further action is needed. Dr. Galo and Dr. LaBillois noted progress in this regard and recommended continued monitoring of kindergarten enrollments and outlined some to-be-scheduled activities to support this work. The goal will be to ensure our proportion of students not enrolling when age eligible is consistent with our benchmark communities.

Dr. Galo shared the last enrollment projections report from NESDEC which, she noted, will be needed for the Town's Master Plan. A final report will be forthcoming sometime after October 1, 2018. Dr. Galo then shared the July and August facilities report with the Committee.

5. Communications

Dr. Galo provided an overview of state aid and explained both how school funding works, as well as local aide estimates. June Gustafson, President of the Hingham Education Association, addressed the Committee regarding the recommendations of the Foundation Review Committee not being taken up by the state legislature. Ms. Gustafson thanked the Committee and our local representatives for their advocacy on this issue.

6. Unfinished Business

6.1. The Committee reviewed revisions to Policy Section 6.22 (Cumulative Records). The policy was updated to reflect the discussion at the last meeting and will be adjusted to use similar language as found in the regulations.

On a motion by Kerry Ni and seconded by Carlos DaSilva,

It was

Voted: To approve Policy Section 6.22 (Cumulative Records) with one change – replace “practicable” with “practical.”

- 6.2 The Committee reviewed revisions to Policy Section 6.3B (Education Opportunities for Children in Foster Care).

On a motion by Kay Praschma and seconded by Kerry Ni,

It was

Voted: To approve Policy Section 6.3B (Education Opportunities for Children in Foster Care).

- 6.3 The Committee reviewed revisions to Policy Section 6.3C (Education Opportunities for Military Children).

On a motion by Kay Praschma and seconded by Kerry Ni,

It was

Voted: To approve Policy Section 6.3C (Education Opportunities for Military Children).

7. New Business

- 7.1 The School Committee heard a presentation on the NEASC Accreditation Report from Spring, 2018. Hingham High School Principal, Mr. Rick Swanson, presented an overview of the NEASC Accreditation Report from Spring, 2018. Mr. Swanson began by giving some context to the report, and then explained the 10-year accreditation cycle used by NEASC. The report contains a summary of findings against the seven standards and 54 indicators. The report, issued by NEASC, is approximately 100 pages and contains 37 commendations and 19 recommendations. Mr. Swanson explained that a progress report is due in January 2019 and the focus will be on the recommendation to ensure a 9-12 advisory program is in place. Committee discussion ensued, with questions presented relative to the technology recommendations in the report. Dr. Galo noted that a long-term vision has been established for technology and funds are requested each year to support technology upkeep and maintenance. The Committee thanked Mr. Swanson for his leadership on this task.

- 7.2 The Committee received the proposed School Committee meeting dates for 2018-2019. The Committee discussed the proposed meeting calendar and decided to meet on January 22, 2019 and not on January 28, 2019, as indicated on the proposed calendar.

On a motion by Liza O'Reilly and seconded by Kay Praschma,

It was

Voted: To approve the School Committee Regular Meeting Calendar for 2018-2109 with one revision, change January 28, 2019 to January 22, 2019.

- 7.3 The Committee reviewed a NESDEC School consulting agreement and cost for the Superintendent search. Liza O'Reilly began by noting that at the last meeting of the Salary and Negotiations Subcommittee, a NESDEC contract was distributed for discussion. The Committee had set a budget for the search process at \$20,000, with the proposal from NESDEC coming in at \$14,560, with some additional fee-based options.

On a motion by Michelle Ayer and seconded by Kerry Ni,

It was

Voted: To approve the NESDEC School consulting agreement and cost for the Superintendent search.

7.4 The Committee discussed proposed next steps in the Superintendent search. Liza O'Reilly continued the discussion of the Superintendent search process and reviewed the most recent memo outlining the progress the Committee is making in this regard. She noted that NESDEC will begin distributing materials on the search. A Salary & Negotiations sub-committee with full School Committee participation is scheduled for August 30 to discuss next steps on Focus Groups, the Online Survey, Screening Committee, Communications Plan and timeline. Questions from the audience were taken to clarify the Committee's discussion at the last meeting.

7.5 The Committee considered the home school application of Cosette Yungton, Grade 9, for the 2018-2019 school year.

On a motion by Liza O'Reilly and seconded by Kay Praschma,

It was

Voted: To approve the home school application of Cosette Yungton, Grade 9, for the 2018-2019 school year.

7.6 The Committee heard changes to the warrant authorization process. Director of Business and Support Services, John Ferris, explained that changes to Massachusetts regulations allow for the Committee to designate one person to sign the account payable warrants. Following discussion, the Committee designated Dr. Edward Schreier as the primary signer, with Michelle Ayer as the designated "back-up."

On a motion by Carlos Da Silva and seconded by Liza O'Reilly,

It was

Voted: To designate Dr. Edward Schreier as the primary warrant signer, with Michelle Ayer as the designated "back-up."

7.7 The Committee received notification of the appointments of the following teachers, all effective August 27, 2018: Laura Bennett, HHS School Psychologist/Chair; Jessica Brainsky, HMS School Counselor; Carolyn Ciulla, HMS Health; Karen Costello, East School Special Education; Jaclyn Goodman, Foster School Adjustment Counselor; Korey Ouellette, HMS Special Education; Melissa Tompkins, East School Music; and Brittney Tworig, South School.

7.8 The Committee received notification of the appointments of Carols Florian, METCO Director; Robert Ford and Antoine Vilno, Bus Drivers; Catherine Shaw and Barbara Cullen, Central Office Administrative Assistants; Jane Greene, Central Office Executive Assistant; Cathleen Salvaggi, Cafeteria Manager at PRS; Richard Tworig, lead Custodian at East School; and Nancy Brandi, Office paraeducator at PRS.

7.9 The Committee received notification of the resignations of Mark McNulty, South School teacher; Dale Willis, Bus Driver; Angela Hoey, HHS paraeducator; and Nicole Harrison, HHS Paraeducator.

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

9. Subcommittee and Project Reports

Policy: The subcommittee met on July 20, 2018 and is working to schedule its next meeting.

Salary & Negotiations: Dr. Galo updated the Committee on the research conducted relative to a Human Resources position. More discussion will occur on this topic at the September planning meeting.

Special Education: The subcommittee will be meeting next on September 12, 2018, before the scheduled SEPAC meeting.

Long-Range Planning: The subcommittee met on July 30, 2018 and completed the preliminary CPC application for the PRS playground.

Community Outreach: The subcommittee is scheduled to meet on September 10, 2018 at 9:00 a.m.

10. **Adjournment**

On a motion by Kay Prashma and seconded by Kerry Ni,

It was


Voted: To Adjourn at 9:44 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:
Kay Prashma

Documents included in meeting packet:


[8-20-18 Agenda.pdf](#) 


[8-20-18 Annotated Agenda.pdf](#) 

[Item 4 Facility Dept July Report.docx](#) 

[Item 4 K Enrollment Report for Fall 2018.pdf](#) 

[Item 4 NESDEC REPORT 2018 8-9 Rev #2.pdf](#) 

[Item 4 Start of School Mailing and Schedule of Events.pdf](#) 


[Item 5.1a State Aid.pdf](#) 


[Item 5.1b FALL 2018 Coaching Appointments.pdf](#) 


[Item 6.1 Policy Section 6.22 \(Student Records\).pdf](#) 

[Item 6.2 Policy 6.3b \(Educational Opportunities for Children in Foster Care\).pdf](#) 

[Item 6.3 Policy 6.3c \(Educational Opportunities for Military Children\).pdf](#) 


[Item 7.2 Draft SC Meeting Calendar18-19.pdf](#) 

[Item 7.3 NESDEC Contract.pdf](#) 

[Item 7.4a NESDEC Announcement Letter.pdf](#) 

[Item 7.4b Superintendent Search Update and Next Steps.pdf](#) 

[Item 7.5 Yungton Homeschool.pdf](#) 

[Item 7.6 School Committee Motion- Warrant.pdf](#) 

[SC FYI.pdf](#) 