

## MINUTES OF THE HINGHAM SCHOOL COMMITTEE

November 19, 2018 at 7:00PM

School Department Conference Room, 220 Central Street, Hingham MA 02043

### 1. Call to order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Michelle Ayer at 7:00 p.m. Chair Ayer announced that the meeting is being recorded by Harbor Media.

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

Central Office Present: James LaBillois, John Ferris and Suzanne Vinnos.

Visitors Present: Andy Hoey, Derek Smith, Mary Andrews, June MK Gustafson, George Danis, Rick Swanson, David Jewett, Mary Eastwood, Emma Quilty

### 2. Approval of Minutes.

On a motion by Liza O'Reilly and seconded by Libby Lewiecki,

It was

Voted: To approve the minutes of the with one amendment – in Section 6.7, replace “attending” with “all trips offered each year, the costs, and which students are able to participate to consider equitable participation by all students.”

### 3. Questions and Comments None

### 4. Superintendent's Report

- Dr. LaBillois shared the news that the Kindergarten forum information session was held on November 8, 2018 and was well attended, with approximately 120 attendees. There was a lot of positive feedback and it was considered a success.
- November 1, 2019 enrollment is up 9 students over October 1, 2018, due to move-ins.
- The October 2018 Facilities Report is in the packet and summarizes what was done in October and projected projects for November, 2018.
- Special Education Community Letter (in packet) from Dr. Vinnos which was sent out to the Special Education community. It welcomes new staff, reviews professional development and provides updates for different activities in the department.

### 5. Communications

1. Communications Received by the Superintendent: Dr. LaBillois noted that he submitted comments to the FCC regarding the potential impact of their funding change regarding community based programming.
2. Student Communications: Emma Quilty noted that all teams performed well at the High School. A new club has been added called “Mixed Material Arts Club,” which is run by Officer Ford and Ms. Kelly. The drama program put on the play *Urinetown*. Trash was collected at Nantasket Beach by members of Biology and Oceanography Clubs. Hingham High School qualified for the WBGH Quiz Bowl Show. Students also participated in an essay contest titled “Voice of Democracy,” where three students placed in the top three spots.
3. Other Communication: None.

6. **New Business**

- 6.1 The Committee heard a report on MCAS testing from Spring 2018. Dr. LaBillois gave a broad overview but noted that more detail/information can be found in the packet.

Part 1 - District Accountability Information

Part 2 - Overview of Next Generation MCAS (2.0)

Part 3 - Results of 2018 MCAS Performance (All Students)

Part 4 - Results of 2018 MCAS Performance (Students with disabilities and high-needs students)

Part 5 - Next Steps - show the work the district is doing and the progress that has been made to identify the focus.

The next step is to develop a district data based action plan. Dr. LaBillois went over the different strategies for improvement in the areas of English, math and science as well as an improvement plan for students with disabilities. Discussion ensued.

Liza O'Reilly noted that there are a number of schools who consistently performed better than Hingham (especially looking at high need students in grades 6-8). Do we look at these communities to learn from them? Dr. Vinnes had similar thoughts and would like to look into this further.

Kay Praschma asked if we get copies of the MCAS questions and how growth opportunities are determined. It was explained that sample questions are given, but all questions are not shared. As more questions become vetted, more and more sample questions are being shared.

- 6.2 The Committee tabled the discussion about appointing a temporary district representative to the South Shore Educational Collaborative's Board of Directors for 2018-2019.
- 6.3 The Committee received notification of the appointments of Matthew Campbell, paraeducator at Hingham High School, effective October 12, 2018 and Teresa Henderson, Assistant Teacher for Kids in Action, effective November 13, 2018.
- 6.4 The Committee received notification of the resignation of Jared Grimm, paraeducator at Hingham Middle School. effective November 1, 2018.

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

8. **Subcommittee and Project Reports**

Kerry Ni, Libby Lewiecki, and Michelle Ayer attended the MASC Conference on November 9, 2018 in Hyannis. Kerry Ni attended a session titled "Social Media: Opportunities and Pitfalls." Community engagement is to create optimism through parent forums, task forces, etc. which engages the community and supports the work of the district. Social Media can be used as a communication strategy for the district. MASC has a policy template for social media and offers a training. Libby Lewiecki mentioned that MASC also provides new superintendents with high quality direction and support. They offer a "new superintendent induction program". It is a three year program and the cost is approximately \$12,600 total. Michelle Ayer attended the "Role of the Chair" and there was interesting information about the student representative's role, evaluation forms of the superintendent, etc.

Long Range Planning: Libby Lewiecki presented to the Community Preservation Committee asking for \$88,000 for the playground at Plymouth River School. Carlos Da Silva mentioned the Plymouth River School walk-through which will take place on December 1, 2018 at 8.30 am. Other town committee

members are also invited. He mentioned that we are in the process of receiving the \$1,000,000 for the windows but it will most likely not be enough.

Policy: The subcommittee will hold its next meeting on December 7, 2018 at 12:00PM.

Community Outreach: The subcommittee will hold its next meeting on November 27, 2018 at 11:30 to discuss our communications strategy. It was noted that quotes for the website are still being gathered and will be provided at a later meeting.

Salary and Negotiations: The Screening Committee is in the process of interviewing applicants for the Superintendent of Schools. The next meeting is scheduled for December 6, 2018 at 7:00PM.

Special Education: The subcommittee met this past Wednesday and a brief overview of HMS evaluation was given by Dr. Vinnes. Goals related to Special Education were reviewed and the observation form was discussed. Next meeting is December 12, 2018 at 6:00PM at the Hingham Public Library.

Ed Schreier attended the Plymouth River School Council. He noted that the council is looking for a community representative who is a Hingham-resident, a non-parent and non-staff member. If interested, contact the principal, Melissa Tompkins. Kerry Ni suggested reaching out to the senior center.

Kerry Ni announced SNAP events coming up.

Libby Lewiecki announced that HEF had an open house to update on STEM initiatives. Fidelity donated \$10,000.

Next School Committee meeting will be on December 3, 2018 at 7:00PM.

Liza O'Reilly mentioned that the School Committee will likely meet once more in December since the Superintendent Search site visits will need to be scheduled.

## 9. **Adjournment**

On a motion by Kerry Ni and seconded by Ed Schreier,

It was

Voted: To Adjourn at 8:34PM.

Respectfully Submitted by:  
Kay Praschma

Documents included in meeting packet:

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[11-19-18 Agenda.pdf](#) 

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[Item 2.1 10-1-18 minutes.pdf](#) 

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[Item 4 Dear Community\\_November.pdf](#) 

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[Item 4 Facility Dept October Report.pdf](#) 

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[Item 4 November 2018 Enrollment.pdf](#) 

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[MCAS FA18 Presentation \(11.16.18\)-2.pdf](#) 

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