

**HAMILTON-WENHAM REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES
December 1, 2016
7:36-9:42 PM**

Present:

Michelle Bailey
Jeanise Bertrand
Deborah Evans
Stacey Metternick, Chair
David Polito
Josh Liebow

Also present:

Michael Harvey, Superintendent
Jeff Sands, Assistant Superintendent
Nancy Bergner, H-WRSC Clerk
Jack Gourdeau, Student Rep

I. CALL TO ORDER: Stacey Metternick called the meeting to order at 7:42 pm in the Buker School Multi-Purpose Room.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Citizens' Comments 7:43
No citizen's comments

IV. Chair's Report 7:45

- A. This meeting was preceded by the annual Public Hearing on School Choice
- B. An Executive Session also preceded this meeting to Discuss Dr. Harvey's salary. This discussion will continue during tonight's School Committee meeting.
- C. Winthrop's Holiday Boutique is Dec. 3
- D. History Fair and other school centered activities is upcoming. Attending as many of these school based programs as possible gives us a view of the work of our students and teachers.
- E. Seven Hamilton residents are seeking appointment to the vacant seat on the School Committee. Hamilton BOS and School Committee members will meet on Thursday Dec. 8 at 7 PM to interview several candidates.
- F. Hamilton is looking for a representative to serve on the Essex Tech School Committee beginning Dec. 31.

V. Superintendent's Report 7:48

Congratulations to the HWRHS Girls' Cross Country Team

On Saturday, November 12, the team won the Eastern Massachusetts Division 5 Championship in Wrentham. The team also took fourth place overall in the Division 2 State Meet on November 19 in Gardner. The team has also not lost a Cape Ann League Meet since 2004, which is one of the longest winning streaks for any cross-country program,

ever. Congratulations to Head Coach Steve Sawyer and his very talented group of student-athletes!

Cross Country Team and Steve Sawyer made statements in support of the program.

Hall of Fame Induction a Great Success!

On Tuesday, November 22nd, the Inaugural Class was inducted into the HWRHS Athletic Hall of Fame. Over 200 attendees were on hand at Spinelli's in Lynnfield to witness the induction of twelve individuals and one team. Special thanks to HWRHS Athletic Director Craig Genuardo, Athletic Department Secretary, Trish Field, and HWRHS Class of 2016 Graduate Trevor Jones for their work in making the Athletic Hall of Fame a reality and for making the Induction Banquet a memorable event for both the Inductees and those who were there to celebrate their induction.

2016 HWRHS Athletic Hall of Fame Inductees

- Sally Anderson – Contributor & Coach
- Chris Grancio – Athlete, Class of 1993
- Doug Hoak – Athlete, Class of 1971 & Coach
- Sherman Kinney – Contributor & Coach
- Mike McGowan – Athlete, Class of 1992
- Carrie Plitt – Athlete, Class of 2004
- Paul Ricker – Athlete, Class of 1975
- Steve Sawyer – Coach
- Chris Schrock – Athlete, Class of 1988
- Darin Shearer – Athlete, Class of 1992
- Bill Whelan – Athlete, Class of 1973
- Jennifer White – Athlete, Class of 1994
- Members of the 1980 State Champion Softball Team, including: Bev Agrella, Sue Beau-lieu, Brenda Bonnette, Sue Brown, Dacia Clayton, Sue Copeland, Daryl Essensa, Janet Greene, Lisa Harvey, Deb Lowry, Marcia Lowry, Betsy McCoy, Amber Millett, Louise Provost, Robin Rutherford, Lynne Taylor, Judy Thompson and Linda Warren as well as Head Coach, Earl Berg.

HWRSD Annual School and District Report Cards Available

As part of the Federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESSA), every district in the United States is required to prepare and distribute school and district report cards to the parents/guardians of all children enrolled in district schools. These report cards include information regarding teacher quality, assessment results and the accountability rating of the district and individual schools.

As part of the distribution requirement under ESSA, the district and school report cards must be posted to the district website and hard copies must be made available in public places in the community. The 2016 versions of the District Report Card are currently available on the "Curriculum" Page of the HWRSD Website. Overview versions of the individual school report cards will be sent to families of the respective schools via Connect Ed Message and will be posted to the individual school websites. Finally, copies of all HWRSD Report Cards will be available in Hamilton and Wenham Town Halls, the H-W Public Library and at the Hamilton and Wenham Senior Centers. Copies of the full District and School Report Cards are also available through the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Website.

Upcoming Events

- 12/6 @ 7:00 PM—MRMS Winter Concert @ HWRHS
- 12/7 @ 4:00 PM—National History Day Competition @ HWRHS
- 12/8 @ 7:00 PM—Joint School Committee-Hamilton Board of Selectmen Meeting to choose replacement School Committee Member.
- 12/12 @ 6:00 PM—Elementary School Winter Concert @ HWRHS
- 12/14 @ 6:00 PM—HWRHS Art Department Winter Show @ HWRHS
- 12/14 @ 7:00 PM—HWRHS Winter Concert @ HWRHS

VI. Presentation from the DECA Club and faculty advisor Laura Wheeler, an association of high school students studying marketing, finance, hospitality and management. Ms. Wheeler is a new member of the HWRHS this year. She is supporting the students in building a DECA chapter this year.

Students must take a business related course at high school in order to participate. Some of the courses available include a sports and entertainment marketing, financial literacy, and independent study.

In their first competition, the team placed second in a Shark Tank competition. DECA will be managing the school store at the high school. The students have built friendships through this process and wished they could have participated sooner.

VII. Consent Agenda 8:00

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| A. Field Trip Permission for DECA for the International Conference in CA | Exhibit A |
| B. Field Trip Permission for Ski Club: Gunstock and Sunday River (day trips); Sunday River (weekend trip) | Exhibit B |
| C. Minutes of Dorothy Presser Workshop of October 20th | Exhibit G |

I MOVE THAT THE HAMILTON-WENHAM REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA WHICH INCLUDES FIELD TRIP PERMISSIONS FOR DECA AND THE SKI CLUB, AND THE MINUTES OF THE DOROTHY PRESSER WORKSHOP OF OCTOBER 20TH. THERE CAN BE NO FURTHER CHANGES TO THE AGENDA.

MOTION by Michelle Bailey; SECONDED by Jeanise Bertrand

Unanimously approved by 6 members present; none opposed, no abstentions

I MOVE THAT THE HAMILTON-WENHAM REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPROVE THE MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 17TH AS PRESENTED IN OUR PACKET.

MOTION by Michelle Bailey; SECONDED by Deb Evans

Unanimously approved by 6 members present; none opposed, no abstentions

VIII. New Business 8:10

- A. SEPAC Presentation Co-Chair Mary Delorenzo

The group is working on a new website. The SEPAC will host several workshops this year. The annual Basic Rights and Responsibilities presentation was held on Nov. 2.

Additional workshops include, Strategies for using technology at home for student success in March and a mindfulness workshop April 14.
Mrs. Metternick requested an update on the date of the March workshop when available.

- B. Vote on new Vice-Chair for School Committee. Nominations are being accepted. The vice-chair normally serves, then moves on to Chair. The present appointment would be only through the April elections, after which there will be a re-organization.

I MOVE THAT MICHELLE BAILEY BE NOMINATED FOR VICE-CHAIR OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

MOTION by Jeanise Bertrand; SECONDED by David Polito

I MOVE THAT JOSH LIEBOW BE NOMINATED FOR VICE-CHAIR OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

MOTION by Deb Evans; SECONDED by Jeanise Bertrand

discussion

A vote was called, with 3 votes for Michelle Bailey and 3 votes for Josh Liebow. Neither motion carried, so further discussion ensued, with each nominee stating what they could bring to the position.

New motions were invited so that the nominees could be put to a vote.

I MOVE THAT JOSH LIEBOW BE NOMINATED FOR VICE-CHAIR OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

MOTION by Deb Evans; SECONDED by David Polio

I MOVE THAT MICHELLE BAILEY BE NOMINATED FOR VICE-CHAIR OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

MOTION by Jeanise Bertrand; SECONDED by David Polito

Four for Michelle Bailey; Two for Josh Liebow.

THE MOTION FOR MICHELLE BAILEY AS VICE-CHAIR CARRIES.

In light of this change, the School Committee will need a new Secretary, replacing Michelle; A new warrant signer and SEPAC liaison will also need to be appointed in the next meeting.

- C. Vote on participation in the School Choice Program for the 2017-2018 school year
Discussion:

Discussion: Some convictions expressed at the podium were not accurate. Diversity is not about color. Economic, religious, cultural diversity are reflected in our Choice Students. Our Choice Students consider attendance at H-W a privilege. They have enriched our student body with their leadership, service and academic excellence. It is true that state law mandates only \$5000 per student from his/her home district. The reason the SC adopted the policy of limiting Choice enrollment to existing sections in order to maintain fiscal responsibility.

I MOVE THAT THE HAMILTON-WENHAM REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE VOTE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SCHOOL CHOICE PROGRAM FOR THE 2017-2018 SCHOOL YEAR AT THE GRADE LEVELS OF 9-12.

**MOTION by Michelle Bailey; SECONDED by Jeanise Bertrand
Unanimously approved by 6 members present**

The motion was called.

Unanimously approved by 6 members present; none opposed, no abstentions

- D. Vote on the School Year Calendars for
1. 2017-2018 Exhibit D
 2. 2018-2019 Exhibit E

discussion:

Dr. Harvey recommended changing the early release times, so that elementary school students are always released at 11:15 and HS/MRMS students are released at 10:30. This change will keep the early release time consistent for elementary students on both Parent-Teacher Conference Days and half-days prior to holidays, Thanksgiving, Winter Break, and last day of school. Concern that the early release time of 11:15 can make the day very short for elementary school was expressed. It was suggested that the School Committee seek feedback from parents next year on this plan.

Ms. Bertrand expressed a desire for a post Labor Day start.

I MOVE THAT THE HAMILTON-WENHAM REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE ACCEPT THE SCHOOL YEAR CALENDARS FOR 2017-2018 AND 2018-2019 WITH THE EARLY ELEMENTARY EARLY DISMISSAL TIME AT 11:15 AM AND THE MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL EARLY DISMISSAL TIME BEING 10:30 AM.

**MOTION by Michelle Bailey; SECONDED by Jeanise Bertrand
Unanimously approved by 6 members present; none opposed, no abstentions**

IX. Assistant Treasurer Position Discussion

Background: Although in the past we have appointed a School Committee member as Assistant Treasurer for the District. On further research it became clear that checks and balances are necessary to ensure that the Assistant Treasurer is fully competent to replace the Treasurer if he/she is out. Since the School Committee currently does not have someone that could fill-in if the Treasurer was out of the office for an extended time, the Assistant Treasurer should not be a School Committee member. Instead this position could be appointed by the School Committee and hired on a per diem basis as needed. Several highly qualified candidates are being considered. This is an urgent piece of School Committee business. It is hoped that there will be an appointment by the next meeting, after which the candidate can be bonded, hired and trained. If feasible, some members would like the appointment date of Dec. 8..

X. Delayed Opening Procedure Clarifications

Mike Harvey would like a survey to be conducted to determine how best to serve families: delayed school day vs. school cancellation. Scheduling and busing can be worked out; the larger perspective is how it impacts families. It should be noted that a 2 hour delay does not cause a loss of the required number of days served in school.
Dr. Harvey will conduct a survey.

- XI. Discussion of Superintendent's Salary
Dr. Harvey's leadership has turned the district around and brought great benefit to the students of the community.

I MOVE THAT THE HAMILTON-WENHAM REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE AMEND DR. HARVEY'S CONTRACT TO PROVIDE HIM WITH A 2.5% RAISE, RETRO-ACTIVE TO JULY 1, 2016: TOTAL SALARY OF \$179,476.

**MOTION by Michelle Bailey; SECONDED by Josh Liebow
Unanimously approved by 6 members present; none opposed, no abstentions**

- XII. Policy Review

- A. Second Reading: School Committee by-Laws Exhibit F
The Policy Working Group made minor changes to the policy since the last reading to incorporate the advise of legal counsel. The section related to the quorum includes a statement about remote participation. The location for posting of meetings is also in the policy.

I MOVE THAT THE HAMILTON-WENHAM REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE ADOPT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE BY-LAW POLICY B2001 AS PRESENTED IN EXHIBIT F.

**MOTION by Michelle Bailey; SECONDED by Deb Evans
Unanimously approved by 6 members present; none opposed, no abstentions**

- XIII. Topics for next meeting

- A. SEPAC liaison
B. Warrant Committee
C. Assistant Treasurer appointment (if not done on Dec. 8)
D. Playground projects – Michelle Bailey reported the Wenham Community Preservation Committee will not approve applications from “friends” groups. Applications for projects must come from the organization the “friends” support. If the Friends of Buker is expected to make an application, it was asked that the Committee get an update on the status of the application so that a vote can be held before the application deadline just after the new year.

- XIV. Vote to Adjourn 9:30

I MOVE THAT THE HAMILTON-WENHAM REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE VOTE TO ADJOURN AT 9:42 PM.

**MOTION by Michelle Bailey; SECONDED by David Polito
Unanimously approved by 6 members present; none opposed, no abstentions**

Respectfully Submitted,

Nancy R. Bergner
Clerk, H-WRSC Meeting