

**HAMILTON-WENHAM REGIONAL
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING**

Thursday, March 2, 2017 7:00 PM
Superintendent's Office

Present:

Michelle Bailey
Deb Evans
Gene Lee
Josh Liebow
Stacey Metternick, Chair
David Polito

Also present:

Michael Harvey, Superintendent
Jeff Sands, Assistant Superintendent
Nancy Bergner, HWRSC Meeting Clerk

I. Call To Order: Stacey Metternick called the meeting to order at 7:06 pm in the Superintendent's Office

II. Superintendent's Update

DESE has released a draft of "Proposed Changes to 2017 Accountability Reporting"

- See Memo of Mar 2, 2017 from Russell Johnston, PhD, Senior Associate Commissioner
- Public Comment is solicited through April 5, 2017. Submit feedback to le-gal@doe.mass.edu
- If HWRSD tests less than 90%, the District is automatically designated a Level 3.
- Communication must go out to district families regarding the importance of participation, which influences our district's accountability rating.
- There is no official path for parental opting out, either in the district nor in the state.
- It is important to help parents understand the implications of making choices which would designate the district at Level 3. Administration is working on district-wide communication regarding this.
- OPEB update: Naomi's recommendation is that we do not vote on this at our next meeting. the budget votes from the Towns simply secure a line item for OPEB; we will have until July 1 to appropriate funds.

III. Consent Agenda

A. Warrant Sub Committee Report

Exhibit A

**I MOVE THAT THE HAMILTON-WENHAM REGIONAL SCHOOL
COMMITTEE ACCEPT THE CONSENT AGENDA. THERE CAN BE NO
FURTHER CHANGES TO THE AGENDA.**

MOTION by Josh Liebow; SECONDED by Deb Evans

Unanimously approved by 7 members present; none opposed, no abstentions

IV. New Business

- A. March-June Draft SC Meeting Calendar and Agenda Items Exhibit B
- Possible date changes and implications for Agendas in the case of said changes were discussed. Mike Harvey noted specific changes.
 - Since current practice for Warrant Meetings is working, the Warrant Committee will continue to be composed of all SC members, who will rotate attendance at meetings to ensure the necessary quorum to do Warrant business at each Committee meeting.
 - Should a SC Nominations Committee be appointed? Possible procedure for such a Committee conducting business within compliance of the Open Meeting Act was identified. A Nominations Committee could do a lot of preparatory work in forming working groups, officers. A desire to streamline the process of re-organization after the elections was expressed. The fact there will be only 2 new members in the year ahead suggests that, perhaps, a Nominations Committee is more than needed to manage reorganization. Conclusion: A Nominations Committee is not necessary at this time.
 - Agenda topics for projected dates were discussed, rearranged. Importance of discussing Turf Field issues during the 5 Year Capital Plan discussion below was noted. Summer meeting dates should be set up immediately after the elections.
 - Discussion of the means by which apportionment shall be recommended at the two town meetings.
- B. Discussion of Treasurer's Reporting Lines—Requested by J. Liebow Exhibit C
Clarification is needed on Jeff Sands' responsibility and authority, and on how the School Committee would review Treasurer performance.
Discussion included exploring the following proposals—
- Committee Appoints
 - Assistant Superintendent directs
 - Assistant Superintendent conducts semi-annual review
 - SC has access to evaluation docs, which allows them to competently hire and fire.
 - Review of the document, *District Treasurer's Reporting Lines*, which was distributed to SC members during the discussion

I MOVE THAT THE HAMILTON-WENHAM REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPROVE THE AMENDED LANGUAGE TO THE ASSISTANT TREASURER'S PERFORMANCE RESPONSIBILITIES AND REPORTING STRUCTURE:

- **IN SENTENCE NO. 2, STRIKE "AND REPORTS TO"**
- **CREATE NEW SENTENCE NO. 3 : "THE TREASURER REPORTS TO THE ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT FOR FINANCE ADMINISTRATION."**
- **REGARDING EVALUATION, ADD "THE ANNUAL EVALUATION SHALL BE SHARED WITH THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE THROUGH THE SUPERINTENDENT AS KEEPER OF THE RECORDS."**

MOTION by Josh Liebow; SECONDED by Jeanise Bertrand

Unanimously approved by 7 members present; none opposed, no abstentions

- C. 5 Year Capital Plan Prioritization Exhibit D
discussion:

- #3: should we consider increasing our level of environmental responsibility—composting/recycling?
- Some of the line items have a higher price tag than others, can be pushed out over several years.

- Are there areas that can be rolled into one grouping, allowing grants to be pursued for these?
- P. 24 — note the highlighted expenditure for Winthrop Fire Suppression. This is required by the Fire Marshall. If it is not accomplished summer of 2019, occupancy permit will be pulled.
- What paradigm can be used to prioritize this list, which is currently organized by department? Need to Have/Should Have/Nice to Have
- We need to be tactical: there are items which are attractive to high net worth donors. There are other items which we need to be ready to offer when private funds emerge. Other items are not attractive to donors, but are of primary importance for our planning.
- What would be necessary in order to seek permission to bond? Bundling debt exclusions would bring us to nearly \$ 2.5, which could be addressed through an up-front bond.
- Capital conversation should be continued. We should determine what our posture should be toward the Turf Field community concerns.

D. Report on District, SC and Superintendent's Goal Progress

Exhibit F

1. Mike Harvey reported on District and Superintendent Goal Progress
2. Stacey Metternick reported on SC Goal Progress

discussion:

Chair and Vice Chair will set up Regional Agreement meetings following Town Meetings.

V. Vote to Adjourn

I MOVE THAT THE HAMILTON-WENHAM REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE VOTE TO ADJOURN AT 9:46 PM.

MOTION by Josh Liebow; SECONDED by David Polito

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Nancy R. Bergner
Clerk, H-WRSC Meeting