



School Committee Meeting ([agenda](#))
Hamilton Wenham Regional High School Library
Wednesday, March 17, 2021
7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Present:

Michelle Bailey, Chairperson
Michelle Horgan, Vice Chairperson
Dana Allara, Secretary
Anna Siedzik, Vice Secretary
David Polito
Peter Wolczik
Julia Campbell

Also Present:

Mary Beth Banios, District Superintendent
Dorothy Presser, MASC representative (remotely)
Mahala Lettvin, Recording Secretary (remotely)

1. Call to Order

7:00 PM

With a quorum present in-person, Ms. Bailey calls the meeting to order at 7:05 PM. All School Committee members as well as Superintendent Mary Beth Banios are appearing in person. Dorothy Presser and Mahala Lettvin are attending remotely.

2. Overview of Formative Assessment of Evaluation Process of Superintendent Mary Beth Banios

[Exhibit](#)

Dorothy Presser, MASC, provides an overview of the formative assessment evaluation process. There is some discussion regarding the evaluation process, as well as the details Superintendent Banios plans to present to the School Committee.

Ms. Presser exits the meeting at 7:24 PM.

3. Superintendents Evidence of Progress of Goals

[Exhibit](#)

Superintendent Banios reviews the details of the Superintendent's Goals.

- Goal 1: Develop a process and timeline for strategic planning and develop a Hamilton-Wenham Portrait of a Graduate informed by community stakeholder feedback.
- Goal 2: Improve communication with all stakeholders, including students, faculty, parents, school committee, and the greater Hamilton - Wenham community.
- Goal 3: Design, fund, and implement a structure that restores Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment leadership to the district.
- Goal 4: Provide High-Quality Instruction in a Hybrid/Remote Learning Environment
- Goal 5: Fully Participate in the New Superintendent Induction Program (NSIP)

There is discussion regarding the agenda item and holding effective meetings with focused discussion. There is discussion surrounding the details of the Superintendent's goals and assessing her progress on these goals.

Ms. Presser will attend the 04/28/2021 School Committee meeting to present further details regarding the assessment. The agenda item for this presentation will link to the rubric.

Continued discussion regarding the evaluation process and past practices of the School Committee.

4. 4th Quarter 20-21 School Committee Work Plan

[Exhibit](#)

Superintendent Banios provides an overview of the School Committee's work plan and potential need to re-prioritize, as detailed in the [exhibit](#).

Discussion regarding the timeline and strategy involved in posting open positions as well as the changing positions (Cutler and High School principals). There is further discussion regarding the district's hiring methods and prioritization.

There is lengthy discussion regarding future agenda items, with a tense conversation surrounding Ms. Siedzik's request to address indigenous land acknowledgement and allow time for a presentation from a High School senior. This specific request is discussed in detail, as well as the larger issue of the School Committee handling requests for new agenda items.

Continued discussion regarding the resolution of issues causing conflict within the committee; strategies moving forward; potential solutions; etc.

Superintendent Banios highlights the importance of the School Committee focusing on the work needed to meet the goals as outlined. She hopes tonight's presentation has clarified how much work the district needs to do in a short amount of time.

5. School Committee Protocols

[Exhibit](#)

Ms. Bailey reviews the School Committee Protocols, as detailed in the [exhibit](#). Some discussion occurs after reviewing each protocol, specifically around boundaries; best practices; norms/expectations; etc.

There is discussion regarding agenda setting, power afforded to the School Committee chairperson, and the challenges perceived within the School Committee. There is discussion regarding details of transparency in communication as well as maintaining a culture of respect and honesty amongst School Committee members.

Ms. Siedzik would like the record to reflect that the School Committee, as a board, did not author a letter originally submitted for publication by Ms. Bailey and Ms. Horgan (Chair and Vice-Chair). There is a lengthy discussion surrounding this issue as it relates to the School Committee protocols and appropriate handling of similar occurrences.

Ms. Siedzik reads School Committee [policy B2005](#), School Committee member ethics. There is discussion regarding the code of ethics, including interpretation of these ethics, and further discussion regarding how these ethics relate to the School Committee Protocols.

6. Vote to Adjourn

I MOVE THAT THE HAMILTON - WENHAM REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE ADJOURN THE 03/17/2021 MEETING AT 10:35 PM.

MOTION by David Polito; SECONDED by Michelle Horgan.

MOTION PASSES through unanimous vote of seven (7) members present.

Respectfully submitted April 1, 2021 by Mahala Lettvin, Recording Secretary.

*The public is welcome to attend this meeting in-person. Masks and physical-distancing guidelines will be in place.