



HAMILTON-WENHAM

REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

5 SCHOOL STREET, WENHAM, MA 01984 · TEL. 978-468-5310

School Committee Meeting ([agenda](#))

Buker Elementary School Multipurpose Room

In-Person Meeting, [Zoom Link](#) is for Public Comment Only

Meeting ID: 812 0593 6578

Thursday, December 15, 2022

7:00 p.m. - 10:10 p.m.

Present:

Dana Allara, Chair

Amy Kunberger, Secretary (remote)

Julia Campbell

Jennifer Carr

David Frenkel

Also Present:

Eric Tracy, HWRSD Superintendent

Vincent Leone, Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Administration

1. Call to Order

With a quorum present, Chair Allara called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

All those in attendance rose for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chair Allara stated that the meeting is being recorded and live streamed on [HWCAM](#).

3. Citizens' Comments [Exhibit](#)

Any citizen wishing to speak before the Committee shall identify themselves by name and address.

Speakers will be allowed three (3) minutes to present their material.

Greg Horner 28 Home Street thanked the Committee for their service. He stated that he is the co-founder of the Hamilton-Wenham Climate Action Team, a group of residents working to reduce the collective contribution of the towns to climate change. He read into the record a letter from the Hamilton-Wenham Climate Action Team in support of the agenda item this evening regarding the installation of electric vehicle charging stations.

Willa Scudder 25 Park Street discussed her concerns regarding the district's policy on outside guest speakers. She referred specifically to the recent outside guest speaker, NAGLY (North Shore Alliance of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Youth). She asked for answers to the following questions:

- Particularly with sensitive or controversial topics is parental consent required and an opt-out necessary for parents who choose what is or is not appropriate for their child.
- How and who chooses 3rd party speakers?
- What is the actual message intended for the audience?
- Why are they invited for multiple sessions?
- How does this line up with the PE curriculum?
- If this is part of sex ed will there be other groups invited?

She stated that she will email her questions to the Committee.

4. Review of School Committee Protocols [Exhibit](#)

Jen Carr read School Committee Protocol 10.

5. Review School Committee Mission Statement [Exhibit](#)

Dana Allara read the following from the Mission Statement: The Hamilton-Wenham Regional School Committee will lead and inspire a District that is a source of civic pride and municipal engagement to serve the community for generations to come.

6. Student Representative Report; Paul Joung

Student Representative Paul Joung updated the Committee on events and activities throughout the Hamilton-Wenham Regional School District.

Dana Allara stated that because Amy Kunberger is participating remotely this evening, Jen Carr will be handling the Committee's secretarial duties.

7. Consent Agenda

Dana Allara asked to hold the Boys JV Hockey Co-Op Waiver from the consent agenda.

a. Warrants [Exhibit](#)

- Voucher No. 14
- Voucher No. 1023
- Voucher No. 3201
- Voucher No. 3202
- Voucher No. 3203
- Voucher No. 3204
- Voucher No. 3205

b. Donations Exhibit

- Harvest Concert Sound - FOTA; \$1,400 [Exhibit](#)
- High School Fall Musical Freaky Friday Theater Fee Scholarships - FOTA; \$1,750 [Exhibit](#)
- Middle School & High School Winter Concert Musicians - FOTA, \$1,500 [Exhibit](#)
- Cape Ann in School Field Trip - FOTA; \$665 [Exhibit](#)
- Musicians for Charlie Brown Middle School Production - FOTA; \$3,000 [Exhibit](#)
- Materials/Supplies for Charlie Brown Middle School Production - FOTA; \$662.44

- [Exhibit](#)
 - Traditional Oaxacan Wood Carving & Painting - FOTA; \$725 [Exhibit](#)
 - EdFund Mini Grant; Alternative Seating, Winthrop; \$323.96 [Exhibit](#)
 - New England Biolabs Grant; Allora-brand Baritone Sax; \$3,749 [Exhibit](#)
- c. Other
- Boys JV Hockey Co-Op Waiver with Danvers High School [Exhibit](#)

I move that the Hamilton-Wenham Regional School Committee accept the consent agenda parts A and B as written.

Motion by: Jen Carr

Seconded by: Julia Campbell

MOTION PASSED Roll Call Vote 5-0 (Members Allara, Campbell, Carr, Frenkel and Kunberger)

Superintendent Tracy thanked the Friends of The Arts Group for their generous donations. Superintendent Tracy stated that the proposed JV Hockey Co-Op with Danvers is not able to move forward due to Danvers having more players than anticipated. He stated that the district will continue to look for other opportunities.

8. New Business

Dana Allara stated that without objection she would take items out of order.

- c. Draft Strategic Plan Presentation [Exhibit](#), [Exhibit](#)

Superintendent Tracy thanked the Strategic Planning Committee for their work. Superintendent Tracy gave a presentation on the draft strategic plan.

In response to questions, Superintendent Tracy discussed belonging versus inclusivity and the timeline for the strategic plan timeline.

- a. High School Program of Studies [Exhibit](#)

Principal Brian Menegoni reviewed the proposed changes to the 2023-2024 High School Program of Studies. Principal Menegoni provided the following information in response to questions:

- Group fitness classes are adapted for students with physical disabilities.
- Discussion regarding digital media and social media begins in middle school.
- Health and wellness classes do address the topics of eating disorders and body image.
- There has been a review of math and science orders.
- Math support groups are available for students.
- AP US History, Psych and Econ do not fulfill history requirements because they are not aligned with the frameworks for US History.
- Acapella class won't run because of a lack of enrollment.

I move that the Hamilton-Wenham Regional School Committee accept the high school program of studies as presented with the agreed upon changes.

Motion by: Jen Carr

Seconded by: Julia Campbell

MOTION PASSED Roll Call Vote 5-0 (Members Allara, Campbell, Carr, Frenkel and Kunberger)

b. High School NEAS&C Accreditation Final Report [Exhibit](#), [Exhibit](#), [Exhibit](#)
Principal Menegoni discussed the NEAS&C Final Report from the Decennial Visiting Team. Principal Menegoni provided the following information in response to questions:

- He anticipates receiving the letter of NEAS&C accreditation by January.
- He discussed the value of receiving NEAS&C accreditation.

d. Re-appoint John Bucco to the Essex North Shore Agricultural & Technical Institute's School Committee [Exhibit](#)

Dana Allara explained that per the bylaws, the Town Moderator from each town appoints the representative and then the Moderator's appointment comes to the School Committee for approval. Only members from the town will vote on the town specific representative. The person running the vote also has to be from that town.

Dana Allara turned the gavel over to Jen Carr for the Wenham vote.

I move that the Wenham residents of the Hamilton-Wenham School Committee reappoint John Bucco to the Essex North Shore Agricultural & Technical Institute's School Committee.

Motion by: Julia Campbell

Seconded by: David Frenkel

MOTION PASSED Roll Call Vote 3-0 (Members Campbell, Carr and Frenkel)

Jen Carr returned the gavel to Dana Allara.

e. Re-appoint William Lannon to the Essex North Shore Agricultural & Technical Institute's School Committee [Exhibit](#)

I move that the Hamilton residents of the Hamilton-Wenham School Committee reappoint William Lannon to the Essex North Shore Agricultural & Technical Institute's School Committee.

Motion by: Amy Kunberger

Seconded by: Dana Allara

MOTION PASSED Roll Call Vote 2-0 (Members Allara and Kunberger)

f. Northshore Education Collaborative FY22 Annual Report [Exhibit](#)
Superintendent Tracy discussed the Northshore Education Collaborative Annual Report. The collaborative is required to provide their annual report to the School Committee for informational purposes.

g. Vote to Request MASC for Goal Setting Workshop

Dana Allara discussed the School Committee goal setting process. She stated that she would like to know if the Committee feels it will be useful to have a MASC representative meet with the Committee to talk about goal setting and if so when the Committee would like to hold that workshop. After discussion it was agreed that Dana Allara will contact MASC to get feedback on a possible workshop targeted on school committee goals and report the information to the Committee for consideration.

h. Auto Charging Stations Grant [Exhibit](#)

Superintendent Tracy discussed the auto charging stations grant. Two chargers would be installed at Buker and four installed at the high school/middle school campus. He stated that there is no cost to the district except maintaining the chargers for 3 years from the date of installation and there is a possibility of generating revenue by charging a fee for people to charge their vehicle.

I move that the Hamilton-Wenham Regional School Committee approve the auto charging station grant.

Motion by: Jen Carr

Seconded by: David Frenkel

MOTION PASSED Roll Call Vote 5-0 (Members Allara, Campbell, Carr, Frenkel and Kunberger)

9. Finance & Operations

a. FY24 Budget Update [Exhibit](#), [Exhibit](#)

Assistant Superintendent Leone provided an update on the initial FY24 budget recommendation. Assistant Superintendent Leone provided the following information in response to questions.

- The transportation coordinator position is not being eliminated.
- Pupil services transportation is going up 14%.
- The capital and fixed asset increase is not recurring.
- At the next meeting the Committee will vote on the tentative budget.

10. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Tracy discussed the upcoming MSBA meeting and updated the Committee on the field project funding. He stated that a number of air purifiers have arrived and are being set up.

11. Committee Reports

- a. Capital/Financial Planning Subcommittee - no update
- b. Policy Subcommittee - no update
- c. Negotiations Subcommittee - no update

12. Chair's Report

Dana Allara stated that she followed up on the League of Women Voters invitation to attend the volunteer fair. She stated that the vision of the League is for the School Committee to have a table at the volunteer fair to provide information to the community on the responsibilities of the Committee. She noted that the Select Boards will be participating as well.

I move to extend the meeting by ten minutes.

Motion by: Dana Allara

Seconded by: Julia Campbell

MOTION PASSED Roll Call Vote 5-0 (Members Allara, Campbell, Carr, Frenkel and Kunberger)

I move that the Hamilton-Wenham Regional School Committee accept the League of Women Voters invitation to have a table at their event on February 8, 2023.

Motion by Jen Carr

Seconded by Amy Kunberger

MOTION PASSED Roll Call Vote 5-0 (Members Allara, Campbell, Carr, Frenkel and Kunberger)

13. Topics for Future Meetings

Daivd Frenkel requested that a discussion regarding a goal that relates to proposed Senate Bill 250 (a bill that would mandate indoor air quality for the schools) be added to a future agenda. Superintendent Tracy asked that planning and messaging for Town Meeting be added to a future agenda.

14. Vote to Adjourn

I move that the Hamilton-Wenham Regional School Committee adjourn.

Motion by: David Frenkel

Seconded by: Julia Campbell

MOTION PASSED Roll Call Vote 5-0 (Members Allara, Campbell, Carr, Frenkel and Kunberger)

Respectfully submitted by Bev Zagarri, Recording Secretary 4/4/23