

School Committee Meeting ([agenda](#))
Buker Elementary School Multipurpose Room
In-Person Meeting, [Zoom Link](#) is for Public Comment Only
Meeting ID: 81809769408
Thursday, June 8, 2023
7:00 p.m. - 9:20 p.m.

Present:

Dana Allara
Julia Campbell
Jen Carr
David Frenkel
Amy Kunberger
David Polito (arrived at 7:14)

Also Present:

Eric Tracy, HWRSD Superintendent
Vincent Leone, Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Administration

1. Call to Order

With a quorum present, Dana Allara called the meeting to order at 7:07 PM.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

All those in attendance rose for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Dana Allara stated that the meeting is being recorded and live streamed via 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.

David Smolinski 12 Red Coach Road stated that in his opinion having the LBGTQ flag seems discriminatory as it is not inclusive of everyone.

There was no further citizen comment. The zoom link was closed at 7:12 p.m.

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

Julia Campbell read School Committee Protocol 5.

5. Student Representative Report, Paul Juong

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

6. Recognize Student Representatives

Superintendent Tracy and the Committee thanked the three student representatives in attendance this evening, Paul Joung, Whitney Fitzgibbons and Julia Tsappis for attending the meetings and providing information on events throughout the year.

7. Consent Agenda

a. Warrants Exhibit [Exhibit](#)

- Voucher No. 28
- Voucher No. 1046
- Voucher No. 1047
- Voucher No. 1048
- Voucher No. 3258
- Voucher No. 3259
- Voucher No. 3260
- Voucher No. 3261
- Voucher No. 3262

b. Minutes

- May 18, 2023 [Exhibit](#)

c. Donations

- Helene Pruszynski Scholarship Donation; \$500 [Exhibit](#)
- FOTA - Down payment on the rights for the HWRHS play; \$400 [Exhibit](#)

I move that the Hamilton-Wenham Regional School Committee approve the consent agenda as written.

Motion by: Julia Campbell

Seconded by: Jen Carr

MOTION PASSED 6-0 (Members Allara, Campbell, Carr, Frenkel, Kunberger and Polito).

8. New Business

a. Spain Field Trip, HS [Exhibit](#), [Exhibit](#)

Superintendent Tracy gave a presentation on the proposed field trip to Spain. He stated that due to changes in travel warning the trip to Columbia has been canceled and the proposal is to shift the Columbia trip to a trip to Spain. In response to a question, he stated that opportunities are available for students not able to afford the trip.

I move that the Hamilton-Wenham Regional School Committee approve the Spain field trip for the high school as presented.

Motion by: Julia Campbell

Seconded by: Jen Carr

MOTION PASSED 6-0 (Members Allara, Campbell, Carr, Frenkel, Kunberger and Polito).

b. Literacy Presentation [Exhibit](#)

Jennifer Clifford, Director of Teaching and Learning and Elementary Principals Schersten, Schneider, Shediak presented the Elementary Schools Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) Literacy Update. In response to questions, they provided additional information to the Committee on the metric used to compute months of growth percentages, how families are informed of best practices to support students, the amount of time it takes to collect data and how they work to ensure that the data collected is the most useful data and that reports can be run for individual students, by classrooms, grade levels and school. Superintendent Tracy thanked the presenters and the staff for their incredible work and stated that he is looking forward to continuing to grow and change the model as needed.

c. EOY District Goals Report 22-23 [Exhibit](#)

Superintendent Tracy provided an end-of year report on the 22-23 district goals:

Goal 1: Build District Vision and Strategic Plan

Goal 2: Improve Teaching and Learning

Goal 2A: Build and Implement a Robust K-5 Reading MTSS Structure

Goal 2B: Implement Secondary Classroom Practices that will Serve as the Foundation to an MTSS Structure at MRMS and HWRHS

Goal 2C: Identify a High-Quality, Sustainable Design for World Language Instruction

Goal 3: Commit to Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Belonging (DEIB) practices

Goal 4: Improving Learning Environments

In response to questions, Superintendent Tracy stated he would check with the principals to see if middle school and high school open houses could be held earlier than May and he would get information on the number of rooms in the district that still have asbestos flooring.

d. Superintendent Evaluation [Exhibit](#)

David Polito presented the cumulative evaluation of Superintendent Tracy. He stated that in addition to the cumulative evaluation he had also done a word cloud that he would forward to the Committee.

I move that the Hamilton-Wenham Regional School Committee accept the cumulative evaluation as written.

Motion by: Julia Campbell

Seconded by: Jen Carr

The Committee discussed the evaluation process, the cumulative evaluation including areas of growth included by individual members. Dana Allara thanked former member Anna Siedzic for her participation in the process.

MOTION PASSED 6-0 (Members Allara, Campbell, Carr, Frenkel, Kunberger and Polito).

Dana Allara stated that she would forward the evaluation to the appropriate DESE administrator.

9. Finance & Operations

10. Committee Reports

- a. Capital/Financial Planning Subcommittee - first meeting scheduled for June 29.
- b. Policy Subcommittee - next meeting scheduled for June 12.
- c. Negotiations Subcommittee - update to be provided in executive session.

11. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Tracy gave an update on events and activities throughout the district and congratulated the high school principal and staff for an amazing graduation.

12. Chair's Report

Dana Allara discussed the graduation ceremony.

13. Topics for Future Meetings

David Frenkel stated that he would like to provide an update on the Wenham Master Plan Vision at the next meeting.

14. Vote to Adjourn to Executive Session

I move to adjourn into executive session for purpose #3. To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining with the TA Union if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares; Not to return to open session.

Motion by: Dana Allara

Seconded by: Amy Kunberger

MOTION PASSED 6-0 ROLL CALL VOTE (Members Allara, Campbell, Carr, Frenkel, Kunberger and Polito).