



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, [Zoomlink](#) is for Public Comment Only

Meeting ID: 86117178777

Thursday, March 7, 2024

7:00 p.m. - 8:35 p.m.

Present:

Julia Campbell

Jen Carr

David Frenkel

Trent Honda

Amy Kunberger

David Polito (arrived at 7:05 pm)

Also Present:

Eric Tracy, HWRSD Superintendent

Vincent Leone, Assistant Superintendent

1. Call to Order

At 7:00 pm Amy Kunberger called the meeting to order.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

All those in attendance rose for the Pledge of Allegiance. Amy Kunberger stated that the meeting is being recorded and live-streamed via HWCAM.

3. Citizens' Comments

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.

Jackie Maher, 142 Railroad Avenue, Hamilton, Miles River Teacher and Union Vice President spoke regarding the union's frustration regarding negotiations with Office Personnel. She spoke in support of the work of office personnel and encouraged the Committee to ratify the agreement.

Bridget O'Donnell, 105 Main Street, Wenham, Instructional Coach at Winthrop Elementary School spoke in support of the work of the office personnel and asked the Committee to support the contract.

Marya Machart, 14 Chestnut Street, Hamilton spoke in support of the work of the office personnel and asked the Committee to support the contract.

Nora Burnett, Union Representative and high school teacher, spoke in support of the work of the office personnel and asked the Committee to support the contract.

Chantel Clark, teacher at the Winthrop School, spoke in support of the work of the office personnel and asked the Committee to support the contract.

Kathy O'Shea, teacher at the Buker School, spoke in support of the work of the office personnel and asked the Committee to support the contract.

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

Julia Campbell read School Committee Protocol 8.

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

Jen Carr read the following from the School Committee mission statement: *The Hamilton-Wenham Regional School Committee will lead and inspire a District that inspires all students to realize their fullest potential and feel a powerful sense of individual and collective belonging.*

6. Consent Agenda

a. Warrants [Exhibit](#)

- Voucher No. 19
- Voucher No. 20
- Voucher No. 1083
- Voucher No. 1084
- Voucher No. 1085
- Voucher No. 1086
- Voucher No. 1087
- Voucher No. 3361
- Voucher No. 3362
- Voucher No. 3363
- Voucher No. 3364
- Voucher No. 3365
- Voucher No. 3366
- Voucher No. 3367
- Voucher No. 3368

b. Minutes

- February 8, 2024 [Exhibit](#)
- November 29, 2023 Quintuple Board Meeting [Exhibit](#)

c. Field Trip

- Taiwan Change Memo [Exhibit](#)
- Model UN Boston Conference [Exhibit](#)

d. Donations

- Field Trips - Friends of Winthrop; \$1,214 [Exhibit](#)

- Field Trips - Friends of Cutler; \$1,974.94 [Exhibit](#)
- e. Other
 - Booster Funded Assistant Coaches; \$7,628 [Exhibit](#)
 - 2023-2024 Spring Advertising Books [Exhibit](#)

Amy Kunburger requested to hold the Model UN field trip from the consent agenda.

I move that the Hamilton-Wenham Regional School Committee accept the consent agenda as written pulling aside the Model UN field trip for further discussion.

Motion by: David Polito

Seconded by: Jen Carr

MOTION PASSED 6-0 (Members Campbell, Carr, Frenkel, Honda, Kunburger and Polito)

In response to a question regarding the Model UN trip, Superintendent Tracy stated that two hotels are noted on the permission slip because students are staying at one hotel and competing at another hotel across the street.

I move that the Hamilton-Wenham Regional School Committee accept the Model UN exhibit as presented.

Motion by: David Polito

Seconded by: Julia Campbell

MOTION PASSED 6-0 (Members Campbell, Carr, Frenkel, Honda, Kunburger and Polito)

Amy Kunburger thanked the Friends and Booster groups for the donations included in the consent agenda.

7. New Business

- a. Approve FY25 Budget and Annual Report [Exhibit](#)

Superintendent Tracy reviewed the FY25 Budget and Annual Report. He thanked staff for their work on this report. In response to requests from the Committee, Superintendent Tracy stated that he would increase the font on the pie charts on pages 15 and 16 and will also make hard copies of the report available at the senior center and library.

I move that the Hamilton-Wenham Regional School Committee approved the FY25 Budget and Annual Report as presented.

Motion by: David Polito

Seconded by: Jen Carr

MOTION PASSED 6-0 (Members Campbell, Carr, Frenkel, Honda, Kunburger and Polito)

- b. Security Cameras [Exhibit](#)

Superintendent Tracy discussed the proposal to allow the Hamilton Police to access the

district's camera systems to monitor the outside of schools during non-school hours and also to allow Hamilton Police to access any of the district's security cameras in the event of an emergency. Access for the police would be for live feeds only not recordings. The district will continue to store and house all recordings. In response to a request, Superintendent Tracy stated that he would track to ensure this access to cameras does not increase criminalization of activities on campus that would not normally happen.

I move that the Hamilton-Wenham Regional School Committee approve the request to attach the security cameras with Town Police Departments as written in the agenda.

Motion by: David Polito

Seconded by: Jen Carr

MOTION PASSED 6-0 (Members Campbell, Carr, Frenkel, Honda, Kunburger and Polito)

8. Finance and Operations

- a. FY24 Q2 Financial Forecast [Exhibit](#), [Exhibit](#)

Assistant Superintendent Leone reviewed the Year-End Financial Forecast for FY24 as of Quarter 2.

I move that the Hamilton-Wenham Regional School Committee authorize the Assistant Superintendent of Finance & Administration to prepay FY25 OOD Tuitions with FY24 funds not to exceed the amounts established by MGL Chapter 40 § 4E & Chapter 71 § 71D.

Motion by: David Polito

Seconded by: Jen Carr

MOTION PASSED 6-0 (Members Campbell, Carr, Frenkel, Honda, Kunburger and Polito)

I move that the Hamilton-Wenham Regional School Committee approve the FY24 Operating Expense Budget Transfers as recommended here in by the Assistant Superintendent of Finance & Administration and as presented on the previous slide entitled "Transfers Requested Q2".

Motion by: David Polito

Seconded by: Julia Campbell

MOTION PASSED 6-0 (Members Campbell, Carr, Frenkel, Honda, Kunburger and Polito)

9. Committee Reports

- a. Capital/Financial Planning Subcommittee - Jen Carr stated that the next meeting is scheduled for Monday.
- b. Policy Subcommittee - David Frenkel stated that the subcommittee has not met since the last School Committee meeting.
- c. Negotiations Subcommittee - David Polito stated that he is recommending the Committee meet in executive session this evening to discuss office personnel contract. The first meeting with the Teachers Union is scheduled for March 25. Because of the number of contracts to be negotiated, David stated the subcommittee is recommending

that Superintendent Tracy and Assistant Superintendent Leone be authorized to negotiate custodial and cafeteria contracts.

I move that the Hamilton-Wenham Regional School Committee grant Superintendent Tracy and Assistant Superintendent Leone the capacity to negotiate on our behalf with the custodial and cafeteria worker unions.

Motion by: David Polito

Seconded by: Jen Carr

MOTION PASSED 6-0 (Members Campbell, Carr, Frenkel, Honda, Kunburger and Polito)

David Polito stated that it would also be helpful to have a 3rd member of the School Committee serve on the negotiations subcommittee. He stated that this could be discussed further at a future meeting.

10. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Tracy updated the Committee on activities and accomplishments of student athletic and extracurricular activities. He provided an update on the status of the Cutler Principal search.

11. Chair's Report

There was no report.

12. Topics for Future Meeting

David Polito requested that a discussion and vote on adding a 3rd member to the negotiations subcommittee be included on a future agenda. Trent Honda stated that he has heard that some of the Friends Of groups have had little participation and may not continue to exist, he requested that a discussion be held regarding this issue.

13. Vote to Adjourn

I move to adjourn to Executive Session for purpose #3 (To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining with Office Personnel Union if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares), to not return to Open Session.

Motion by: Amy Kunburger

Seconded by: David Frenkel

MOTION PASSED ROLL CALL VOTE 6-0 (Members Campbell, Carr, Frenkel, Honda, Kunburger and Polito)