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: 88372371310
Thursday, June 20, 2024
7:00 p.m. - 8:05 p.m.

Present:
Dana Allara
Julia Campbell
David Frenkel
Amy Kunberger
David Polito

Also Present:
Eric Tracy, HWRSD Superintendent
Vincent Leone, Assistant Superintendent

1. Call to Order
At 7:01 p.m. Dana Allara called the meeting to order.

2. Pledge of Allegiance
All those in attendance rose for the Pledge of Allegiance. Dana Allara reminded the community that the meeting is being live streamed and recorded via HWCAM.

3. Citizens' Comments
Any citizen wishing to speak before the Committee shall identify themself by name and address. Speakers will be allowed three (3) minutes to present their material.

Peter Fisher Greenbrook Road asked when there would be further information available regarding the consolidated building project, specifically information on quotes to compare the cost of the consolidated building project versus renovating 3 separate schools.

There was no further citizen comment.

Dana Allara stated that information on the topic raised by Mr. Fisher is not scheduled to be discussed this evening but the information is available on the Hamilton Wenham Regional School District website.

4. Review of School Committee Protocols Exhibit
Julia Campbell read School Committee Protocols 13 and 14.

5. Review of School Committee Mission Statement Exhibit

David Polito read the following from the School Committee 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. Consent Agenda

a. Warrants Exhibit

- Voucher No. 27
- Voucher No. 1100
- Voucher No. 1101
- Voucher No. 4005
- Voucher No. 4006
- Voucher No. 4007
- Voucher No. 4008
- Voucher No. 4009
- Voucher No. 4010

b. Minutes

- June 6, 2024 Exhibit

Dana Allara requested to hold the minutes of June 6, 2024.

I move that the Hamilton-Wenham Regional School Committee approve the consent agenda as written with the exception of the minutes of June 6.

Motion by: David Polito **Seconded by: Julia Campbell**

MOTION PASSED 5-0 (Members Allara, Campbell, Frenkel, Kunberger and Polito)

Dana Allara requested spelling correction for names in citizen comments: Eric Musser, Jeff Austin and Chontell Clarke. In addition, David Polito stated that he would review the video regarding the building projects being “under water” and clarify the statement in the minutes.

I move that the Hamilton-Wenham Regional School Committee approve the minutes of June 6, 2024 with the changes as discussed.

Motion by: David Polito **Seconded by: Amy Kunberger**

MOTION PASSED 3-2 (Members Frenkel, Campbell and Polito voted yes and Members Allara and Kunberger voted no)

7. New Business

a. Vote Student Handbook Changes Exhibit

Principal Menegoni discussed the proposed handbook changes for the 2024-2025 school year.

In response to a question, Superintendent Tracy stated that the free and reduced lunch form is included as the state budget has not been finalized and that form is also used by the district for other things such as summer food. Superintendent Tracy stated that Title IX changes are not included in this update, the district is waiting for pending Biden administration lawsuits to be settled and the Title IX changes may need to be brought back in the fall for approval. David Polito stated that looking forward, he would like to have a discussion regarding a district policy on grading guidelines (rounding) and a minimum grade requirement for a quarter being no lower than 50 for failing so a student can recover.

I move that the Hamilton-Wenham Regional School Committee approve the Hamilton-Wenham Regional High School Student and Family Handbook as presented in tonight's agenda.

Motion by: David Polito **Seconded by: Amy Kunberger**

MOTION PASSED 5-0 (Members Allara, Campbell, Frenkel, Kunberger and Polito)

b. Vote Superintendent's Evaluation Exhibit

David Polito reviewed the edits to the document from the last meeting. The Committee discussed the edits.

Superintendent Tracy thanked the Committee for their feedback.

I move that the Hamilton-Wenham Regional School Committee approve the superintendent's evaluation with the proposed correction to the Communication Plan typo.

Motion by: David Polito **Seconded by: Amy Kunberger**

MOTION PASSED 5-0 (Members Allara, Campbell, Frenkel, Kunberger and Polito)

c. Vote AFSCME Custodial Maintenance Contract Exhibit

Superintendent Tracy reviewed the custodial maintenance contract.

I move that the Hamilton-Wenham Regional School Committee vote to approve the AFSCME Custodial Maintenance Contract as presented in tonight's agenda.

Motion by: David Polito **Seconded by: Julia Campbell**

MOTION PASSED 5-0 (Members Allara, Campbell, Frenkel, Kunberger and Polito)

Superintendent Tracy stated that they are waiting for the cafeteria workers to ratify their contract.

d. Vote PEC Agreement Exhibit

Superintendent Tracy reviewed the PEC (public employee committee) agreement.

I move that the Hamilton-Wenham Regional School Committee vote to approve the PEC Agreement as presented in tonight's agenda.

Motion by: David Polito **Seconded by: David Frenkel**

Julia Campbell expressed her appreciation for the effort in negotiating this contract and the work to eventually get to a 70/30 insurance split.

MOTION PASSED 5-0 (Members Allara, Campbell, Frenkel, Kunberger and Polito)

e. Communications - Branding Presentation Exhibit

I move to table the Communications Branding Presentation until the summer retreat.

Motion by: David Polito **Seconded by: Julia Campbell**

MOTION PASSED 5-0 (Members Allara, Campbell, Frenkel, Kunberger and Polito)

8. Finance & Operations

9. Committee Reports

a. Capital/Financial Planning Subcommittee - no update
b. Policy Subcommittee - no update
c. Negotiations Subcommittee - update to be provided in executive session
d. Secretary Report - David Polito will email Julia Campbell with questions on outstanding minutes

10. Superintendent's Report

Retiree's 2023-2024 Exhibit
Superintendent Tracy recognized the 2023-2024 retirees for their service.

11. Chair's Report

Dana Allara reminded the Committee that the retreat is scheduled for August 9. She stated that this year's average meeting length was under 2 hours.

11. Topics for Future Meetings

There were no topics for future meetings.

13. Adjourn

I move to adjourn to Executive Session for purpose Executive Session for purpose #3 (To Discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining with the HWREA 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: Dana Allara **Seconded by: Amy Kunberger**

ROLL CALL MOTION PASSED 5-0 (Members Allara, Campbell, Frenkel, Kunberger and Polito)