Approved by the HWRSD School Committee on October 24, 2024

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: 83790737366
Thursday, October 10, 2024
7:00 p.m. - 8:40 p.m.

Present:
Dana Allara
Julia Campbell
Jen Carr (left at approximately 8:15)
David Frenkel
Trent Honda
Amy Kunberger

Also Present:
Eric Tracy, HWRSD Superintendent
Vincent Leone, Assistant Superintendent Finance & Operations

1. Call to Order
At 7:00 p.m. Dana Allara called the meeting to order and reminded the community that the meeting is being recorded and live streamed via HWCAM.

2. Pledge of Allegiance
All those in attendance rose for the Pledge of Allegiance.

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.

There was no citizen comment.

4. Review of School Committee Protocols Exhibit
Julia Campbell read School Committee Protocol 4.

5. Review of School Committee Mission Statement Exhibit
Dana Allara stated that if no objection the Committee would take Item e under new business out of order and Review the Mission Statement now. There was no objection.

e. Review of the School Committee Mission Statement Exhibit

I move that the Hamilton-Wenham Regional School Committee accept the 2024-2025 school committee mission statement as written and continue to read parts of the statement at every meeting.

Moved by: Jen Carr Seconded by: Amy Kunberger

The Committee discussed the current mission statement. David Frenkel recommended a more succinct mission statement and provided the following recommendation:

Our school committee's mission is to ensure our schools create graduates with a passion for lifelong learning together with the critical skills needed to maximize their potential.

The Committee discussed editing the current mission statement by replacing the current opening statement with David's recommended statement.

Julia Campbell made a friendly amendment to incorporate David's recommended statement to the beginning of the mission statement, add an additional line stating "this will be done by" and editing the verb tenses. Trent Honda seconded the friendly amendment.

Julia Campbell made a second friendly amendment that the revised Mission Statement be brought back to the full committee for final approval. Jen Carr seconded the friendly amendment.

I move that the Hamilton-Wenham Regional School Committee accept the 2024-2025 school committee mission statement replacing the first line with *Our school committee's mission is to ensure our schools create graduates with a passion for lifelong learning together with the critical skills needed to maximize their potential*, adding a second line to state *This will be done by*: and editing the verb tenses throughout the document and that the Committee continue to read parts of the statement at every meeting. The edited mission statement to be brought back to the Committee for final review and approval.

Moved by: Jen Carr Seconded by: Amy Kunberger

MOTION AS AMENDED PASSED 6-0 (Members Allara, Campbell, Carr, Frenkel, Honda and Kunberger)

6. Consent Agenda

a. Warrants Exhibit

- Voucher No. 6
- Voucher No. 7
- Voucher No. 1009
- Voucher No. 1010
- Voucher No. 1011
- Voucher No. 4038
- Voucher No. 4039

- Voucher No. 4040
- Voucher No. 4041
- Voucher No. 4042
- Voucher No. 4043
- Voucher No. 4044

b. Minutes
- September 19, 2024 Exhibit

c. Field Trips
- 8th Grade Field Trip - Washington DC Exhibit

d. Other
- Winter Co-ops & 8th Grade Waivers Exhibit
- Request to sell Advertising HS Musical Program Exhibit

e. Donations
- Cell Signaling Grant for High School Science Department; $4,849 Exhibit
- Edfund Mini-Grant - Trout in the Classroom; $1,550 Exhibit
- Edfund Grant - Book Vending Machine; $8,449.85 Exhibit

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

Motion by: Jen Carr **Seconded by: Amy Kunberger**

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

7. New Business

a. EdFund Donation for Athletic Facilities Project with MOU Exhibit

Superintendent Tracy discussed the EdFund Donation for the Athletic Facilities Project with MOU.

I move that the Hamilton-Wenham Regional School Committee accept the donation from the EdFund and the MOU for naming rights as presented.

Motion by: Jen Carr **Seconded by: Amy Kunberger**

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

Dana Allara reminded the Committee and the community that, in the unlikely event it should become necessary, Section 3 of these MOUs reserves the Committee's right to rescind the agreement.

b. Lisa Fall Donation for Athletic Facilities Project with MOU Exhibit

Superintendent Tracy discussed the Lisa Fall Donation for the Athletic Facilities Project with MOU.

I move that the Hamilton-Wenham Regional School Committee accept the donation and the MOU for naming rights for the Joe Maher tennis courts as presented.

Motion by: Jen Carr **Seconded by: Amy Kunberger**

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

c. Superintendent's Goals 24-25 Exhibit

Superintendent Tracy discussed his proposed 24-25 goals. He asked the Committee to provide feedback and he will bring the goals back for final approval at the next meeting.

Trent Honda stated that he would like to see the goal order changed so that 3 and 4 become 1 and 2.

In response to a concern regarding capital improvements for all buildings throughout the district, Superintendent Tracy discussed the capital improvement planning process approved last February.

Dana Allara requested that the word transition be removed from goal 1 and she requested that Standard 1A be included in Goal 3.

Jen Carr requested quantifiable deliverables be included in Goal 3.

Superintendent Tracy stated that if members have additional feedback to reach out to him.

d. Discuss School Committee Meeting Schedule Change Exhibit

Superintendent Tracy discussed the need to change the date of the tentative vote on the budget in order to meet the regional agreement requirement.

I move that the Hamilton-Wenham Regional School Committee move the January 9 and January 23 meeting dates to January 2 and January 16 respectively with the meeting on January 2 to be planned as an online meeting via zoom.

Motion by: Jen Carr **Seconded by: Amy Kunberger**

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

8. Finance & Operations

a. Final FY26 Budget Calendar Exhibit

Assistant Superintendent Leone reviewed the FY26 budget calendar. He noted February 6 is a meeting that requires a supermajority for the budget vote and the back up date for that meeting is February 13. He stated the Quintuple-Board meetings are scheduled for November 20 and January 15. He asked that members review all dates on the budget calendar.

b. Student Activities Presentation Exhibit

Assistant Superintendent Leone reviewed the Student Activities accounts.

I move that the Hamilton-Wenham Regional School Committee approve the 29 high school subsidiary accounts listed for the 2024-2025 school year with the addition of the

Class of 2028.

Motion by: Julia Campbell **Seconded by: Trent Honda**

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

c. Approve Prior Year Invoices Exhibit

Assistant Superintendent Leone discussed the prior year invoices.

I move that the Hamilton-Wenham Regional School Committee approve the prior year invoices as presented.

Motion by: Julia Campbell **Seconded by: Amy Kunberger**

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

9. Committee Reports

a. Capital/Financial Planning Subcommittee - recent meeting to discuss budget calendars and FY24 close-out. Monthly meetings scheduled through February
b. Policy Subcommittee - meeting on the 21st to continue work on the document that the School Committee asked the subcommittee to work on
c. Negotiations Subcommittee - update to be provided in executive session
d. Secretary Report - no report

10. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Tracy thanked the Wenham Fire Department for providing the fire safety trailer for students at the Buker School. He reminded the community that there is no school on Monday due to Indigenous Peoples Day. He extended condolences to the Ipswich community on the recent tragedy and stated that Hamilton-Wenham had sent counselors to assist.

11. Chair's Report

Dana Allara encouraged members to sign up to provide public information about the school building project at different events. She stated that she or Superintendent Tracy are available if members would like support on talking points. Amy Kunberger will resend the sign-up schedule.

12. Topics for Future Meetings

13. Adjourn

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

Motion by: Dana Allara **Seconded by: Amy Kunberger**

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