Holbrook Public Schools
245 South Franklin Street
Holbrook, MA 02343

MINUTES OF THE HOLBROOK SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
Holbrook Middle-High School Media Center
December 12, 2024
6:00pm

In Attendance: Barbara Davis, School Committee Chairperson
Renee Malvesti, School Committee Vice Chairperson
Fred White, School Committee Secretary
Ryan Despres, School Committee Member
Julie Hamilton, Superintendent of Schools
Christine Suckow, School Business Administrator
Stefanie DeRosa, Curriculum Director
Jennifer Bates, Holbrook Middle-High School Principal
Rob King, Director of Technology
Rob Compton, Special Education Director
Bridget Baker, School Committee Recording Secretary

- November 21, 2024 School Committee Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 pm by Ms. Davis.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Resident's Concerns
None.

Student Advisory
Molly Chiocca reported on recent and upcoming events which included recent fundraisers, the winter concert, winter spirit week, the pep rally and the blood drive. A new club was established called *Ready Set Serve* to carry out independent service projects. Next Friday there will be a student faculty basketball game as well as a *Are you smarter than a middle schooler?*

Open Proposed FY26 Budget Public Hearing
At 6:04pm Ms. Davis made a motion to open the budget hearing for the proposed FY26 school budget.

Superintendent Report
John F. Kennedy Elementary School
Before going into the public hearing Superintendent Hamilton reported on recent and upcoming events which included JFK reports cards were sent home this past Monday and tonight's parent teacher conferences. Last week the JFK students enjoyed the annual holiday shopping event and the JFK chorus represented the Holbrook Public Schools at the tree lighting this past Saturday and next week the students will participate in the holiday sing-along.

Holbrook Middle-High School
At Holbrook Middle-High School tonight marked the opening night for basketball. The DECA group had 17 members registering for the District I competition. Students of *Kindness 101* have been busy completing nine fleece blankets to be donated to a homeless shelter. Students are also continuing to work on kindness bookmarks that will be donated to schools and public libraries later this year.

Yondr pouch is going very well and has reduced distractions in the classrooms. At the end of the year we are going to have panel to discuss how the program is working and inquire about suggestions for improvements.

District
This week a member of the Department of Education was in to do some additional free coaching in the math department at the Holbrook Middle-High School. We are working together to calibrate what we are seeing in classrooms and build rigor and help teacher by providing resources, instruction and modeling.

Our multi-language learners are practicing for their upcoming access tests that will be taking place on January 6th.

Ms. Davis added that the other night the Annual Alliance for Community Media Nor'Easter Awards, awarded HCAM 1st place in Overall Excellence in their budget category for the third year running. Other awards won this season included 1st place in Sports Programming for our 2023 Elite 8 Basketball game coverage against Mount Greylock, a 1st place award in School programming for our 2023 Underdogs: Senior Year Series, and 3rd place in Community Impact with the 2023 Board of Health Information Series. Students in the Video Production Education program also won a 1st place award for the December 2023 News Magazine.

Open Proposed FY26 Budget Public Hearing
At 6:12pm Ms. Davis moved into the open budget hearing for the proposed FY26 school budget.

Superintendent Hamilton presented the proposed FY26 budget which is a 4.47% increase over last year's allocation. This budget allows for current services to continue, while adding two new and vital positions (ESL Teacher and a Registered Behavior Technician).

Each of the members of leadership presented their departments. Ms. Davis asked if any members of the community had any questions or suggestions they would like to voice. There were none.

Close Proposed FY25 Budget Public Hearing
At 7:17pm Ms. Davis made a motion to close the budget hearing for the proposed FY26 school budget.

Voted:
(White/Malvesti) made a motion to close the budget hearing for the proposed FY26 school budget.
4-0-0

Discussion Items
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No changes or updates.

School Committee subcommittee member reports
None.

School Committee member reports
Ms. Davis asked if the start time of the February school committee meeting could be changed from 6:00pm to 7:00pm so it does not conflict with the JFK Beginner Band concert and Steam Night.

Action items
Vote on FY26 Proposed Budget
Ms. Davis made a motion to support the Holbrook Public Schools fiscal year 2026 school budget of $18,161,419.

(White/Malvesti) made a motion to support the Holbrook Public Schools fiscal year 2026 school budget of $18,161,419.
4-0-0

Vote to change the time of the February 13, 2025 school committee meeting from 6:00pm to 7:00pm
Ms. Davis made a motion to change the time of the February 13, 2025 school committee meeting from 6:00pm to 7:00pm.

Voted:
(White/Malvesti) made a motion to change the time of the February 13, 2025 school committee meeting from 6:00pm to 7:00pm.
4-0-0

Old Business
None.

New Business
Mr. White asked that they start working on the building committee.

ADJOURN or VOTE TO CONTINUE

Voted: (White/Malvesti) The School Committee made a motion to adjourn the regular School Committee Meeting of December 12, 2024 at 7:23pm.

4-0-0

Respectfully submitted,

Bridget Baker

Recording Secretary