Approved by the HWRSD School Committee on March 20, 2025

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: 84629405052
Thursday, March 6, 2025
7:00 p.m. - 8:02 p.m.

Present:
Dana Allara
Jen Carr
David Frenkel
Amy Kunberger

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

1. Call to Order
At 7:00 p.m. Dana Allara called the meeting to order.

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

3. Citizen's Comments Exhibit
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.

David Smith, 27 Home Street Hamilton, spoke as Chair of the Hamilton Board of Health. He delivered a letter which conveys the results of discussions and votes taken at last week's joint meeting of the Boards of Health of Hamilton and Wenham regarding adoption of ASHRA Standard 241 in the proposed new elementary school. He asked the Committee to have public debate regarding this issue and consider the recommendation in the letter from the Boards. He noted that because David Frenkel serves as both a member of the Board of Health and the School Committee, in order to avoid the appearance of a conflict of interest, David Frenkel recused himself from discussion and votes taken by the Boards of Health on this topic.

There was no additional public comment.

4. Review of School Committee Protocol Exhibit
Dana Allara read School Committee protocol number 11.

5. Review of School Committee Mission Statement Exhibit

Amy Kunberger read the following from the mission statement: *The Hamilton-Wenham Regional School District 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 Hamilton-Wenham Regional School Committee will lead and inspire a District that attracts and retains high-quality educators, by acknowledging and respecting their expertise and professionalism.*

6. Consent Agenda

a. Minutes
   - February 27, 2025 Exhibit

b. Donations
   - Amesbury Industrial Hardware Store - Howda Hug Chairs; $600 Exhibit
   - Friends of Winthrop - Subsidizing Field Trips; $922.50

c. Field Trip
   - Model UN Boston Conference Exhibit

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

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

MOTION PASSED 4-0 (Members Allara, Carr, Frenkel and Kunberger)

7. New Business

a. Approve Town Meeting Flyer Exhibit

Superintendent Tracy and Amy Kunberger presented draft options for the Town Meeting flyer. Dana Allara noted that the Committee can approve this item at the next School Committee meeting and still get the document to the Moderator in time to meet the submission deadline. The Committee discussed the two versions and consensus was to go with version 2. The Committee agreed to bring back the following edits for review at the next meeting:

- right side bold text: 4.53% increase as well as the text stating the reason for the increase as one option and removing the pie chart at the bottom and including the percentages in the boxes as a second option
- at the end of the text on the left side bottom eliminate "for all our students"
- change the picture on the school side to a classroom learning environment
- Amy to draft language clarifying why repair of schools was not selected option

8. Finance & Operations

9. Committee Report

a. Capital/Financial Planning Subcommittee - next meeting March 17
b. Policy Subcommittee - next meeting March 12
c. Negotiations Subcommittee - no update
d. Secretary Report - members are reviewing missing minutes chart from David Polito. Dana Allara will forward email to David Frenkel.

10. Superintendent's Report
Superintendent Tracy updated the Committee on the results of the recent DECA competition and noted that the week of March 17th the district would be Celebrating Neurodiversity Week. In response to a question, Superintendent Tracy stated that there have been cases of flu and some norovirus but the district has not seen a major uptick in absenteeism.

11. Chair's Report
There was no chair's report.

12. Topics for Future Meetings
Amy Kunberger requested approval of the Town Meeting Flyer, David Frenkel requested discussion of the Board of Health letter, Superintendent Tracy requested 2 policy updates (bullying policy and CORI policy) Jen Carr requested a discussion on changing middle/high school start time with elementary start time. In response to a question, Superintendent Tracy stated that the cell phone policy is a school level policy but is approved by the School Committee through approval of the handbook.

13. Adjourn

I move to adjourn at 8:02 p.m.

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

MOTION PASSED VOTE 4-0 (Members Allara, Campbell, Frenkel and Kunberger)