Holbrook Public Schools
245 South Franklin Street
Holbrook, MA 02343

MINUTES OF THE HOLBROOK SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
Holbrook Middle-High School Media Center
February 13, 2025
7:00pm

In Attendance: Barbara Davis, School Committee 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
Mallory Stevens, John F. Kennedy Elementary School Principal
Michael Bolger, Facilities Director
Rob King, Director of Technology
Rob Compton, Special Education Director
Bridget Baker, School Committee Recording Secretary

- Proposed language for Competency Determination for class of 2025
- Drums donation from Richard Condon, Class of 1960
- January 16, 2025 School Committee Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 pm by Ms. Davis.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Resident's Concerns
None.

Student Advisory
Members of the student advisory reported on recent and upcoming events which included fundraisers, senior events, club and sports updates.

Superintendent Report
John F. Kennedy Elementary School
Superintendent Hamilton introduced Justin Howard, the new Assistant Principal for the John F. Kennedy Elementary School. Mr. Howard summarized his previous experience.

Section II of the robotics club and the Scholastic Bookfair are currently underway. Other events include the JFK Beginner Band concert and STEAM Night.

Holbrook Middle-High School
Superintendent Hamilton mentioned that the Honors breakfasts took place this week and eligible students will participate in a senior privilege tomorrow. The Bizarbot's second competition will take place at the University of Rhode Island on March 13 through the 15th. The students will then head to the University of Vermont on March 28th -March 30th. The theme for this year's competition is Reefscapes.

Mass Hire is a HMHS partner and is offering many relevant and informational workshops over the winter break over topics such as job hunt career quest, managing money, setting goals and personal budgeting and the importance of good credit among other titles. DESE consultant will be at the Holbrook Middle-High School math department tomorrow during PD. The focus will be on meaningful lesson planning.

John F. Kennedy Elementary School
Kerry Yates is the co-author of the book *Shifting the balance*, and she will be meeting with JFK teachers virtually for a book chat. Shifting the balance focus on the scientifically sound shifts that reading teachers can make to strengthen their approach to early reading instruction in the areas of reading comprehension, anemic awareness, phonics, high-frequency words, queuing systems and text selection.

The folks at Mass Partnerships for Youth, who we also work with at Holbrook Middle-High School are also offering several online video trainings for parents and caregivers through their peace at home series. These workshops aim to help parents and caregivers navigate such topics as supporting an anxious child, ADHD and autism, how to help your child thrive, mental health knowledge and skills among other relevant offerings.

District-wide access testing is complete. On February 11th the district participated in a lockdown drill along with four members of the Holbrook Police Department. Letters were sent home prior to the drill. District Report Cards have been posted on the district and school websites.

1st Reading – Competency Determination for Class of 2025
As a result of question 2 passing MCAS is no longer the determinant for competency for graduation. In response to this the Holbrook Middle-High School is updating the program of studies and the parent/student handbook to contain new language. The proposed language is based on DESE guidance in relation to the class of 2025.

Set of Drums Donation from Richard Condon, Class of 1960. Estimated value: $300
Very appreciative of the generous donation.

January 16, 2025 School Committee Minutes
No updates or changes.

School Committee subcommittee member reports
Ms. Davis reported that the policy subcommittee is meeting in early March.

School Committee member reports
Ms. Davis updated the committee on the recent MASC Learning Lunches and the Division III meeting on negotiations.

Action items
Set of Drums Donation from Richard Condon, Class of 1960. Estimated value: $300
Mr. F. White made a motion to approve the set of drums donation from Richard Condon, Class of 1960. Estimated value: $300.

(F. White/Despres) made a motion to approve the set of drums donation from Richard Condon, Class of 1960. Estimated value: $300.
3-0-0 (R. Malvesti and C. White were not in attendance)

January 16, 2025 School Committee Minutes
Mr. F. White made a motion to accept the January 16, 2025 School Committee Minutes as presented.

(F. White/Despres) made a made a motion to accept the January 16, 2025 School Committee Minutes as presented.
3-0-0 (R. Malvesti and C. White were not in attendance)

Old Business
None.

New Business
None.

ADJOURN or VOTE TO CONTINUE

Voted: (F. White/Despres) The School Committee made a motion to adjourn the regular School Committee Meeting of February 13, 2025 at 7:20pm.

3-0-0 (R. Malvesti and C. White were not in attendance)

Respectfully submitted,
Bridget Baker
Recording Secretary