



HAMILTON-WENHAM

Regional School District

5 School Street, Wenham MA 01984

Hamilton-Wenham Regional School District

School Committee Meeting Minutes

Quintuple Board Meeting ([agenda](#))

Buker Elementary School Multipurpose Room

In-Person Meeting

Wednesday, January 21, 2026

6:30 p.m. - 8:25 p.m.

Present:

Dana Allara

Meghan Benson

Julia Campbell

Amy Kunberger

Kristin Noon

Also Present:

Members of the Hamilton Select Board

Members of the Hamilton Finance Committee

Members of the Wenham Select Board

Members of the Wenham Finance Committee

Eric Tracy, HWRSD Superintendent

Vincent Leone, Assistant Superintendent

1. Call to Order

At 6:35 p.m. the School Committee, Wenham Select Board and Wenham Finance Committee called to order. The Hamilton Select Board and Finance Committee did not have quorums present.

2. New Business

a. Town of Wenham FY27 Budget Highlights

Members from the Town of Wenham reviewed the highlights from the Town's FY27 preliminary budget. In response to a question, it was stated that right now the Town of Wenham anticipates requiring some type of override. The boards discussed historic use of free cash/E&D funds.

b. Town of Hamilton FY27 Budget Highlights

Members from the Town of Hamilton reviewed the highlights from the Town's FY27 preliminary budget. In response to a question it was stated that Wenham's health insurance costs went up 16% and Hamilton's health insurance went up 23% due to a change in risk pool status. The boards discussed the budget allocation percentage of town versus school expenses and had an initial discussion on budget messaging.

c. HWRSD FY27 Budget Highlights

Assistant Superintendent Leone reviewed the highlights from the Superintendent's FY27 budget. In response to a question, Assistant Superintendent Leone discussed the FTE reductions if an override is not approved. He provided additional information regarding the proposed security vestibules. There was a request for data on cost per pupil for Hamilton-Wenham versus surrounding towns.

d. FY27 Budget Discussion

The Boards and Committees discussed the FY27 budgets and the need to finalize a unified message to the community regarding the budgets as soon as possible. There was discussion on how to make it easier for people to attend town meetings. They thanked Representative Bowen for attending the meeting. There was a request that the School Committee keep an open mind about scheduling an additional meeting if necessary.

3. Vote to Adjourn

At 8:25 p.m. the Wenham Finance Committee, Wenham Select Board and School Committee voted to adjourn. The School Committee motion to adjourn was made by Julia Campbell, seconded by Amy Kunberger and passed 5-0.