Approved by the HWRSD School Committee on November 5, 2026

HAMILTON-WENHAM
Regional School District
5 School Street, Wenham MA 01984

Hamilton-Wenham Regional School District
School Committee Meeting Minutes

School Committee Meeting (agenda)
Buker Elementary School Multipurpose Room
In-Person Meeting
Zoomlink is for Public Comment Only
Meeting ID: 95022054989
Thursday, October 15, 2026
7:00 p.m. - 9:37 p.m.

Present:
Dana Allara
Jen Carr
Kristin Noon
David Polito (arrived approximately 7:10)
Thomas Reed (departed approximately 9:00)

Also Present:
Eric Tracy, Superintendent

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

2. Citizen's Comment Exhibit
There was no citizen comment.

3. Community Outreach
a. In Our Inboxes
Kristin Noon stated that the Buker Fun Run has been moved to next week due to weather. Dana Allara discussed the opportunity for the school committee to have an information table at the upcoming high school open house for prospective students. After discussion it was agreed that Dana Allara and Thomas Reed will attend the open house.

4. Review of School Committee Protocol Exhibit
Jen Carr read School Committee Protocol number 4.

5. Review Portrait of a Learner Exhibit
Thomas Reed read the following from the Portrait of a Learner:

All graduates of the Hamilton-Wenham Regional School District will be able to independently use their learning to:

EMPATHIZE
Students will demonstrate awareness, sensitivity, concern, and respect for the culture, experiences, feelings, and opinions of all individuals. They will seek to understand and value others' life stories to make meaningful connections.

6. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Tracy informed the Committee that the district has been conducting bus evacuation drills. He discussed the upcoming MASS Executive Board meeting and discussed the recent power surges at the middle school, high school and Winthrop School that resulted in some equipment damage. He stated the district is in discussions with National Grid to determine if they are responsible for the damage from the surges, the state to see if the district is eligible for any state assistance and the district's insurance company.

7. Consent Agenda

a. Warrants Exhibit
   - Voucher No. 9
   - Voucher No. 1313
   - Voucher No. 1314
   - Voucher No. 4294
   - Voucher No. 4295

b. Minutes
   - October 1, 2026 Exhibit

c. Field Trip
   - University of New Hampshire Exhibit

d. Donations
   - FOTA - MRMS Annual Musical; $650 Exhibit
   - FOTA - HW Elementary Band T-Shirts; $352.20 Exhibit
   - FOTA - HW Elementary Chorus T-Shirts; $556.50 Exhibit
   - FOTA - Sheet Music for 5th Grade Chorus & Band; $650.99 Exhibit
   - FOTA - Ukulele Tree; $522 Exhibit
   - Edfund Mini-Grant; Beyond the Cube: Building Minds, Mosaics & Teamwork"; $4,873.97 Exhibit
   - Edfund Mini-Grant; MS VEX IQ Robotics Club; $9,976.08 Exhibit
   - Edfund Mini-Grant; Therapeutic Learning Environment; $1,100 Exhibit

I move that the Hamilton-Wenham School Committee approve the consent agenda including warrants, minutes, field trip and donations as written.

Motion by: Thomas Reed **Seconded by: Jen Carr**

MOTION PASSED 5-0 (Members Allara, Carr, Noon, Polito and Reed)

The Committee thanked all for the generous donations. Superintendent Tracy discussed the aeronautics conference field trip at University of New Hampshire.

8. New Business Committee Report

a. School Improvement Plans Exhibit

Principal Best discussed the middle school improvement plan. In response to a question, he provided additional information on the upcoming communication to 6th grade families regarding 7th grade math.

Principal Menegoni discussed the high school school improvement plan. A typographical date error on Goal 3 was noted.

Principals Hunt, Schersten and Shediac discussed the elementary schools school improvement plans.

b. Vote MASC Resolutions Exhibit

Dana Allara stated that as the MASC delegate she will be voting as directed by the School Committee on the proposed MASC resolutions.

I move that the Hamilton-Wenham School Committee instruct our MASC delegate to vote opposed to MASC Resolution 1 at the MASC conference.

Motion by: Jen Carr **Seconded by: Thomas Reed**

MOTION PASSED 4-1 (Members Allara, Carr, Noon, Polito voted yes and Member Reed voted no)

I move that the Hamilton-Wenham School Committee instruct our MASC delegate to vote affirmative on MASC Resolution 2 at the MASC conference.

Motion by: Kristin Noon **Seconded by: David Polito**

MOTION FAILED 2-3 (Members Carr and Polito voted yes and Members Allara, Noon, and Reed voted no)

I move that the Hamilton-Wenham School Committee instruct our MASC delegate to state that MASC should consider additional resolutions to represent a variety of school districts on the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education.

Motion by: Kristin Noon **Seconded by: David Polito**

MOTION PASSED 5-0 (Members Allara, Carr, Noon, Polito and Reed)

I move that the Hamilton-Wenham School Committee instruct our MASC delegate to vote affirmative on MASC Resolution 3 at the MASC conference.

Motion by: Kristin Noon **Seconded by: Jen Carr**

MOTION FAILED 2-3 (Members Carr and Noon voted yes and Members Allara, Polito and Reed voted no)

I move that the Hamilton-Wenham School Committee instruct our MASC delegate to vote

affirmative on MASC Resolution 4 at the MASC conference.

Motion by: Kristin Noon **Seconded by: David Polito**

MOTION PASSED 4-0 (Members Allara, Carr, Noon and Polito)

I move that the Hamilton-Wenham School Committee instruct our MASC delegate to vote affirmative on MASC Resolution 5 at the MASC conference.

Motion by: Kristin Noon **Seconded by: Jen Carr**

MOTION PASSED 4-0 (Members Allara, Carr, Noon, Polito)

Dana Allara stated that the remaining resolutions are prior resolutions that will be falling off the list if not reauthorized.

I move that the Hamilton-Wenham School Committee instruct our MASC delegate to vote in favor of reauthorization 1 at the MASC conference.

Motion by: Kristin Noon **Seconded by: Jen Carr**

MOTION PASSED 4-0 (Members Allara, Carr, Noon, Polito)

I move that the Hamilton-Wenham School Committee instruct our MASC delegate to vote in favor of reauthorization 2 at the MASC conference.

Motion by: Kristin Noon **Seconded by: Jen Carr**

MOTION PASSED 4-0 (Members Allara, Carr, Noon, Polito)

I move that the Hamilton-Wenham School Committee instruct our MASC delegate to vote in favor of reauthorization 3 at the MASC conference.

Motion by: Kristin Noon **Seconded by: Jen Carr**

MOTION FAILED 1-3 (Member Noon voted yes, Members Allara, Carr and Polito voted no)

9. Finance & Operations

10. Committee Reports

a. Capital/Financial Planning Subcommittee - next scheduled for Monday
b. Policy Subcommittee -
    i. First Reading - IHAIA - Middle School Pathway Exploration Policy Exhibit

The Committee did a first reading of policy IHAIA.

c. Negotiations Subcommittee - some tentative dates have been scheduled to begin negotiations with the teachers' union
d. Secretary Report - no update

11. Chair's Report

Dana Allara discussed her attendance at the recent regional agreement meeting and five chair meeting.

12. Topics for Future Meetings
There were no topics.

13. Adjourn
I move to adjourn at 9:37 p.m.

Motion by: Kristin Noon **Seconded by: Jen Carr**

MOTION PASSED 4-0 (Members Allara, Carr, Noon and Polito voted yes)