



Haverhill Public Schools - School Committee
Regular Meeting Minutes of September 26, 2019
Theodore A. Pelosi, Jr. City Council Chambers – 7:00 pm

APPROVED

Mayor James Fiorentini, Chairperson called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and requested a roll call of members.

Attorney Rosa	Present	Ms. Sullivan	Present
Mrs. Ryan-Ciardello	Present	Attorney Magliocchetti	Present
Mr. Wood	Absent	Mr. Amirian, Vice Chair	Present

Dr. Margaret Marotta Superintendent of Schools and Mr. Michael Pfifferling, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations were also present.

Ms. Leah Pearse, Student Advisory Council Member was in attendance.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by the members.

Mayor Fiorentini left the meeting during public comment because of conflict (teachers' contract).

Mr. Amirian, Vice Chair assumed chairing the meeting.

Public Comment.

Mr. Anthony Parolisi, HEA President spoke in support of finalizing the teachers' contract.

Mr. Peter Yannakoreaus was asked to step down from the podium and refused. Due to the nature of Mr. Yannakoreaus' demeanor and comments, the Vice Chair called a recess.

10-minute recess. The meeting reconvened.

Attorney William Cox related that an agreement had been tentatively reached on September 11. He stated there was no change in the salary offer, however, the parties needed to bridge differences and this would take additional time. The school committee's attorney related that there would need to cost estimates for contract and this work would be done as quickly as possible so there would be a speedy conclusion in terms of contract.

Mr. Barry Davis spoke regarding the many quality young teachers who are living their dream, but do not make a living wage. He has three jobs and is worried about his financial future. Mr. Davis concluded that teaching is not the easiest thing to do in the world.

Ms. Jen Rubera, a Consentino Charger, Haverhill Hillie and then went to BU and after graduation got her dream job at Silver Hill. She was mentored by several teachers at both Silver Hill and Pentucket Lake. Ms. Rubera married a Hillie, stayed in Haverhill and raised a family, therefore, double stakeholders. She acknowledged her belief in this city and its potential and only wanted decent working conditions and a working wage. In conclusion, Ms. Rubera concluded with a Maya Angelou quote "when you know better, you do better".

Mr. Tim Briggs spoke about a recent Stanford study www.edopportunity.org that analyzed economics, family backgrounds, educational achievement via testing and covered a period from 2009-2016. He indicated schools were rated nationally and gave the example of Consentino .6% below grade level grew more than 24% of the country and encouraged an analysis of data on how good the teachers outside of our state.

Mr. Dan Hickey, a teacher and business owner commented that the teachers bring the class to Haverhill.

Ms. Chelsey McQuade commented that Haverhill had invited her to apply and didn't know home until moving to Haverhill. She was encouraged by her students loving science and hoped to stay in the city for her career.

Ms. Lisa Begley, a teacher with over a 24-year teaching career related that the contract was very important and she had had many years of zeros was getting frustrated. She strongly encouraged a contract that would keep quality educators here.

Ms. Lori Curry, a health educator since 1993 asked that the Committee give the teachers respect and care.

Ms. Katherine Macone spoke ardently about her love of teaching and students.

Mrs. Ryan-Ciardiello thanked everyone and stated her 100% for teachers.

Ms. Sullivan expressed confusion when hearing the words "reneged". She believed the union looked at it one way and our team interpreted it another way. Ms. Sullivan stated the members wanted to have contract and felt badly about this misunderstanding.

Mr. Parolisi stated that this was democracy and looked forward to getting back to table and the HEA was willing to continue the work and finalizing a contract.

Ms. Sullivan acknowledged her respect and admiration for teachers.

Ms. Leah Pearse, Student Advisory Council member commented there were many hard-working teachers and tonight, she was living through a civics class.

Mayor Fiorentini announced that he had instructed the city's lawyers to go to court to get a no trespass order against Mr. Yannakoreaus.

Communications and Reports.

Superintendent Comments/Reports.

Mr. Glenn Burns, High School Principal reported on Commissioner Riley's emphasis on deeper and real-world learning.

Mr. Michael Peterson, a CT teacher who was a second-year teacher spoke about the many facets of the program and how it provided training and preparation for college and/or career.

Mr. Bryce Peterson, a student offered that the programs gave real life skills such as his anticipated field of cyber security. He offered that these courses prepared students for either the job force or college and was truly making a difference.

Ms. Victoria Kelley, who organized the CT Programs and program based learning and was encouraged by Commissioner Riley's support.

Mr. Burns supported the expansion of CTE and CTVE Programs.

Mayor Fiorentini was encouraged that students would get the education that they want to have in school.

Mr. Burns noted that Haverhill High School was in the process of submitting a grant in conjunction with Whittier Regional to add advanced manufacturing and to become a truly comprehensive high school.

Mayor Fiorentini offered a letter of support for the grant.

Dr. Marotta commented that Commissioner Riley's focus resonated with her by supporting all students with hands on learning opportunities and she was personally thrilled with this emphasis.

Mayor Fiorentini was encouraged in the changing admissions criteria for vocational schools.

Mr. Amirian thanked Mr. Burns, Ms. Kelley and Mr. Peterson had found a niche in the IT area with an emerging skill set.

Attorney Magliocchetti offered that these programs engaged students and benefitted the community.

RFP for Rental/Lease Space for Early Childcare Program [RFP - CHILD CARE 09-18-19 MJP Draft.pdf](#).

A brief presentation by Mr. Glenn Burns, High School Principal and Ms. Pamela MacDonald, Director of Special Education on offering a childcare program for both students and staff at HHS which would be run by an outside contractor.

A motion was made by Attorney Magliocchetti to approve the RFP for Rental/Lease Space for Early Childcare Program.

Some members indicated that they wanted more time to review.

A motion was made by Attorney Magliocchetti to table the Rental/Lease Space for Early Childcare Program. Mrs. Ryan-Ciardiello seconded the motion.

Mayor Fiorentini acknowledged a motion to table took precedence.

The chair called for a roll call vote.

Attorney Rosa	Yes	Ms. Sullivan	Yes
Mrs. Ryan-Ciardiello	Yes	Attorney Magliocchetti	Yes
Mr. Amirian	Yes	Mayor Fiorentini	Yes

6 members voted in the affirmative
0 member voted in the negative
0 members abstained

Motion passes

MCAS.

Dr. Marotta offered an overview of the report [MCAS Presentation 092619.pdf](#).

Ms. Helene Levine, ELA Supervisor, Mrs. Patricia Juranovits, Mathematics Supervisor and Mr. Kevin Higginbottom offered perspectives in their respective curriculum areas.

Consentino Principal John Mele and Assistant Principal Richard Poor gave insight on Consentino's results.

Mr. Glenn Burns, High School Principal offered perspective on high school results.

Mrs. Maureen Gray, current Principal of Pentucket Lake and Mrs. Dianne Connolly, former Principal of Pentucket Lake outlined the school's significant scores – the highest growth in the district.

Mrs. Gray gave the data report.

Mrs. Dianne Connolly gave examples of the Comprehensive Learning Environment.

Mr. Bruce Michitson, Principal of Golden Hill explained his school's results.

Mrs. Bonnie Antkowiak, Principal of Tilton Lower and Tilton Upper Schools spoke about the journey at her schools.

Mrs. Ryan-Ciardello acknowledged the contributions of Mr. Scully, Dr. Marotta, the staff and teachers for the tremendous growth over the past years.

Dr. Marotta was excited about the test results and believed that the improvement would continue.

Attorney Magliocchetti commended the principals and teachers for the significant strides. He was pleased with the collegiality among the principals and continued the great work.

Ms. Louise Perry, Bradford Elementary Principal related that some of the students did not make as much growth as their state counterparts.

Attorney Rosa commended the administration and teachers for not settling and encouraged the district to try to improve with student with disabilities.

Mrs. Mary Ellen Lucas, Silver Hill Principal offered that with the significant changes affected the scores.

School Committee Communications.

The following items from Mrs. Ryan-Ciardello: Update on Commissioner Riley's Visit to Haverhill High School, New High School Programs along with NAF Academy of Information Technology (3D Printing) and Healthcare Occupations Program were covered under Principal Burns' presentation.

Ms. Sullivan: Security Report.

She recommended soliciting a RFP on Security.

Ms. Sullivan: Diversity Committee asked about the status. Due to Mr. Wood's absence, there was no update.

Subcommittee Reports.

Finance Subcommittee: Update on recent meeting (9.11.19) – Ms. Sullivan, Chair, Attorney Rosa and Attorney Magliocchetti.

Ms. Sullivan offered some suggestions from the Finance Subcommittee on spending recommendations:

- \$275,000 Stabilization
- \$120,000 Math and/or Interventionists
- \$240,000 Adjustment Counselors/Bilingual Parent Liaisons
- \$100,000 Vacation Academies
- \$40,000 Security Enhancements & YRBS Analysis
- \$25,000 Vocational Director conversion of position to administrator (Victoria Kelley) \$71,271 + \$2,000 (\$95,000 – year 1 administrator)
- \$15,000 Transportation Analysis

She asked for feedback from the committee.

Mayor Fiorentini asked if the hiring of transportation director should occur before hiring the transportation consultant.

Ms. Sullivan asked for an action on the Finance Subcommittee's recommendations.

A motion was made by Attorney Rosa to approve the Finance Subcommittee's recommendations. Attorney Magliocchetti seconded the motion.

The chair called for a roll call vote.

Attorney Rosa	Yes	Ms. Sullivan	Yes
Mrs. Ryan-Ciardello	Yes	Attorney Magliocchetti	Yes
Mr. Amirian	Yes	Mayor Fiorentini	Yes

6 members voted in the affirmative

Motion passes

0 member voted in the negative

0 members abstained

Old Business.

Continued Transportation Discussion.

Mr. McCarthy offered that a resolution to the bussing situation should occur by October 15, 2019.

Attorney Rosa asked when updated routes would be finalized.

Mr. Pfifferling commented the district is waiting for software company to provide a solution so that routes may be updated.

Ms. Sullivan commented that the routes had not been updated.

Attorney Magliocchetti was hopeful that the communication has improved between school department and bus company.

Mr. McCarthy noted it was a work in progress.

New Business.

Approval of Extension of Special Education Transportation Contract.

Mr. Pfifferling recommended a three-year renewal of the special education contract with NRT Bus Inc. [Special Education Transportation Renewal.pdf](#)

Both the Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent were pleased with the job performance.

Attorney Magliocchetti stated there was fluidity in the special education contract.

A motion was made by Attorney Magliocchetti to approve the Extension of Special Education Transportation Contract as outlined by the Assistant Superintendent. Attorney Rosa seconded the motion.

The chair called for a roll call vote.

Attorney Rosa	Yes	Ms. Sullivan	Yes
Mrs. Ryan-Ciardello	Yes	Attorney Magliocchetti	Yes
Mr. Amirian	Yes	Mayor Fiorentini	Yes

6 members voted in the affirmative

Motion passes

0 member voted in the negative

0 members abstained

Attorney Magliocchetti was concerned with the recent article by Mike LaBella which contains errors. He did not fact check.

Mayor Fiorentini was upset with Attorney Magliocchetti's disparaging remarks about Mr. Scully at the last meeting and Mr. LaBella at tonight's meeting.

Attorney Magliocchetti offered there was no set occupancy number for the school and there was flexibility in utilizing school spaces. He stated that class sizes at Hunking were consistent with the district and furthermore, development was occurring in the Bradford section.

Mayor Fiorentini commented that Attorney Magliocchetti should not specify an individual who is not present to defend themselves.

Dr. Marotta commented that some of the increase was due to returning private school students. She noted it was understaffed when it opened.

Mrs. Ryan-Ciardiello asked about the ELL staff member at Hunking.

The Superintendent stated that there were supports but the staff member had returned. Dr. Marotta also commented that the beginning of the year also had some staffing adjustments (resignations) due to a variety of reasons. She related that there were very few classroom teacher vacancies and the district was in the process of filling those openings.

Approval of School Committee Scholarships as indicated in the agenda material [Scholarship Recommendations 09.26.19.pdf](#).

A motion was made by Attorney Magliocchetti to approve the Scholarship Recommendations as presented. Attorney Rosa seconded the motion.

The chair called for a roll call vote.

Attorney Rosa	Yes	Ms. Sullivan	Yes
Mrs. Ryan-Ciardiello	Yes	Attorney Magliocchetti	Yes
Mr. Amirian	Yes	Mayor Fiorentini	Yes

6 members voted in the affirmative

Motion passes

0 member voted in the negative

0 members abstained

The Superintendent recommended approval of the following Warrants [Warrant Packet 09.26.19.pdf](#) as indicated in the agenda material:

- 1) Warrant Number EV20190927 totaling \$435,242.30
- 2) Warrant Number EV20190927A totaling \$6,053.94
- 3) Warrant Number EV20190927B totaling \$866,395.39

A motion was made by Ms. Sullivan to approve Warrant #1 and Warrant #3. Attorney Rosa seconded the motion.

The chair called for a roll call vote.

Attorney Rosa	Yes	Ms. Sullivan	Yes
Mrs. Ryan-Ciardiello	Yes	Attorney Magliocchetti	Yes
Mr. Amirian	Yes	Mayor Fiorentini	Yes

6 members voted in the affirmative

Motion passes

0 member voted in the negative

0 members abstained

A motion was made by Ms. Sullivan to approve Warrant #2. Attorney Rosa seconded the motion.

The chair called for a roll call vote.

Attorney Rosa	Yes	Ms. Sullivan	Yes
Mrs. Ryan-Ciardiello	Yes	Attorney Magliocchetti	Abstained
Mr. Amirian	Yes	Mayor Fiorentini	Yes

5 members voted in the affirmative

Motion passes

0 member voted in the negative

1 member abstained

Items by Consensus.

The Superintendent recommended approval of the item(s) by Consensus as indicated in the agenda material:

- 1) Use of Facilities [UOF 09.26.19.pdf](#).
- 2) Professional Educational Conference/Workshop [PEC 092619 HSC.pdf](#).
- 3) Minutes – Regular Meeting of August 15, 2019 [School Committee Regular Meeting 08.15.19.pdf](#).

A motion was made by Ms. Sullivan to approve the Items by Consensus. Attorney Rosa seconded the motion.

The chair called for a roll call vote.

Attorney Rosa	Yes	Ms. Sullivan	Yes
Mrs. Ryan-Ciardello	Yes	Attorney Magliocchetti	Yes
Mr. Amirian	Yes	Mayor Fiorentini	Yes

6 members voted in the affirmative

Motion passes

0 member voted in the negative

0 members abstained

A motion was made by Ms. Sullivan to adjourn the meeting (10:34 pm). Mr. Amirian seconded the motion.

The chair called for a roll call vote.

Attorney Rosa	Yes	Ms. Sullivan	Yes
Mrs. Ryan-Ciardello	Yes	Attorney Magliocchetti	Yes
Mr. Amirian	Yes	Mayor Fiorentini	Yes

6 members voted in the affirmative

Motion passes

0 member voted in the negative

0 members abstained