



**Haverhill Public Schools - School Committee
Regular Meeting Minutes of March 14, 2019
Theodore A. Pelosi, Jr. City Council Chambers – 7:00 p.m.**

Mr. Sven Amirian, Vice Chair called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

The following members were present:

Attorney Richard Rosa	Ms. Gail Sullivan
Mrs. Maura Ryan-Ciardello (7:06 p.m.)	Attorney Paul Magliocchetti
Mr. Sven Amirian, Vice Chair	Mr. Scott Wood
Ms. Margaret Marotta Superintendent	

The following member was absent:

Mayor James Fiorentini, Chairperson

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by the members.

Public Comment.

Ms. Deb Russell, Golden Hill Reading Teacher correlated the celebration of St. Patrick's Day with the many wonderful opportunities offered to the students at her school. She presented a Tree of Wishes to Mr. Amirian [GH Tree.pdf](#).

Mr. Neil Wilkins, 127 Berlin Street, Clinton, MA, a Haverhill Alternative Teacher spoke about the advantages that the St. James facility provided for these students. He asked the Committee's consideration when they are making decisions for the program during the upcoming budget deliberations.

Communication and Reports.

Student Advisory Council Report – Katherine Hubbard.

Ms. Gabriela Vargas provided an update from Haverhill High School:

- 3/28/19 Parent-Teacher Conferences were being held
- The Winter Sports Season was one of our best seasons– many accomplishments, awards and records were set during this season
- Haverhill Gazette – Tom O'Brien – Great Show Fine Arts Academy April 4-6, 2019 \$5 and \$10
- HHS HPD Vaping THC Oil on March 27, 2019 at 7:00 p.m., which is a very much needed presentation – Ms. Vargas thanked the Superintendent and Chief DeNaro for coordinating this event
- ACCUPLACER offered Thursday March 21st to sign up for this test – April 23rd
- April 3rd College Fair at HHS
- Contributions are being collected for Emmaus House

Superintendent Comments/Reports.

FY19 Budget Update

School Business Manager Brian O'Connell presented a written report to the School Committee for its review.

Attorney Magliocchetti noted the expenses for maintenance.

Attorney Rosa commented on the \$500,000 allocated by the City Council for maintenance and requested an accounting of the expenditures out of this account.

Mr. Amirian asked about a Tilton School deficit. Mr. O'Connell replied it was an artificial deficit.

Ms. Marotta related roof repairs at Consentino and Tilton School along with some issues at Whittier Middle School were expenses that account had funded.

The Superintendent commented on successful Kindergarten Registration events last week. She related there were 300 registrations; an appearance by Mother Goose; headsets for simultaneous translations along with the goal to let parents know locations of programs and schools by mid-May.

Superintendent Marotta commented on Budget Working Session that was held last Wednesday. She stated the following priorities were established: technology, facilities, student achievement, attendance and class size. The Superintendent outlined a plan to adjust class size at middle school with larger schools for larger populations and smaller schools for smaller populations. Ms. Marotta reported that a proposal would be presented for a vote by April 11.

School Business Manager Hiring Process.

Ms. Marotta related that the posting for Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations had been posted for several weeks and was also listed on the MASBO website (Massachusetts Association of School Business Officials). The Superintendent requested the Committee's preference regarding the number of candidates along with a more detailed process.

Mr. Wood wanted to see 3-5 of the best candidates brought to the school committee for interview.

Ms. Sullivan asked for access to the applications and have some input at preliminary level prior to the selection of the 3-5 candidates.

Ms. Marotta related that sharing the information with the full committee would make it public and some applicants wished to have their candidacy private until it reached the finalist stage.

Ms. Sullivan asked for recommendations from Superintendent.

Attorney Magliocchetti recommended the Superintendent bring 2-3 candidates to the full Committee for interview.

Attorney Rosa suggestions for process would be that an interview committee select 3-5 candidates to move forward to the Committee level interview.

Ms. Marotta commented that there were 13 applications at this time.

Ms. Sullivan offered that the early start to the process benefitted the district. She noted that this important position would allow for possibly an earlier transition prior to July 1, 2019.

Student Advisory Council member Gabriela Vargas suggested that the new Assistant Superintendent work with the Superintendent for a day.

Attorney Rosa commented that an early selection also benefitted the person.

Mr. Wood replied that a very good candidate might be a sitting Assistant Superintendent with a 90-day clause and the district would not want to lose because of contractual obligations.

Superintendent Marotta offered assembling a Search Committee (assembling 10 people including 2 members of the School Committee) who would screen and schedule applicant interviews with the date of April 1, 2019 for recommendations to the Committee.

It was agreed that the Mayor would appoint the members to this subcommittee.

School Committee Communications.

Update on Whittier Repairs [SC Agenda 03.14.19 EXT JGWhittier Heat and bathrooms.pdf](#).

Superintendent Marotta provided the following updates regarding the Whittier School:

- Asbestos Abatement: scope of work is out to bid will be forthcoming in a month or two – weather change
- Air Sampling and Mold: posted on webpage, it is within normal limits
 - Mold remediation - mildly elevated in some areas
 - Steam remediation will not be successful until a major repair of leaks can be accomplished
 - Heat inconsistency has been traced to valves were not included in the installation (valves are expensive and with the installation hopefully conditions will improve considerably
 - Restrooms out to bid with an April replacement date – emergencies during February break prevented the work from being addressed sooner – this work done by an outside contractor will continue over the summer

Attorney Magliocchetti recommended a comprehensive review of all the issues in the building.

Ms. Marotta stated that depending on the will of the School Committee and community a new or renovated school might be in the future.

Attorney Magliocchetti, Ms. Sullivan and Mr. Wood all expressed a need for clarity when it came to the role of School Committee, City Council and Mayor in terms of facility responsibility.

Subcommittee Reports.

In reference to the Safety Subcommittee, Mr. Wood announced that the Police Chief would be starting the department's safety assessment of middle schools in spring. He also noted that an SRO was being added to Nettle.

Ms. Marotta offered that the SROs should be proactive advocates for kids in buildings and to ensure a safe environment. She related that previously SROs were reactive positions in Haverhill and after conversations with Mr. Wood and Chief DeNaro an SRO reorganization is needed. She related that the reorganization, as part of the FY20 budget will include an SRO for elementary schools to assist with bullying, cyberbullying and other proactive interventions and teaching; one SRO shared across middle schools and the SRO at HHS to include TEACH and HALT.

A motion was made by Mr. Wood to fund an SRO through the end of the school year (funding available) and be based at Nettle School and review in budget discussions for next year. Attorney Rosa seconded the motion.

The chair called for a vote of the members:

Attorney Rosa	Yes	Ms. Sullivan	Yes
Mrs. Ryan-Ciardello	Yes	Attorney Magliocchetti	Yes

Mr. Wood	Yes	Mr. Amirian	Yes
6 members voted in the affirmative		Motion passes	
0 members voted in the negative			
0 members abstained			

Old Business.

The Superintendent recommends that the following equipment (as indicated in the agenda material) be declared surplus and disposed of in accordance with City Ordinances [School Committee Meeting Packet 031419 4A.pdf](#).

A motion was made by Mr. Wood to have the following equipment (as indicated in the agenda material) be declared surplus and disposed of in accordance with City Ordinances. Attorney Rosa seconded the motion.

The chair called for a vote of the members:

Attorney Rosa	Yes	Ms. Sullivan	Yes
Mrs. Ryan-Ciardello	Yes	Attorney Magliocchetti	Yes
Mr. Wood	Yes	Mr. Amirian	Yes
6 members voted in the affirmative		Motion passes	
0 members voted in the negative			
0 members abstained			

New Business.

The Superintendent asks for authorization to enter into and execute a contract with M.F. Swimming, LLC (Solo Aquatics) for rental of the Charles C White Swimming Pool at the Haverhill High School on behalf of the School Committee. (The term of the contract exceeding three years, City Council authorization was required by M.G.L. C 30B, section 12 (b) and was approved 02.26.19 (see attached documentation) [Background on School Committee Agenda Item 5A – Contract.pdf](#)

A motion was made by Mr. Wood to authorize the Superintendent asks for authorization to enter into and execute a contract with M.F. Swimming, LLC (Solo Aquatics) for rental of the Charles C White Swimming Pool at the Haverhill High School on behalf of the School Committee. (The term of the contract exceeding three years, City Council authorization was required by M.G.L. C 30B, section 12 (b) and was approved 02.26.19.

The chair called for a vote of the members:

Attorney Rosa	Yes	Ms. Sullivan	Yes
Mrs. Ryan-Ciardello	Yes	Attorney Magliocchetti	Yes
Mr. Wood	Yes	Mr. Amirian	Yes
6 members voted in the affirmative		Motion passes	
0 members voted in the negative			
0 members abstained			

The Superintendent recommends approval of the following Warrants [SC Agenda 03.14.19 Warrants 5B.pdf](#) as indicated in the agenda material:

- 1) Warrant Number EV20190315 totaling \$736,663.95
- 2) Warrant Number EV201900315A totaling \$213,028.83
- 3) Warrant Number EV201900315B totaling \$590,061.27

A motion was made by Mr. Wood to approve Warrant (1) and Warrant (3) as indicated in the agenda material. Attorney Magliocchetti seconded the motion.

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

A motion was made by Mr. Wood to approve Warrant (2) as indicated in the agenda material. Attorney Rosa seconded the motion.

Attorney Rosa	Yes	Ms. Sullivan	Yes
Mrs. Ryan-Ciardiello	Yes	Attorney Magliocchetti	Abstain
Mr. Wood	Yes	Mr. Amirian	Yes

The Superintendent recommends the School Committee authorize and establish a revolving account for the use and benefit of the Special Education Parent Advisory Council of the Haverhill Public Schools, subject to the supervision and oversight of the Superintendent and/or her designee, and to ask the City Finance Director and the City Treasurer to take all steps necessary or advisable to implement and to activate such account .

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

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

6 members voted in the affirmative Motion passes

0 members voted in the negative

0 members abstained

A motion was made by Mr. Wood to adjourn the meeting (8:24 p.m.). Attorney Magliocchetti seconded the motion.

Meeting adjourned.