



**Haverhill Public Schools - School Committee  
Regular Meeting Minutes of July 27, 2017**

Mayor James Fiorentini, Chairperson called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Present: Mr. Sven Amirian, Attorney Paul Magliocchetti, Mrs. Maura Ryan-Ciardello (arrived at 7:07 p.m.), Mr. Shaun Toohey, Mr. Scott Wood, Vice President, Ms. Gail Sullivan, President and Mr. James Scully, Superintendent of Schools. Mr. Jared Fulgoni, Assistant Superintendent was absent.

This message is read before each meeting: those attending tonight's meeting should be aware that the meeting is being audio and video recorded by HCTV (add any other media outlet/party which tells you they will be recording). Any audience members who wish to record any part of the meeting must inform the Chair who will announce the recording. This is to comply with the Massachusetts wiretap statute.

The committee and audience recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Public Comment.**

Councilor Colin LePage announced a screening of "If Only" a joint venture between the HOPE Task Force and the Haverhill YMCA. Mr. LePage noted that it was a screening with Producer James Wahlberg, Executive Director of the Mark Wahlberg Youth Foundation. The event would take place on August 17th 6:00 pm in the Haverhill High School Cafeteria. He explained that the film would be followed by interactive discussions about drug use and addiction featuring a panel of local experts along with the distribution of backpacks stuffed with supplies for first 200 families! Councilor LePage commented that pizza & babysitting would be offered and that more info was available at [www.ifonlymovie.org](http://www.ifonlymovie.org).

In response to Mr. Amirian's question, Mr. LePage responded that the film would be age appropriate for middle school and older children and addressed the – parents' medicine cabinet

Peter Yannakoureas again expressed his concerns with reading materials in schools and evolution. He further stated that the "real God" objected to these teachings and it was not Allah or Buddha.

Mr. Amirian cautioned Mr. Yannakoureas against saying disparaging comments against other religions and that he should respect all religions.

Steve Costa commented on overcrowding issues in schools and administrative decisions. He noted that when the debt exclusion for the new Hunking was voted Greenleaf would not be used as a school. Mr. Costa also cited a school problem involving a child and this information would be shared with the Superintendent. He commended Mr. Scully for his work in Haverhill.

Devon Ferreira asked about a transition plan for Silver Hill Horace Mann Charter School and expressed her serious concerns for 2018-2019. She asked for more clarity, accountability with the transition plan.

Mr. Scully stated that there would be no change for the current school year and that the transition process. The Superintendent indicated the school would remain open and the academic program would be the same as in other schools.

Mayor Fiorentini asked the Superintendent to meet with parents.

Attorney Magliocchetti noted it was a communication issue and that Mr. Scully was being truthful about the situation.

Mr. Scully related that it was a building issue and the principal could articulate what happens in the building that is different from other schools.

Seth Kotis, 13 Windmill Road – thanked Mr. Amirian for putting the Silver Hill issue on the agenda and looked forward to a conclusive road map. He presented card to Sven Amirian.

#### Student Advisory Council Report

Isabela Yepes gave her update, which included report card issuance, summer school opening, and selection of courses. She wished everyone a happy summer.

Mr. Scully noted that Haverhill High School was being fully utilized this summer.

Mayor Fiorentini presented a PowerPoint presentation on the recently finalized high school renovation program, which can be found here [https://drive.google.com/file/d/High\\_School\\_Renovation](https://drive.google.com/file/d/High_School_Renovation)

Mayor Fiorentini introduced High School Building Committee Chairperson Paul Bergman and acknowledged their tremendous contribution to the success of the project. Mr. Bergman who introduced Jean Sherburne, Herb Bergh, Ernie DiBurro, and Ann Jacobson. He stated the committee met for 8 ½ years and over 100 meetings to get the work done. Mr. Bergman and Mayor Fiorentini acknowledged Jeff Dill's contribution to the project.

Mayor Fiorentini presented citations.

#### Interview of Director of Special Education Recommended Candidate Pamela MacDonald

Ms. MacDonald has worked in several communities and began in Haverhill last year as Compliance Officer. She looked forward to expanding services for students in the district.

Mrs. Ryan-Ciardello was concerned about consistency in the district and asked about Ms. MacDonald's future plans.

Ms. MacDonald stated that her employment history included two other districts Revere and Stoneham and was always in the district for at least five years. Her interest in Haverhill was to return to an urban district and could see herself retiring from Haverhill in the future. She liked stability and consistency in her life.

Mrs. Ryan-Ciardello asked how to balance the needs of the parents and the district's financial interest.

Mrs. MacDonald replied it was balancing what is in the best interest for the child and the district's resources. She also commented that creativity and collaborating with other districts to stretch resources by cost sharing with other district.

Attorney Magliocchetti commented on the rave reviews Ms. MacDonald had received. He acknowledged that there was an improvement in special education since she joined the district. Mr. Magliocchetti noted that her hiring had a positive impact calls had decreased to the School Committee. He asked about professional development opportunities.

Ms. MacDonald reported that professional development was being broken down for specific skills so the staff has the correct proficiencies to deliver services.

Attorney Magliocchetti asked a recruitment and certification of staff.

Ms. MacDonald detailed her outreach to specialty schools and “head hunting” to achieve a highly qualified, certificated staff.

Mr. Magliocchetti asked about the Life Skills Program at HHS.

Ms. MacDonald noted that she was in the process building a robust curriculum.

Attorney Magliocchetti announced his support of her candidacy.

Mr. Toohey commented that he had heard tremendous things about Ms. MacDonald and was pleased with her compassion and energy. He asked what the biggest void in the district.

Ms. MacDonald outlined the following autism programs, handle on money back into district, and reduction of caseloads.

Mr. Toohey asked what the assistance was needed by the Director of Special Education.

Ms. MacDonald stated that there was not enough supervision in the district. She outlined the possible positions of Director of Autism Behavior and Therapeutic Services, section supervisors such as high school, middle school and elementary because there was not enough supervision or expertise and teachers needed direction.

Mr. Toohey supported her candidacy.

Mr. Wood stated Ms. MacDonald had the best interview in the district. He stated she was outstanding, great knowledge, extremely impressive, passion to make a difference, high energy level. Mr. Wood wished her the best of luck.

Mr. Amirian was excited to have you her on board and valued Ms. Sullivan’s endorsement of Ms. MacDonald’s candidacy.

Ms. Sullivan asked about Ms. MacDonald formalizing her strategic plan and asked about the mid-year systematic data tracking.

Ms. MacDonald outlined that there were 10 power standards, tracked data, consistent data and tracking it.

Ms. Sullivan asked about professional relationships.

Ms. MacDonald stated her contacts with other sped directors in Brockton, Worcester and Fall River.

Mayor Fiorentini asked about dealing with special education costs.

Ms. MacDonald replied that it was a balancing act and there was some ability to plan on special education costs.

Ms. Ryan-Ciardello asked about the Fall River structure compared to Haverhill.

Ms. MacDonald replied that there were several ways of structuring Haverhill and she would be examining options during the upcoming year.

Mayor Fiorentini thanked the Superintendent for including the school committee in the interview process.

A motion was made by Mr. Wood to approve the appointment of Ms. Pamela MacDonald as Director of Special Education. Mr. Toohey seconded the motion.

The chair called for a vote of the members:

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

7 members having voted in the affirmative  
0 members having voted in the negative  
0 members having abstained

Mr. Scully commended Pam MacDonald on her exemplary work in Haverhill and congratulated her. The Superintendent mentioned her mother; husband and in-laws were in the audience tonight.

Mr. Scully recommended a title change for the Director of Strategy and Accountability to Chief Academic Officer to align the position with other districts in the commonwealth.

Attorney Magliocchetti asked if there was a change in compensation.

The Superintendent replied no, just a title change.

Mr. Toohey asked for the rationale behind the change.

Mr. Scully answered consistency within the state along with clarifying the position is responsible for curriculum in the district.

A motion was made by Mr. Wood to approve the title change from Director of Strategy and Accountability to Chief Academic Officer. Attorney Magliocchetti seconded the motion.

The chair called for a vote of the members:

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

7 members having voted in the affirmative  
0 members having voted in the negative  
0 members having abstained

The Superintendent recommended approval of the scholarships as indicated in the agenda material.

Mr. Wood made a motion to approve the scholarships as indicated. Attorney Magliocchetti seconded the motion.

The chair called for a vote of the members:

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

7 members having voted in the affirmative  
0 members having voted in the negative  
0 members having abstained

The scholarship awards were approved and our listed in the attached document [https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B\\_ylQjUbvunQlp4Z1ozaGplM0U/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B_ylQjUbvunQlp4Z1ozaGplM0U/view?usp=sharing)

Greenleaf School

Superintendent Scully stated that the concerns that had been brought to his attention were being addressed. He stated that renovations were ongoing and that the air quality was being evaluated again.

Ms. Sullivan referenced her recent visit to the school where she witnessed standing water, peeling paint, friable asbestos tile and a leaking roof. She noted these conditions could mean mold and air quality issues. President Sullivan agreed with Mr. Wood on the need to keep the property but expressed her concern about it being the proper place for Kindergarten.

Mr. Scully responded that the school had been reviewed by Abatement Firm and in one area the tile will be replaced and all conditions being addressed. He reiterated students would not be placed in the building if it were unsafe.

Ms. Sullivan asked for the results of testing.

Attorney Magliocchetti was concerned about roof leaks and the resulting flaking ceiling.

Mr. Scully stated the remedies were temporary.

Attorney Magliocchetti requested copies of reports be shared with the Committee once they are available. He also asked for a detailed presentation on Greenleaf at the next meeting so that there were assurances regarding the safety of the building.

Subcommittee Reports

Attorney Magliocchetti reported the Policy Manual review was completed with the assistance of MASC Field Director Michael Gilbert and would be submitted to the Committee at the next meeting for review. He related that Ms. Sullivan related that the transitioning to Strategic Plan

Mayor Fiorentini asked about social media changes.

Attorney Magliocchetti responded that was handbook issue and he would ask the Superintendent for copies of the handbooks.

A motion was made by Mr. Wood to remove School Choice from the table. Ms. Sullivan seconded the motion.

The chair called for a vote of the members:

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

7 members having voted in the affirmative  
0 members having voted in the negative  
0 members having abstained

Mr. Scully related school choice only is implemented if you have seats available. He recommended Haverhill be a school choice district and try to minimize students leaving the district.

A motion was made by Mr. Wood to remove School Choice from the table. Ms. Sullivan seconded the motion.

The chair called for a vote of the members:

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

7 members having voted in the affirmative  
0 members having voted in the negative  
0 members having abstained

A motion was made by Mr. Wood to approve School Choice for the 2017-2018 school year. Mr. Toohey seconded the motion.

The chair called for a vote of the members:

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

7 members having voted in the affirmative  
0 members having voted in the negative  
0 members having abstained

#### Renewal of Coppola Bus Contract

Mr. Scully recommended approval for an additional three years (which was included in the original contract – this would be the last renewal) in order for the bus company to purchase vehicles.

Ms. Sullivan asked why renewal would occur at this time.

Mr. Scully responded it was for financial purposes.

Mayor Fiorentini asked for renewal of 2022.

Mr. Scully stated he would get opinion of City Solicitor.

A motion was made by Mr. Wood to approve Warrant Number EV20170707 totaling \$3,592.74 as indicated in the agenda material. Mr. Toohey seconded the motion.

The chair called for a vote of the members:

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

7 members having voted in the affirmative  
0 members having voted in the negative  
0 members having abstained

A motion was made by Mr. Wood to approve Warrant Number EV20170714 totaling \$551,592.34 as indicated in the agenda material. Mr. Toohey seconded the motion.

The chair called for a vote of the members:

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

7 members having voted in the affirmative  
0 members having voted in the negative  
0 members having abstained

A motion was made by Mr. Wood to approve Warrant Number EV20170714A totaling \$911.52 as indicated in the agenda material. Ms. Sullivan seconded the motion.

The chair called for a vote of the members:

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

7 members having voted in the affirmative  
0 members having voted in the negative  
0 members having abstained

A motion was made by Mr. Wood to approve Warrant Number EV20170714B totaling \$412,319.17 as indicated in the agenda material. Ms. Sullivan seconded the motion.

The chair called for a vote of the members:

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

7 members having voted in the affirmative  
 0 members having voted in the negative  
 0 members having abstained

A motion was made by Mr. Wood to approve Warrant Number EV20170714C totaling \$147,810.65 as indicated in the agenda material. Ms. Ryan-Ciardello seconded the motion.

The chair called for a vote of the members:

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

7 members having voted in the affirmative  
 0 members having voted in the negative  
 0 members having abstained

A motion was made by Mr. Wood to approve Warrant Number EV20170728 totaling \$622,054.52 as indicated in the agenda material. Mr. Toohey seconded the motion.

The chair called for a vote of the members:

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

7 members having voted in the affirmative  
 0 members having voted in the negative  
 0 members having abstained

A motion was made by Mr. Wood to approve the use of facilities as indicated in the agenda material. Mr. Toohey seconded the motion.

Requested by Diane Lemieux from Access 21 Rockland for the use of Haverhill High School auditorium on August 3<sup>rd</sup> and August 4<sup>th</sup> from 12:00 pm – 9:00pm for a performance.

Process Fee: \$10.00  
 Utility Fee: \$20.00 per hour  
 Custodial Fee: \$30.00 per hour  
 Rental Fee: \$100.00 per event

Requested by Jenna Alfrey from ECE Travels for the use of Haverhill High School Auditorium on September 28, 2017 from 5:30pm – 8:30pm.

Process Fee: \$10.00  
 Utility Fee: \$20.00 per hour  
 Custodial Fee: \$30.00 per hour  
 Rental Fee: \$100.00 per event



Requested by Justin Peavey from Center Stage Theatre Company for the use of Haverhill High on August 13 - August 18- various times for the "Wizard of Oz".

Process Fee: \$10.00  
Utility Fee: \$20.00 per hour  
Custodial Fee: \$45.00 per hour  
Rental Fee: \$100.00 per event

Requested by Maryse Fortin from TBOS 8 Co Group, Inc. for the use of Haverhill High School Auditorium on August 26, 2017 from 3:00pm-7:00pm.

Process Fee: \$10.00  
Utility Fee: \$20.00 per hour  
Custodial Fee: \$30.00 per hour  
Rental Fee: \$100.00 per event  
Security Fee: \$75.00 per hour

The chair called for a vote of the members:

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

7 members having voted in the affirmative  
0 members having voted in the negative  
0 members having abstained

Mr. Scully indicated that the request for an executive session was withdrawn.

Mr. Amirian requested that the members be polled about an executive session prior to the next meeting to discuss collective bargaining strategies.

The Superintendent indicated after consultation with the Mayor and Mr. O'Connell on finances; the poll would be conducted.

A motion was made by Mr. Wood to adjourn the meeting at 8:42 p.m. Mr. Toohey seconded the motion.

The chair called for a vote of the members:

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

7 members having voted in the affirmative  
0 members having voted in the negative  
0 members having abstained