



**Haverhill Public Schools - School Committee
Regular Meeting Minutes of January 10, 2019**

Mayor James Fiorentini, Chairperson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

The following members were present:

Attorney Richard Rosa	Mr. Sven Amirian
Ms. Gail Sullivan	Mrs. Maura Ryan-Ciardello
Mr. Scott Wood	Attorney Paul Magliocchetti, Vice Chair
Mayor James Fiorentini, Chairperson	Ms. Margaret Marotta Superintendent

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by the members.

Public Comment.

Ms. Angelina Parolisi (169 Summer Street), Mr. Sasha Zbnitnoff (19 Village Woods Road), Mr. Anthony Parolisi (169 Summer Street) and Mrs. Helen Zbnitoff (19 Village Woods Road) spoke in support of High School Teacher Mr. Ashworth assignment choice for his students entitled "Is Donald Trump a fascist?"

Election of Vice Chair for 2019.

Nominations.

A motion was made by Attorney Magliocchetti to nominate Sven Amirian as Vice Chair. Attorney Rosa seconded the nomination.

A motion was made by Mr. Wood to nominate Maura Ryan-Ciardello as Vice Chair. Attorney Rosa seconded the nomination.

A motion was made by Mr. Wood to close nominations. Attorney Magliocchetti seconded the motion.

Vote.

The chair called for a vote of the members:

Attorney Rosa	Sven Amirian	Mr. Amirian	Sven Amirian
Ms. Sullivan	Sven Amirian	Mrs. Ryan-Ciardello	Maura Ryan-Ciardello
Mr. Wood	Maura Ryan-Ciardello	Attorney Magliocchetti	Sven Amirian
Mayor Fiorentini	Maura Ryan-Ciardello		

4 members voted for Sven Amirian Sven Amirian elected Vice Chair

3 members voted for Maura Ryan-Ciardello

0 members abstained

Communication and Reports.

Student Advisory Council Report – Katherine Hubbard.

Ms. Hubbard highlighted the following from Hillie Nation:

- Announced that those students interested in earning college credits while still in high school, must first take the Accuplacer to determine eligibility and course placement. Haverhill High School will be offering three Accuplacer tests on February 12th, March 21st and April 23rd. If interested please sign up for one of these test dates with your guidance counselor! The Accuplacer will be held at Haverhill High School in the library starting at 7:30 a.m. This is fantastic opportunity to further high school students' education;
- The Girls' Gymnastics Team is undefeated and vying for a MVC;
- The Boys' Wrestling Team who is also undefeated and is second in the state ranking;
- January 26, 2019 will be Trivia Night for the Classical Academy

- On January 31, HHS will be hosting a supper club and Ms. Hubbard extended an invitation to all members of the School Committee to attend;
- Classical Trivia night Saturday, January 26, 2019 AMVETS in Haverhill - doors open at 6:30 and event starts at 7:00 Tickets are \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door.

On a personal note, Katherine thanked the Haverhill Public Schools and its staff for her recent acceptance (under early decision) to the Massachusetts College of Pharmacy Nursing Program

Superintendent Comments/Reports.

Superintendent Marotta reported on several recent grant submissions which included;

- Preschool Partnership to increase seats and quality this is with Community Action, YMCA, Moody Preschool and Wildflower Montessori and she was very excited about the quality of the application;
- Safe Routes to Schools to improve infrastructure in Mount Washington Area;
- An RFP was developed for the St. James School to provide the district with flexibility in use since Consentino School is in the pipeline for major repairs/replacement

Budget Planning Process.

School Business Manager Brian O'Connell provided four documents including a status of budget and other related documents:

[Budget Status Memorandum - Mid-Year - 1-9-19.pdf](#)

[January 2019 Financial Report - 1-2-19 PDF.pdf](#)

[HPS Budget - After Budget Adjustment - 1-8-19.pdf](#)

[Budget Journal Entry - Proposed Transfer - 1-10-19 Meeting.pdf](#)

Mr. Wood commented that a motion to approve the transfers would be made at the proper time.

The following members asked for clarification in specific budget areas/line items Ms. (Transportation Department-Clerk); Mayor Fiorentini (crossing guards) and Attorney Magliocchetti (literacy coach funding and social studies outdated textbook replacement).

Ms. Marotta stated that the curriculum committee had narrowed the choices and would be making the selection shortly for social studies textbooks.

Superintendent Marotta replied that the curriculum supervisors have established a proposal for textbook/material review. She related that today the IT department was authorized to lease 18 (30 chrome books) carts and also the high school principal leased 12 (30 chrome books) for high school. Ms. Marotta noted that this plan would be available for budget review.

The Superintendent shared her opinion that the school administration was aware of the parental concerns regarding curriculum materials/textbooks and there were many needs in the district. She related that there would be a thoughtful review of all curriculum needs and it has and will continue to be addressed during budget discussions.

A motion was made by Mr. Wood to approve the transfers as indicated. Attorney Magliocchetti seconded the motion.

The chair called for a vote of the members:

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

7 members voted in the affirmative

Motion passes

0 members voted in the negative

0 members abstained

School Committee Communications.

Mrs. Ryan-Ciardiello introduced Whittier School Parent, Ms. Paige Caswell (154 Gale Avenue, Haverhill MA 01830) to discuss the conditions of John Greenleaf Whittier. She had provided two reports to the Committee prior to the meeting [Paige Caswell Presentation 01.10.19 Structural.pdf](#) and [Paige Caswell Presentation 01.10.19 Structural.pdf](#)

Ms. Caswell spoke extensively about the unacceptable and deplorable conditions at the school; of she emphasized the girls' locker room and boys' bathroom conditions. She also commented on some of the academic inadequacies.

Mr. Wood replied that this item was addressed at this evening's Joint Facilities Subcommittee meeting. He stated the cost estimates for the boys/girls' locker rooms would be significant.

Mayor Fiorentini commented that a statement of interest would be submitted for Whittier School.

Ms. Forgione outlined a plan for a complete bathroom rehab at the school and described the complexity of the situation and the costliness of the problem. She related regular monitoring of the conditions would occur at the building.

Mr. Brian Gill, Whittier Principal reported that the buildings had not been neglected but it is a 1957 model and commended the custodial staff for their hard work in trying to keep up with all the issues in the building. The principal noted that repairs had been done through the years but it was an older facility that outlived its life. He also explained that computer labs had been discontinued in place of chrome books in the classroom.

Mr. Larry Trevette, a volunteer outlined some of the improvements at the school to enhance the appearance of the school and underscored the exceptional teachers and staff at Whittier.

Nathalia, a Whittier student recited "In School Days" by John Greenleaf School:

Still sits the school-house by the road,
A ragged beggar sleeping;
Around it still the sumachs grow,
And blackberry-vines are creeping.

Within, the master's desk is seen,
Deep-scarred by raps official;
The warping floor, the battered seats,
The jack-knife's carved initial;

The charcoal frescoes on its wall;
Its door's worn sill, betraying
The feet that, creeping slow to school,
Went storming out to playing!

Long years ago a winter sun
Shone over it at setting;
Lit up its western window-panes,
And low eaves' icy fretting.

It touched the tangled golden curls,
And brown eyes full of grieving,
Of one who still her steps delayed
When all the school were leaving.

For near it stood the little boy
Her childish favor singled;
His cap pulled low upon a face
Where pride and shame were mingled.

Pushing with restless feet the snow
To right and left, he lingered;
As restlessly her tiny hands
The blue-checked apron fingered.

He saw her lift her eyes; he felt
The soft hand's light caressing,
And heard the tremble of her voice,
As if a fault confessing.

"I'm sorry that I spelt the word:
I hate to go above you,
Because, "---the brown eyes lower fell,
"Because, you see, I love you!"

Still memory to a gray-haired man
That sweet child-face is showing.
Dear girl! the grasses on her grave
Have forty years been growing!

He lives to learn, in life's hard school,
How few who pass above him
Lament their triumph and his loss,
Like her, because they love him.

Attorney Rosa thanked Ms. Caswell for her report. He also asked Ms. Forgione to monitor the mold situation.

Mr. Wood commented the conditions had existed for a while. He related that the capital expenditures cannot be financed by the school department.

Attorney Magliocchetti commended the maintenance, custodial, and educational staff of the John Greenleaf Whittier.

He asked if the Mayor would authorize a scope of work for an engineering study to give guidance on the conditions and problems.

Mr. Amirian commented on Ms. Caswell's selflessness. He related that a debt exclusion should be considered and that there were many advocates who supported more funding for education. Mr. Amirian encouraged Ms. Caswell to stay engaged in the schools.

Ms. Sullivan commented on Ms. Caswell's passion. She advocated for keeping facilities in the forefront.

Mrs. Ryan-Ciardiello thanked Ms. Caswell and the entire Whittier School community for their dedication and commitment.

Facilities Update - Ms. Sullivan.

Ms. Sullivan asked that facilities be discussed each month.

Ms. Forgione commented on her first-year work anniversary. She provided an update on facilities work initiatives during her brief tenure [District Facilities .pdf](#).

Mayor Fiorentini was glad to hear some of the accomplishments.

Nettle School Update on Academic Progress – Mayor Fiorentini.

Principal Timothy Corkery and Ms. Eileen Doherty, Grade 6 Mathematics teacher highlighted successes at the Nettle School.

Mr. Wood noted the high incident of police reports and wanted to know if the services of an SRO would be beneficial to handle safety and cultural issues.

Mr. Corkery would prefer a school adjustment counselor than an SRO. He noted the reports were not for active situations.

Ms. Heather Tittmann, a Nettle School parent was extremely supportive of the school.

Attorney Magliocchetti recommended an additional school adjustment counselor and an SRO and stated his concern with the issues at the school.

Marijuana Policies – Attorney Magliocchetti.

Attorney Magliocchetti asked if part of the 3% fee could be used for educational supports.

High School Principal Glenn Burns reported 80 students had been identified as using substances on school property. He related that there was a vaping decrease but most vaping use was of marijuana and students were getting addicted. Principal Burns supported a bullying sensor which would detect yelling, shouting etc.

Attorney Magliocchetti reported the Police Department was getting specialized training in identifying vaping use.

Mayor Fiorentini was concerned about edibles.

Subcommittee Reports.

Mr. Wood reported on the Safety Subcommittee meeting this evening (take from notes), with recommendations, security guards in guard shack removal and opposition moved into the school.

Attorney Magliocchetti asked if there was a reason for Hunking guard shack.

Ms. Sullivan indicated a very productive meeting and that the Police Department would do a threat assessment.

Mayor Fiorentini recommended the SRO's in the building.

Mr. Wood commented that there would be four separate votes on each of the school's Statement of Interest to the MSBA: Golden Hill, Haverhill High School, Silver Hill and Moody Schools.

Mayor was concerned with submitting four proposals and the implications if all were approved.

Attorney Rosa indicated there is no obligation to accept if all four schools were accepted.

A motion was made by Attorney Magliocchetti to state that having convened in an open meeting on January 10, 2019, prior to the SOI submission closing date, the School Committee of the City of Haverhill, in accordance with its charter, by-laws, and ordinances, has voted to authorize the Superintendent to submit to the Massachusetts School Building Authority the Statement of Interest Form dated January 10, 2019 for the **Golden Hill School, located at 140 Boardman Street, Haverhill, Massachusetts**, which describes and explains the following deficiencies and the priority category(s) for which an application may be submitted to the Massachusetts School Building Authority: i.e., **Priority 5 for replacement of a leaking, defective and obsolete roof**; and hereby further specifically acknowledges that by submitting this Statement of Interest Form, the Massachusetts School Building Authority in no way guarantees the acceptance or the approval of an application, the awarding of a grant or any other funding commitment from the Massachusetts

School Building Authority, or commits the City to filing an application for funding with the Massachusetts School Building Authority.

Ms. Sullivan seconded the motion.

The chair called for a vote of the members:

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

6 members voted in the affirmative Motion passes
0 members voted in the negative
1 member abstained

A motion was made by Ms. Sullivan to state having convened in an open meeting on January 10, 2019, prior to the SOI submission closing date, the School Committee of the City of Haverhill, in accordance with its charter, by-laws, and ordinances, has voted to authorize the Superintendent to submit to the Massachusetts School Building Authority the Statement of Interest Form dated January 10, 2019 for the **Haverhill High School, located at 137 Monument Street, Haverhill, Massachusetts**, which describes and explains the following deficiencies and the priority category(s) for which an application may be submitted to the Massachusetts School Building Authority: i.e., **Priority 5 for replacement of a leaking, defective and obsolete roof**; and hereby further specifically acknowledges that by submitting this Statement of Interest Form, the Massachusetts School Building Authority in no way guarantees the acceptance or the approval of an application, the awarding of a grant or any other funding commitment from the Massachusetts School Building Authority, or commits the City to filing an application for funding with the Massachusetts School Building Authority.

Attorney Magliocchetti seconded the motion.

The chair called for a vote of the members:

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

7 members voted in the affirmative Motion passes
0 members voted in the negative
0 members abstained

A motion was made by Attorney Magliocchetti stating having convened in an open meeting on January 10, 2019, prior to the SOI submission closing date, the School Committee of the City of Haverhill, in accordance with its charter, by-laws, and ordinances, has voted to authorize the Superintendent to submit to the Massachusetts School Building Authority the Statement of Interest Form dated January 10, 2019 for the **Silver Hill School, located at 675 Washington Street, Haverhill, Massachusetts**, which describes and explains the following deficiencies and the priority category(s) for which an application may be submitted to the Massachusetts School Building Authority: i.e., **Priority 5 for replacement of a leaking, defective and obsolete roof**; and hereby further specifically acknowledges that by submitting this Statement of Interest Form, the Massachusetts School Building Authority in no way guarantees the acceptance or the approval of an application, the awarding of a grant or any other funding commitment from the Massachusetts School Building Authority, or commits the City to filing an application for funding with the Massachusetts School Building Authority.

Ms. Sullivan seconded the motion.

The chair called for a vote of the members:

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

6 members voted in the affirmative Motion passes
0 members voted in the negative
1 member abstained

A motion was made by Attorney Magliocchetti stating having convened in an open meeting on January 10, 2019, prior to the SOI submission closing date, the School Committee of the City of Haverhill, in accordance with its charter, by-laws, and ordinances, has voted to authorize the Superintendent to submit to the Massachusetts School Building Authority the Statement of Interest Form dated January 10, 2019 for the **Moody School, located at 59 Margin Street, Haverhill, Massachusetts**, which describes and explains the following deficiencies and the priority category(s) for which an application may be submitted to the Massachusetts School Building Authority: i.e., **Priority 5 for replacement of a leaking, defective and obsolete roof**; and hereby further specifically acknowledges that by submitting this Statement of Interest Form, the Massachusetts School Building Authority in no way guarantees the acceptance or the approval of an application, the awarding of a grant or any other funding commitment from the Massachusetts School Building Authority, or commits the City to filing an application for funding with the Massachusetts School Building Authority.

Attorney Rosa seconded the motion.

The chair called for a vote of the members:

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

6 members voted in the affirmative Motion passes
0 members voted in the negative
1 member abstained

Old Business.

A motion was made by Mr. Wood to remove from the table the following item: Superintendent recommends the following vehicles as indicated in the agenda material be declared surplus and disposed of in accordance with city ordinances (tabled 12.13.18). Attorney Rosa seconded the motion.

The chair called for a vote of the members:

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

7 members voted in the affirmative Motion passes
0 members voted in the negative
0 members abstained

A motion was made by Mr. Wood to approve that the following vehicles as indicated in the agenda material be declared surplus and disposed of in accordance with city ordinances (tabled 12.13.18). Attorney Magliocchetti seconded the motion.

The chair called for a vote of the members:

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

Mayor Fiorentini	Yes		
7 members voted in the affirmative		Motion passes	
0 members voted in the negative			
0 members abstained			

A motion was made by Mr. Wood to remove the Superintendent's Goals (tabled 12.13.18 from the table. Attorney Magliocchetti seconded the motion.

The chair called for a vote of the members:

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

A motion was made by Attorney Magliocchetti to approve the Superintendent's Goals. Attorney Rosa seconded the motion.

The chair called for a vote of the members:

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

New Business.

The Superintendent recommends approval of the following Warrants as indicated in the agenda material:

- 1) Warrant Number EV20190111 totaling \$519,110.05
- 2) Warrant Number EV20190111A totaling \$196,572.94
- 3) Warrant Number EV20190111B totaling \$206,957.91
- 4) Warrant Number EV20190111C totaling \$986,486.18

A motion was made by Mr. Wood to approve Warrant Number EV20190111 totaling \$519,110.05 as indicated in the agenda material. Mrs. Ryan-Ciardello seconded the motion.

The chair called for a vote of the members:

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

A motion was made by Mr. Wood to approve Warrant Number EV20190111A totaling \$196,572.94 as indicated in the agenda material. Ms. Sullivan seconded the motion.

The chair called for a vote of the members:

Attorney Rosa	Yes	Mr. Amirian	Yes
Ms. Sullivan	Yes	Mrs. Ryan-Ciardello	Yes
Mr. Wood	Yes	Attorney Magliocchetti	Abstain
Mayor Fiorentini	Yes		
6 members voted in the affirmative		Motion passes	

0 members voted in the negative
1 member abstained

A motion was made by Mr. Wood to approve Warrant Number EV20190111B totaling \$206,957.91 as indicated in the agenda material. Attorney Rosa seconded the motion.

The chair called for a vote of the members:

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

7 members voted in the affirmative Motion passes
0 members voted in the negative
0 members abstained

A motion was made by Mr. Wood to approve Warrant Number EV20190111C totaling \$986,486.18 as indicated in the agenda material. Ms. Sullivan seconded the motion.

The chair called for a vote of the members:

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

7 members voted in the affirmative Motion passes
0 members voted in the negative
0 members abstained

Items by Consensus.

A motion was made by Attorney Magliocchetti to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of January 10, 2019 as indicated in the agenda material. Attorney Rosa seconded the motion.

The chair called for a vote of the members:

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

7 members voted in the affirmative Motion passes
0 members voted in the negative
0 members abstained

It was determined that the executive session would be held at the next meeting - Executive Session/Adjournment (Superintendent's Conference Room, City Hall, Room 206) - The School Committee will go into executive session to approve the executive session minutes of December 13, 2018 and to discuss the non-unit contract of the School Business Manager. The School Committee will reconvene in open session to approve any actions taken in executive session.

A motion was made by Attorney Magliocchetti to adjourn the meeting (10:40 p.m.). Attorney Rosa seconded the motion.

A voice vote was held on adjournment with all members indicating yes.