

**Haverhill School Committee
Remote Meeting Minutes of May 14, 2020**

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 Pandemic, Governor Baker issued an Emergency Order temporarily suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A sec. 20. Public bodies otherwise governed by the OML are temporarily relieved from the requirement that meetings be held in public places, open and physically accessible to the public, so long as measures are taken to ensure public access to the bodies' deliberations "through adequate, alternative means."

This meeting is being livestreamed by HCTV and also broadcast over WHAV. The full meeting recording will be available on our website www.haverhill-ps.org the next day.

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 pm by Mayor James Fiorentini, Chairperson and requested a roll call of the members:

Mrs. Sapienza Donais	Present	Ms. Sullivan	Present
Mrs. Ryan-Ciardello	Present	Attorney Magliocchetti	Present
Mr. Wood	Present	Attorney Rosa, Vice Chair	Present
Mayor Fiorentini, Chair	Present		

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Communications and Reports.

Public Comment.

Mr. Anthony Parolisi, Haverhill Education Association, 169 Summer Street, thanked the Committee for returning public comment to the agenda. He offered comments on the FY21 budget process with a level-service budget being worst case scenario. Mr. Parolisi advocated for a fully-funded education.

Mayor Fiorentini thanked Mr. Parolisi for his work on MASH. Mr. Parolisi thanked Allison Heartquist for her work.

Student Advisory Council Update – Ms. Leah Pearse.

Ms. Pearse highlighted the Class 2020 Dates. She related the work with Principal Glen Burns on graduation activities during the pandemic preserving safety and allowing for some type of celebration. Ms. Pearse noted her attendance at Simmons University for Nursing.

Superintendent Comments/Reports.

Superintendent Marotta commented that graduation would be different, but meaningful and special in a different way.

Classroom Teachers' Report.

Ms. Rachel Queenan, Tilton Lower School Grade 2 teacher and Ms. Heather Cote, Tilton Upper School Grade 4 teacher presented reports on their typical teaching day during the COVID-19 pandemic.

In response to Attorney Rosa's question on internet access, both teachers related that wi-fi was not an issue.

Attorney Magliocchetti commented on the structure of the school day and asked if extended school hours were part of remote learning. Both teachers noted that they were available for both students and parents after the “traditional” school day ended.

Regarding the Mayor’s inquiry regarding interventions, Ms. Cote commented that pull-outs were conducted through google meets application and involved flexibility from both parents and teachers.

Mrs. Sapienza Donais stated her appreciation to the teachers for their hard work during this crisis.

Coronavirus Update.

Dr. Marotta noted that videos are being published on the HPS website regarding a variety of issues. She indicated that the FY21 budget planning would provide a level of service for students next year. The Superintendent related that the preservation of the classroom and student learning would be a priority in order to retain the standard of teaching and retention of teaching staff.

Attorney Rosa inquired of the Superintendent if internet access was an issue. Dr. Marotta responded that the staff were assisting with any problems that were brought to their attention.

Approval of Proposed Memorandum of Agreement with the Administrators’ Union regarding Interim Principal positions. [Administrator Memorandum_Higginbottom, Kevin.pdf](#)

A motion was made by Attorney Magliocchetti to approve the Memorandum of Agreement with the Administrators’ Union regarding Interim Principal positions. Mr. Wood seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was held with the following results.

Mrs. Sapienza Donais	Yes	Ms. Sullivan	Yes
Mrs. Ryan-Ciardiello	Yes	Attorney Magliocchetti	Yes
Mr. Wood	Yes	Attorney Rosa, Vice Chair	Yes
Mayor Fiorentini, Chair	Yes		

7 members voted in the affirmative

Motion passes

0 members voted in the negative

0 members abstained

0 members absent

Memorandum of Agreement with the Haverhill Education Association on Remote Substitute Teaching.

Mayor Fiorentini asked Vice Chair Rosa to chair the meeting during this item.

A motion was made by Mr. Wood to approve the Memorandum of Agreement with the Haverhill Education Association on Remote Substitute Teaching. Mrs. Ryan-Ciardiello seconded the motion.

During this period of remote learning it may become necessary for an educator to take an extended leave which requires another educator to assume the absent educator's responsibilities of planning lessons, delivering instruction, and assessing student work. Under normal circumstances this would be a substitute teacher. Remote learning, however, makes it possible for a current educator to take on these responsibilities in addition to their assigned duties. In such cases the Association and the Haverhill Public Schools agrees to the following:

1. All sections in need of "coverage" shall be posted as other open positions are so that qualified unit members may apply. The right of assignment shall remain with the Superintendent or her/his designee.
2. No applicant shall be assigned more than one additional section unless there are no other qualified applicants to do so.
3. Educators assigned to grades 5-8, the High School, and encore classes (art, music, phys. ed.) in all grades shall be compensated at a rate of \$25 per section per day.
4. Educators assigned to grades preK-4 classrooms shall be compensated at a rate of \$125 per section per day.
5. Whenever possible, sections will be reassigned to an educator assigned to the same school as the educator taking leave.

A roll call vote was held with the following results.

Mrs. Sapienza Donais	Yes	Ms. Sullivan	Yes
Mrs. Ryan-Ciardello	Yes	Attorney Magliocchetti	Yes
Mr. Wood	Yes	Attorney Rosa, Vice Chair	Yes
Mayor Fiorentini, Chair	Abstained		

6 members voted in the affirmative

Motion passes

0 members voted in the negative

1 member abstained

0 members absent

School Committee Communications - Subcommittee Reports.

Policy Subcommittee Recommendation (Amended Policy KHB) – Attorney Magliocchetti.

Attorney Magliocchetti asked the Superintendent to provide background on the recommendation.

Dr. Marotta noted that the issue involved the placement of the Haverhill Bank logo on signs being distributed to celebrate our seniors.

Discussion ensued with several members (Mr. Wood and Mrs. Sapienza Donais) in opposition to advertising and commercialization in our schools and allowing for this exception or altering the policy. Ms. Pearse relayed that parents might object to the advertising. Attorney Magliocchetti and Mayor Fiorentini supported the exception. Ms. Sullivan indicated the policy was sound and did not need to be amended.

A motion was made by Attorney Rosa to allow the Superintendent to accept the donation from the Haverhill Bank of signs celebrating our seniors and the Haverhill Bank shall pay for the signs and the Haverhill Public Schools shall distribute those signs. Mrs. Ryan-Ciardello seconded the motion.

Mr. Wood stated that this motion did not authorize the logo. Attorney Rosa asked for a friendly amendment to add logo.

Attorney Rosa clarified the wording of his motion as follows: to allow the Superintendent to accept the donation from the Haverhill Bank of signs celebrating our seniors including a logo on signs from Haverhill Bank, the Haverhill Bank shall pay for such signs and the Haverhill Public Schools shall

distribute the signs. Attorney Magliocchetti seconded the motion. A roll call vote was held with the following results.

Mrs. Sapienza Donais	No	Ms. Sullivan	No
Mrs. Ryan-Ciardello	Yes	Attorney Magliocchetti	Yes
Mr. Wood	No	Attorney Rosa, Vice Chair	Yes
Mayor Fiorentini, Chair	Yes		

4 members voted in the affirmative

Motion passes

3 members voted in the negative

0 members abstained

Finance Subcommittee – Attorney Magliocchetti.

Attorney Magliocchetti related that the subcommittee was meeting regularly and was seeking clarification on funding for FY21 during these challenging times. Ms. Sullivan concurred with his statement.

Mayor Fiorentini commented plan for the worse and hope for the best in these budget times. He was in the planning stages of a three-year plan with the City Auditor.

Request from Ms. Sullivan to send letter to Governor Baker and Commissioner Riley relative to guidance on reopening of schools.

Ms. Sullivan commented that people were the most important part of the educational system and strongly advised getting clarity by writing a letter. Attorney Magliocchetti agreed with the recommendation to get guidance from State representatives.

A motion was made by Attorney Magliocchetti to have Mayor Fiorentini as School Committee Chairperson to send a letter to Governor Baker and Commissioner Riley relative to guidance on reopening of schools. Ms. Sullivan seconded the motion.

Ms. Sullivan urged guidance from the State.

A roll call vote was held with the following results.

Mrs. Sapienza Donais	Yes	Ms. Sullivan	Yes
Mrs. Ryan-Ciardello	Yes	Attorney Magliocchetti	Yes
Mr. Wood	Yes	Attorney Rosa, Vice Chair	Yes
Mayor Fiorentini, Chair	Yes		

7 members voted in the affirmative

Motion passes

0 members voted in the negative

0 members abstained

Old Business.

Spring Coaches' Request – Dr. Marotta.

Superintendent Marotta introduced Mr. Thomas O'Brien, Director of Athletics and Wellness. Mr. O'Brien outlined the proposal.

<../../../../Users/bcassano/Library/Containers/com.apple.mail/Data/Library/Mail Downloads/03CCC1AF-84F7-4C59-A88A-6D0EC0E0A0FC/Coach Pay Proposal.pdf>

No action was taken on this matter.

School Choice for 2020-2021 (remained on table 04.09.20).

Superintendent Marotta introduced High School Principal Glen Burns who provided data on the school choice program.

A motion was made by Attorney Magliocchetti to remove School Choice for 2020-2021 from the table. Attorney Rosa seconded the motion. A roll call vote was held with the following results.

Mrs. Sapienza Donais	Yes	Ms. Sullivan	Yes
Mrs. Ryan-Ciardello	Yes	Attorney Magliocchetti	Yes
Mr. Wood	Yes	Attorney Rosa, Vice Chair	Yes
Mayor Fiorentini, Chair	Yes		

7 members voted in the affirmative

Motion passes

0 members voted in the negative

0 members abstained

Mr. Wood asked for the Superintendent's recommendation. Dr. Marotta related that students entering in grades 9 and 10 had a better success rate of graduating from high school.

Mr. Burns recommended noted 25 school choice students were presently attending Haverhill High School and the school could accept 10 students each in grade 9 and 10.

A motion was made by Attorney Rosa to approve School Choice limiting enrollment to 10 students only for grades 9 and 10 at Haverhill High School (total 20).

Mayor Fiorentini asked Attorney Rosa to chair the meeting. Mayor Fiorentini then seconded the motion. He then resumed chairing the meeting. A roll call vote was held with the following results.

Mrs. Sapienza Donais	No	Ms. Sullivan	No
Mrs. Ryan-Ciardello	No	Attorney Magliocchetti	No
Mr. Wood	No	Attorney Rosa, Vice Chair	Yes
Mayor Fiorentini, Chair	Yes		

2 members voted in the affirmative

Motion fails

5 members voted in the negative

0 members abstained

Approval of Memorandum of Agreement amending current bus contracts with NRT Transportation (tabled on 04.30.20).

A motion was made by Attorney Magliocchetti to remove Approval of Memorandum of Agreement amending current bus contracts with NRT Transportation from the table. Ms. Sullivan seconded the motion. A roll call vote was held with the following results.

Mrs. Sapienza Donais	Yes	Ms. Sullivan	Yes
Mrs. Ryan-Ciardello	Yes	Attorney Magliocchetti	Yes
Mr. Wood	Yes	Attorney Rosa, Vice Chair	Yes
Mayor Fiorentini, Chair	Yes		

7 members voted in the affirmative

Motion passes

0 members voted in the negative

0 members abstained

An extensive discussion occurred between the School Committee members, administration and Mr. John McCarthy, President of NRT relative to the amending the current bus contract and negotiations with the bus company.

Dr. Marotta offered that the consortium was negotiating (Attorney McNulty) on behalf of NRT district superintendents to provide an agreement for the School Committee's review.

Assistant Superintendent Pfifferling confirmed that the original votes of the committee remain in effect. He reported that the latest NRT proposal included 78% for April, 48% for May and June and also incorporated regular, special education, homeless and out-of-district transportation. Mr. Pfifferling confirmed that the city had two contracts with NRT for regular and special education transportation.

Mr. Wood noted that there was an absence of a written agreement. Mayor Fiorentini responded that no agreement had been reached, but was allowing Mr. McCarthy to present his proposal.

The Assistant Superintendent asked when the bus drivers were furloughed by Mr. McCarthy. Mr. McCarthy responded that the furlough effective this week applied to districts that had not reached agreement with NRT.

A motion was made by Mr. Wood to table the Approval of Memorandum of Agreement amending current bus contracts with NRT Transportation indefinitely. Mrs. Sapienza Donais seconded the motion. A roll call vote was held with the following results.

Mrs. Sapienza Donais	Yes	Ms. Sullivan	Yes
Mrs. Ryan-Ciardello	Yes	Attorney Magliocchetti	Yes
Mr. Wood	Yes	Attorney Rosa, Vice Chair	Yes
Mayor Fiorentini, Chair	No		

6 members voted in the affirmative

Motion passes

1 member voted in the negative

0 members abstained

Approval of Revised Minutes of the Remote Regular Meeting of April 9, 2020.

A motion was made by Attorney Rosa to remove minutes of the Remote Regular Meeting of April 9, 2020 from the table. Attorney Magliocchetti seconded the motion. A roll call vote was held with the following results.

Mrs. Sapienza Donais	Yes	Ms. Sullivan	Yes
Mrs. Ryan-Ciardello	Yes	Attorney Magliocchetti	Yes
Mr. Wood	Yes	Attorney Rosa, Vice Chair	Yes
Mayor Fiorentini, Chair	Yes		

7 members voted in the affirmative

Motion passes

0 members voted in the negative

0 members abstained

A motion was made by Attorney Rosa to approve the revised minutes of the Remote Regular Meeting of April 9, 2020. Attorney Magliocchetti seconded the motion. A roll call vote was held with the following results.

Mrs. Sapienza Donais	Yes	Ms. Sullivan	Yes
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Mrs. Ryan-Ciardello	Yes	Attorney Magliocchetti	Yes
Mr. Wood	Yes	Attorney Rosa, Vice Chair	Yes
Mayor Fiorentini, Chair	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 [School Committee 05.14.20 Warrant 5 A \(1\)](#) and [School Committee 05.14.20 Warrant 5 A \(2\)](#).

- 1) Warrant Number EV20200515 totaling \$579,520.05
- 2) Warrant Number EV20200515B totaling \$139,635.19

A motion was made by Mr. Wood to approve the Warrants. Mrs. Sapienza Donais seconded the motion. Mrs. Sapienza Donais appreciated the detail in the warrant information.

A roll call vote was held with the following results.

Mrs. Sapienza Donais	Yes	Ms. Sullivan	Yes
Mrs. Ryan-Ciardello	Yes	Attorney Magliocchetti	Yes
Mr. Wood	Yes	Attorney Rosa, Vice Chair	Yes
Mayor Fiorentini, Chair	Yes		

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

Mayor Fiorentini would like to return to executive session to change his vote.

9:15 pm) for the purpose of reconsideration of a vote. Mrs. Ryan-Ciardello seconded the motion. A roll call vote was held with the following results.

Mrs. Sapienza Donais	Yes	Ms. Sullivan	Yes
Mrs. Ryan-Ciardello	Yes	Attorney Magliocchetti	Yes
Mr. Wood	Yes	Attorney Rosa, Vice Chair	Yes
Mayor Fiorentini, Chair	Yes		

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

A motion was made by Mr. Wood to adjourn the regular meeting (9:15 pm). Mrs. Ryan-Ciardello seconded the motion. A roll call vote was held with the following results.

Mrs. Sapienza Donais	Yes	Ms. Sullivan	Yes
Mrs. Ryan-Ciardello	Yes	Attorney Magliocchetti	Yes
Mr. Wood	Yes	Attorney Rosa, Vice Chair	Yes
Mayor Fiorentini, Chair	Yes		

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

