



Haverhill Public Schools - School Committee

Regular Meeting Minutes of December 12, 2019

Theodore A. Pelosi, Jr. City Council Chambers – 7:00 pm

Mr. Sven Amirian, Vice Chair called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and requested a roll call of members:

Attorney Rosa	Yes	Ms. Sullivan	Yes
Mrs. Ryan-Ciardello	Yes	Attorney Magliocchetti	Yes
Mr. Wood	Yes	Mr. Amirian, Vice Chair	Yes
Mayor Fiorentini, Chair	Absent – Arrived @ 7:03 pm		

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 absent.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by the members.

Recognition of YMCA Educator of the Year Mr. Neil Wilkens (Nomination Letter read by Mr. John DePolo, Principal of Greenleaf Academy).

Mr. DePolo read his nomination letter. Mr. Wilkens received a standing ovation from the audience.

Mr. Wilkens thanked everyone and acknowledged the team effort at Greenleaf Academy.

Musical Selection “Imagine” by High School Student Abby Gomes. Ms. Gomes sang a beautiful rendition of “Imagine”. She received a standing ovation.

Public Comment.

Mrs. Maureen Zuber and Mrs. Trish Shaw, Representatives from the ESP Unit of the Haverhill Education Association along with other educational support personnel presented the School Committee with “unopened gifts” representing unfunded compensation. Mrs. Zuber concluded by asking that educational support personnel work the job that were hired to do for students who they were hired to serve and make a living wage. She wished the School Committee Happy Holidays.

Dr. Thomas Grannemann, 51 Leroy Avenue, Haverhill MA, advocated for meaningful spending plan with the additional state funding.

Mrs. Ryan-Ciardello expressed her support for educational support personnel and asked about additional state funding that we had received to date.

Mr. Pfifferling noted the Haverhill had received an additional \$1.1m in Chapter 70 funding.

Communication and Reports.

Student Advisory Council Report – Ms. Leah Pearse – No Report.

Superintendent Comments/Reports.

Dr. Marotta gave several High School Updates:

- **Early College Acceptances.** Superintendent Marotta noted acceptances were being received daily to many prestigious colleges and universities in the country.
- **NEASC Visit (New England Association of Schools and Colleges).** Dr. Marotta gave an overview of the recent NEASC Visit with recommendations and commendations. She referenced the areas that received high marks: core values, culture, 1:1 device initiative and parent involvement. The Superintendent commented that some areas for improvement were deeper learning, increased differentiation and instruction, and measuring outcomes. Dr. Marotta related that it was a positive review and commended Natalie Willwerth and John Craven and the larger dedicated team at HHS for the amount of work accomplished during the past two years.
- **Sports Fees Elimination Update.** Superintendent Marotta expressed Mr. O'Brien's gratitude for elimination of sports fees to the Committee. She acknowledged Mr. O'Brien was confident in the financial success of the athletic program at HHS.
- **District Security Audit Update.** Mr. Pfifferling reported that the outside consultant Blue Line began on-site visits today in Haverhill. He commented that additional visits would take place in January and the audit will conclude in the Spring.

The Superintendent provided a few HR Updates:

- **Minimum Wage Increase.** Mr. Pfifferling reported that based on the School Committee's decision this would be implemented in January 2020.
- **Job Fair.** Dr. Marotta acknowledged the dedicated work of the Human Resources Department in planning and executing this job fair. She reported that 37 people attended this job fair. Mr. Wood asked if minority candidates attended this event. Dr. Marotta stated that the Diversity Committee would be examining ways of accessing this information in a sensitive manner.

It was decided to combine the Superintendent's Presentation on Rebuilding Consentino (MSBA) Building Process and Attorney Rosa's Accelerated Repair Program Preparation/Discussion and Approval of Feasibility Study for Consentino School.

Dr. Marotta gave a presentation on the Rebuilding Consentino (MSBA) Building Process.
[MSBAHPS121220.pdf](#)

After a brief discussion, it was noted that the following resolution needed to be voted by the Haverhill School Committee:

That the City of Haverhill appropriate the amount of \$750,000 Dollars from Free Cash for the purpose of paying costs of a feasibility study of the Dr. Albert B. Consentino Middle School, 685 Washington Street, Haverhill, MA 01832, including the payment of all costs incidental or related thereto, and for which Haverhill may be eligible for a grant from the Massachusetts School Building Authority ("MSBA"), said amount to be expended under the direction of the Consentino Middle School Building Committee. The City of Haverhill acknowledges that the MSBA's grant program is a non-entitlement, discretionary program based on need, as determined by the MSBA, and any costs the City of Haverhill incurs in excess of any grant approved by and received from the MSBA shall be the sole responsibility of the City of Haverhill, and that the amount of appropriation authorized pursuant to this vote shall be reduced by any grant amount set forth in the Feasibility Study Agreement that may be executed between the City of Haverhill and the MSBA

A motion was made by Attorney Rosa to approve the resolution as stipulated above for the Dr. Albert B. Consentino Middle School, 385 Washington Street, Haverhill MA 01832. Attorney Magliocchetti seconded the motion. A roll call vote was held:

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

7 members voted in the affirmative

Motion passes

0 members voted in the negative

0 members abstained

School Committee Communications.

Recognition of Mr. Amirian – Mayor Fiorentini and members.

Mayor Fiorentini presented a Citation to Mr. Amirian for his School Committee service.

Ms. Sullivan thanked Mr. Amirian for his kindness and dedication and walking her to her car for four years after meetings.

Mrs. Ryan-Ciardello referenced Mr. Amirian's dedication and hard work to the children of Haverhill and wish him the best in his future endeavors.

Attorney Magliocchetti thanked Sven for his friendship, passion and dedication to the children of Haverhill. He noted that Mr. Amirian had earned his respect for taking the high ground and wished him success in the future.

Attorney Rosa commented that it was a pleasure working with a colleague who did what was right and advocated for children, teachers and staff. He related Haverhill schools were better for Mr. Amirian's dedication.

Mr. Wood thanked Mr. Amirian for his service and wished him well in the future.

Mayor Fiorentini was incredibly impressed with Mr. Amirian's service and thanked him.

Mr. Amirian thanked his colleagues for their kind words. He spoke of his colleagues' commitment to an excellent educational system in Haverhill. He hoped the new committee would work with energy and positivity, put differences aside and row in the same direction. Mr. Amirian believed that the process of hiring Dr. Marotta as Haverhill's Superintendent had been an amazing experience. He noted that she is the right person to lead the district for many years. Mr. Amirian wished everyone the best.

Superintendent's Goals – Ms. Sullivan.

Ms. Sullivan had some suggestions to improve the Superintendent's communication such as "Coffee with the Superintendent" each week but stated the goals needed to be measurable.

Mayor Fiorentini stated that the Superintendent's Goals would be developed by the newly formed school committee in January. He selected Ms. Sullivan and Mrs. Sapienza-Donais to join him on the committee.

Subcommittee Reports.

Mr. Wood stated that Superintendent Maureen Lynch from WRVTHS had notified him that the vocational high school had been accepted into the MSBA pipeline. Mayor Fiorentini stated it would five years until the project was funded.

New Business.

The Superintendent recommends approval of the following Warrants [SC Agenda 12.12.19 Warrant Packet.pdf](#) as indicated in the agenda material:

Warrant Number EV20191213 totaling \$655,450.64.

Warrant Number EV20191213B totaling \$410,112.00.

A motion was made by Mr. Wood to approve the Warrants as presented. Attorney Rosa seconded the motion. A roll call vote was held:

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

7 members voted in the affirmative

Motion passes

0 members voted in the negative

0 members abstained

The Superintendent recommends the Items by Consensus as indicated in the agenda material:

Use of Facilities. [SC - Use of Facilities 12.12.19.pdf](#)

Field Trip Request(s). [CH Field Trip 12.12.19.pdf](#)

Professional Education Conference/Workshop Form(s). [12.12.19 PECWF Richard Poor.pdf](#) and [PEC WF 12.12.19 DC CQ.pdf](#)

Minutes of Regular Meeting of November 21, 2019 [Haverhill School Committee Regular Meeting Minutes 11.21.19.pdf](#) and August 29, 2019. [School Committee Regular Meeting 08.29.19 Final.pdf](#)

A motion was made by Mr. Wood to approve the Items by Consensus as recommended by the Superintendent. Mrs. Ryan-Ciardello seconded the motion. A roll call vote was held:

Attorney Rosa	Yes	Ms. Sullivan	Yes
Mrs. Ryan-Ciardello	Yes	Attorney Magliocchetti	Yes
Mr. Wood	Yes	Mr. Amirian	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 adjourn the regular meeting (8:32 pm), Attorney Rosa seconded the motion. A roll call vote was held:

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

7 members voted in the affirmative

Motion passes

0 members voted in the negative

0 members abstained