



Haverhill School Committee – Regular Meeting of February 11, 2016

Mr. Scott Wood, President called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Present were: Mr. Sven Amirian (participated via remote participation from Florida); Ms. Gail Sullivan; Attorney Paul Magliocchetti; Mr. Shaun Toohey; Mrs. Maura Ryan-Ciardello, Vice President; Mrs. Julie Kukenberger, Assistant Superintendent and Mr. James Scully, Superintendent of Schools. Mayor James Fiorentini, Chairperson was recorded absent.

Mr. Wood announced that Mr. Amirian was participating remotely according to Chapter 66-5. He noted that a condition was both the members and Mr. Amirian could hear each other and all votes would be held by roll call.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Public Comment

Mr. Peter Yannakoureaus, 85 Millvale Road spoke about his concerns regarding the sexual nature of some of the curriculum, in particular, the teaching of evolution and the book Chocolate Wars.

Both Mr. Scully and Mrs. Kukenberger concurred that the curriculum was aligned with the State Frameworks.

Communication and Reports

Student Advisory Council Report – Madeline Coady

Ms. Coady provided the following update about Haverhill High School:

- The student portal was open last week – all students have access to grades on line;*
- Winter sports are ending with Senior Night (last home game) for Boys Ice Hockey & Girls Basketball being held - where both parents and students are recognized;*
- Several students earned an honorable mention from the Globe Art Show: Christina Cokely, Colin Duckworth, Keltz Fitzgibbons, Cheyanne Frost, Christina Konadu Darko and Jordyn Poole;*
- The two snow days delayed issuance of report cards and PTC is tonight from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.;*
- Classical Academy Roman Night will be held on March 15 and tickets go on sale tomorrow;*
- MVC Swim & Dive Championship was held last weekend at the school;*
- Peer Help and MCAS Help Center are open*

Mr. Scully commended our high school students for their positive demeanor and offered his appreciation for their conduct and deportment; he asked Madeline to convey his appreciation.

Ms. Coady on behalf of the students thanked the Superintendent for his remarks.

Superintendent Comments/Reports

Mr. Scully presented a draft calendar for the committee's review. He noted school would start on August 30, 2016 and tentatively end on June 12, 2017.

The Superintendent offered his perception that some people in the community were not appreciative of the hard work of the many individuals in the district, i.e., a recent maintenance issue that was awaiting a replacement part that took over a week and half to receive by the district.

Mr. Scully outlined that in preparation for the budget deliberations, he has asked Mr. Rooney to examine our transportation services/fleet. The superintendent related that the district had located Martin



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Finnegan, a gentleman with an extensive background in transportation, in particular special education transportation and he would be providing a presentation this evening (slides are attached to the minutes).

Mr. Finnegan outlined his assignment:

Asked by the Haverhill Public School Administration was to observe and make recommendations regarding the operation of Haverhill's Special Education Transportation Division.

Review the department from an operational perspective as well as the vehicles used (and associated equipment) to transport Haverhill's Special Education students.

Over 20 years' experience in the Special Education Transportation area

10 years as the Transportation Administrator/Manager (CASE Collaborative) overseeing 12 school district's Special Education transportation needs. Employing 107 full time drivers

Over 10 years as the owner of a private company transporting Special Education student

Mr. Finnegan went through his PowerPoint Presentation and the members delayed their comments/questions until the conclusion (complete presentation is appended to these minutes).

Mr. Scully indicated that the school administration would be working with the Purchasing Agent to facilitate the acquisition of vehicles and payments over 3-4 years.

Attorney Magliocchetti stated that during difficult budgetary times that the vehicle replacements were postponed; in addition, he was interested in seat belts, GPS and video monitoring. He indicated many of the recommendations that Mr. Finnegan suggested would improve efficiency of our transportation system. He also commented that financing could be done in several ways through the Business Manager.

Ms. Sullivan stated it was imperative to begin the replacement and upgrading of our vehicles. She asked if we had explored purchasing through collaboration with other communities.

Mr. Scully responded the Purchasing Agent was exploring this alternative.

Mrs. Ryan-Ciardiello inquired how many monitors the district employs; the superintendent responded 28.

Mr. Wood commented the monitors could only be removed by vote of the committee and it was only a recommendation from Mr. Finnegan.

Ms. Sullivan noted that the monitors were dictated by the individualized education plans.

Mr. Toohey was impressed with the presentation and questioned the financial implications of this proposal. He understood that the investment in our transportation fleet was crucial but had to be balanced with our budgetary confines.

Mr. Finnegan stated that GPS and cameras were a minimal cost.

Mr. Wood commented on the leasing option for replacement of vehicles and wouldn't that be more efficient and financially prudent especially since there would be no maintenance costs on these high mileage vehicles.

Mr. Finnegan concurred but acknowledged that the communities he was working with were wealthy and could purchase vehicles.



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Mr. Wood stated that purchasing vehicles would not be sensible. He commented that there was still a vacancy in the Transportation Director position.

Mr. Finnegan advised to begin the replacement process very soon and advised in getting a dedicated encrypted radio frequency for each radio in the vehicles.

Mr. Scully thanked Mr. Finnegan for his guidance and analysis.

Due to Mr. Amirian's remote participation, Ms. Sullivan suggested not viewing the vehicle. Mr. Magliocchetti indicated his willingness to see the vehicle Mr. Finnegan had brought for the Committee to view.

Mr. Finnegan was asked to remain in attendance since the committee might take a recess to look at the vehicle.

Old Business

It was the consensus of the committee to move up Old Business Item 4A – Election of President and Vice President of the Haverhill School Committee for 2016.

Nominations were opened for the position of President.

Moved by Mr. Toohey and seconded by Mrs. Ryan-Ciardello to nominate Maura Ryan-Ciardello for President.

Moved by Attorney Magliocchetti and seconded Mr. Amirian to nominate Gail Sullivan for President.

Mr. Wood closed nominations.

A roll call vote was held and the results were the following:

<i>Mr. Amirian</i>	<i>Gail Sullivan</i>	<i>Ms. Sullivan</i>	<i>Gail Sullivan</i>
<i>Attorney Magliocchetti</i>	<i>Gail Sullivan</i>	<i>Mr. Toohey</i>	<i>Maura Ryan-Ciardello</i>
<i>Mrs. Ryan-Ciardello</i>	<i>Maura Ryan-Ciardello</i>	<i>Mr. Wood</i>	<i>Maura Ryan-Ciardello</i>

A 3-3 Vote; Motion fails

Moved by Mr. Toohey and seconded by Attorney Magliocchetti to table the matter of School Committee President.

A roll call vote was held and the results were the following:

<i>Mr. Amirian</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Ms. Sullivan</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Attorney Magliocchetti</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Mr. Toohey</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mrs. Ryan-Ciardello</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Mr. Wood</i>	<i>Yes</i>

A 6-0 vote; motion was approved

Moved by Mr. Toohey and seconded by Attorney Magliocchetti to table the matter of School Committee Vice President.

A roll call vote was held and the results were the following:

Approved as amended 03.10.16



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<i>Mr. Amirian</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Ms. Sullivan</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Attorney Magliocchetti</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Mr. Toohey</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mrs. Ryan-Ciardiello</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Mr. Wood</i>	<i>Yes</i>

A 6-0 vote; motion was approved

Meeting Recess from 8:32 p.m. to 8:37 p.m.

Subcommittee Reports

Ms. Sullivan asked about the matter of the ESP Contract. Mr. Scully announced that the City Solicitor had asked that this matter be postponed until the next meeting and it would be discussed in executive session.

Old Business (continued)

Ms. Sullivan requested a detailed report on Remediation Services in Reading and Math that included the following:

*What kinds of remediation or help students receive in the areas of Reading and Math before they are referred to Special Education and,
Full Detailed Report of all help that students receive when they are struggling with Reading and Math;
What each school has for a Response Intervention Team – how often they meet and what data they collect*

Assistant Superintendent Julie Kukenberger presented a detailed report (PowerPoint Slides), which is affixed to these minutes.

Mr. Scully related a case that highlighted the problem of a “good kid” going through the educational system and getting to college unable to read.

Mrs. Kukenberger noted that the number of interventionists at Tier 2 needed to be increased but that this required human resources to assist in this area; she particularly emphasized the success of Pentucket Lake.

Ms. Sullivan asked the Assistant Superintendent about our staff’s reading training and same research based strategies.

Mrs. Kukenberger responded in the affirmative and that there was on-going professional development on these approaches and simultaneously support the library as the heart of our schools.

Ms. Sullivan asked how long these stratagems had been incorporated in our district.

Assistant Superintendent Kukenberger responded she could only address what had occurred since she was in the district and that it was getting better each day.

Attorney Magliocchetti thanked Mrs. Kukenberger for the data and noted it would take time to fully analyze all the information. He asked about organizational chart in relation to this material.

Mrs. Kukenberger replied the principals and then the building team members who volunteered; she commended the principals for their input in this presentation along with Kyle Riley, Interim Special Education Director. She commented that it was a struggle to provide equity in the district and noted the creativity of our principals.



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Attorney Magliocchetti praised the staff members who volunteered for these teams. He thanked Ms. Sullivan for agenda item and Mrs. Kukenberger for report. Mr. Magliocchetti indicated he would be following up with the assistant superintendent.

Mrs. Ryan-Ciardello thanked Mrs. Kukenberger for the report and noted that her children enjoyed the “Small Moments”. She asked about the tools that teachers had access to in the buildings that would assist them.

Moved by Mr. Toohey and seconded by Mrs. Ryan-Ciardello to approve the Haverhill Residency Policy for Students (JCAC) – second reading as indicated in the agenda material.

A roll call vote was held and the results were the following:

<i>Mr. Amirian</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Ms. Sullivan</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Attorney Magliocchetti</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Mr. Toohey</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mrs. Ryan-Ciardello</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Mr. Wood</i>	<i>Yes</i>

A 6-0 vote; motion was approved

New Business

Moved by Ms. Sullivan and seconded by Attorney Magliocchetti to approve Warrant Number EV20160212 totaling \$403,314.61; Warrant Number EV201600212B totaling \$719,179.58 and Warrant Number JE20160212 totaling \$17,498.06 as indicated in the agenda material.

Attorney Magliocchetti asked to remove Warrant Number EV20160212A & Warrant Number EV20160212C.

Mr. Toohey asked about Melanson & Heath invoices in the warrants.

Mr. Scully responded that the auditing firm would remain for this fiscal year.

Mr. Toohey asked for a total year to date expenses for this vendor.

A roll call vote was held on the remaining warrants and the results were the following:

<i>Mr. Amirian</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Ms. Sullivan</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Attorney Magliocchetti</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Mr. Toohey</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mrs. Ryan-Ciardello</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Mr. Wood</i>	<i>Yes</i>

A 6-0 vote; motion was approved

Moved by Mrs. Ryan-Ciardello and seconded by Mr. Toohey to approve Warrant Number EV201600212A totaling \$241,829.00 and Warrant Number EV201600212C totaling \$140,574.09 as indicated in the agenda material.

A roll call vote was held and the results were the following:

<i>Mr. Amirian</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Ms. Sullivan</i>	<i>Yes</i>
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<i>Attorney Magliocchetti</i>	<i>Abstained</i>	<i>Mr. Toohey</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mrs. Ryan-Ciardiello</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Mr. Wood</i>	<i>Yes</i>

A 5-0 vote; motion was approved

Items by Consensus

Moved by Mr. Toohey and seconded by Ms. Sullivan to approve the Items by Consensus: the minutes of January 28, 2016 (regular meeting) and the conference day request of Kerri Woolf (Hunking School) to attend On Cloud Nine sponsored by Lindemood Bell in Billerica on May 5-6, 2016 at a total cost of \$679.00 as indicated in the agenda material.

A roll call vote was held and the results were the following:

<i>Mr. Amirian</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Ms. Sullivan</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Attorney Magliocchetti</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Mr. Toohey</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mrs. Ryan-Ciardiello</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Mr. Wood</i>	<i>Yes</i>

A 5-1 vote; motion was approved

There was no need for an executive session according to the Superintendent.

Mr. Wood welcomed Mr. Toohey back to the committee and hoped the committee would remain humble and work collaboratively with each other.

Moved by Mr. Toohey and seconded by Attorney Magliocchetti to adjourn the meeting.

A roll call vote was held and the results were the following:

<i>Mr. Amirian</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Ms. Sullivan</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Attorney Magliocchetti</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Mr. Toohey</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mrs. Ryan-Ciardiello</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Mr. Wood</i>	<i>Yes</i>

A 6-0 vote; motion was approved

Meeting adjourned at 9:35 p.m.