

**Haverhill School Committee  
Remote FY21 Public Hearing Minutes of June 25, 2020**

The meeting was called to order at 6:07 pm by Mayor James Fiorentini, Chairperson and he 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.

Mayor Fiorentini read the following statement: 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 was being livestreamed by HCTV and also broadcast over WHAV. The full meeting recording will be available on our website [www.haverhill-ps.org](http://www.haverhill-ps.org) the next day.

Dr. Marotta noted that the budget had been presented to the School Committee and public on Monday, June 22, 2020 and now it was the time for the public to comment on the budget.

Ms. Joanna Dix, 51 Ashworth Terrace, Haverhill MA, President of Haverhill Education Coalition, praised the Superintendent and School Committee's efforts to present a budget that did not lay off educators. She applauded the formulation of a student-focused, equity-driven, and achievement centered budget, which continued the district's mission. Ms. Dix further thanked Mayor Fiorentini for using reserves to bolster this year's budget. She hoped that the Student Opportunity Act would be fully funded by the State.

Dr. Thomas Grannemann, 51 Leroy Avenue, Haverhill MA, Vice President of Haverhill Education Coalition congratulated the Superintendent and her staff on the use of a reasonable approach to meet district needs during an uncertain time. He noted the inclusion of bilingual parent liaisons' staff to address barriers to learning and equity in education to disadvantaged students. Dr. Grannemann commented that COVID-19 presented major challenges to maximum learning and increase safety for students. He stated the district's administrative staff should be fully funded and staffed during critical management decisions. Dr. Grannemann concluded that a flexible approach needed to be employed and hoped that additional funds would be allocated.

A motion was made Ms. Sullivan to adjourn the public hearing (6:16 pm). Mr. Wood 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  
1 member absent