



**Haverhill Public Schools - School Committee  
Remote Regular Meeting Minutes of November 12, 2020**

**Roll Call - Pledge of Allegiance.**

Attorney Richard Rosa, Vice Chair called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and requested a roll call of the members.

Mrs. Sapienza Donais	Present	Ms. Sullivan	Present
Mrs. Ryan-Ciardello	Present @ 7:10 pm	Attorney Magliocchetti	Present
Mr. Wood	Absent	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.

Vice Chair Rosa read the following Opening 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."

**Communications and Reports.**

**Public Comment (Remote).**

- 1) Ms. Judith Carleton, 10 Manning Street, Ipswich, MA spoke in support of the ESP Unit.
- 2) Dr. Thomas Grannemann, 51 Leroy Avenue, Bradford MA requested that the School Committee expedite the Superintendent’s Contract renewal.
- 3) Ms. Leann Ferguson, 742 Salem Street, Bradford, MA indicated that the ESP role had changed over the years and read a letter from an ESP at Moody School.
- 4) Ms. Nancy Koorapaty, 60 Rosemont Drive, North Andover, MA acknowledged the dedication of Bill Osgood and encouraged efforts to retain qualified educational support personnel.
- 5) Mr. Benjamin Flagg, 151 Woodburn Drive, Methuen MA, a TEACH staff member gave testimony on another ESP Tara Holmes for outstanding work and noted that due to the low wages, he might have to seek employment in another district.
- 6) Mr. Barry Davis, 198 Mammoth Road, Lowell MA, acknowledged the work of Deb Srybny for her outstanding work at Golden Hill.
- 7) Mr. Anthony Parolisi, HEA President, 169 Summer Street, Haverhill, MA recognized Deb Garvey, ESP and urged the Committee adopt a living wage for these employees.
- 8) Mrs. Maureen Zuber, 84 Agawam Avenue, Haverhill MA, offered testimonials from her husband William Zuber relative to the work of Maureen Early and Robin Lefevre.

Mrs. Ryan-Ciardello and Mrs. Sapienza Donais agreed with the statements made by the speakers this evening regarding the amazing contributions of educational support personnel to student learning.

Student Advisory Council – Ms. Gabriela Vargas.

Ms. Vargas announced that her election as representative to the School Committee. She updated the Committee on HHS activities including:

- Spirit Week (11.16-11.20) which includes Pop Culture Day, Hillie Day, and Color Wars;
- Upcoming Plans for a Turkey Toss
- Senior Jean Day
- 4-year Planning for Freshman
- PSAT Schedule
- Virtual College Visits
- FASFA Days

### **Superintendent Comments/Reports.**

#### Reopening 2020 including COVID Update – Dr. Marotta.

Ms. Katherine Vozeolas, Supervisor of Health and Nursing Services provided an update on COVID in the district and commented that the numbers remained steady.

Dr. Marotta spoke on the Consentino School situation and the decision to go to full remote learning since several members had positive test results. The Superintendent acknowledged voluntary testing being conducted at the school for students and staff and reported there were no positive test results for students.

Dr. Maddox reported that Haverhill's designation was now "Yellow" but the positivity rate was increasing in the community. He stated that the higher positive rate was among students in the remote learning option.

#### Continued Discussion on FY21 Budget and Budget Allocations.

Dr. Marotta reported that the City Council on Tuesday had designated \$4.6m in Chapter 70 funding to the School District.

Assistant Superintendent Pfifferling provided data on Historical Funding and 2021 Chapter 70 Funding Evolution.

Attorney Rosa highlighted that the return for implementing full day kindergarten was 1000% since the investment was \$250,000 and the state had provided additional funding in the amount of \$2.5m.

Superintendent Marotta offered a suggested budget plan addressing student need (neediest students).  
FY21 Budget Decisions <file:///Volumes/GoogleDrive/My Drive/Adds chp 70 10-19-20R 11.12.20 Minutes Version.pdf> .

In response to Mrs. Ryan-Ciardello's question on professional development, Mrs. Antkowiak offered a brief overview of recent activities in the district.

Attorney Magliocchetti related that the Finance Subcommittee had reviewed the listing and was recommending approval at tonight's meeting.

A brief discussion was held since it appeared that an email that the Superintendent sent on Monday afternoon was not received by all the members of the School Committee and the information was resent by email.

Mayor Fiorentini was prepared to vote this evening based on Dr. Marotta's comments.

Vice Chair Rosa stated that the administration and School Committee had been very conservative in budget planning.

A motion was made by Attorney Magliocchetti to approve the FY21 Budget Plan as presented. Ms. Sullivan seconded the motion. A roll call vote was requested:

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

4 members voted in the affirmative

Motion passes

2 members voted in the negative

0 members abstained

### **School Committee Reports/Communications.**

#### Mrs. Sapienza Donais: Update on award plaques at HHS.

The Superintendent related that the plaques would be delivered by December 4, 2020. Mrs. Sapienza Donais asked that pictures be taken and sent to the School Committee.

#### Mrs. Sapienza Donais: Temperature conditions in the classrooms.

Mrs. Sapienza Donais commented that many parents and teachers were concerned about cold temperatures in classrooms throughout the district, but did not want to be labeled as complainers.

Dr. Marotta replied that issues could not be addressed if the administration was not aware of the problems and asked that forms be filled out to alert the district leadership.

Ms. Sullivan was concerned with staff being afraid to address these concerns and hoped that a spirit of cooperation existed within the school community.

#### Mrs. Sapienza Donais: Cancellation of school due to inclement weather. Mrs. Sapienza Donais asked for clarification on this issue.

Attorney Magliocchetti offered that the Policy Subcommittee had met and decided to adopt remote learning on snow days. He requested that the Policy Recommendation be moved up in the agenda order.

Dr. Marotta offered the following revised policy for approval Emergency Closing Policy EBCD Revision <https://documentcloud.adobe.com/link/track?uri=urn:aaid:scds:US:c7b5dc74-87f3-4a89-92d7-e95f8be7c825>

Ms. Sullivan stated her concern with loss of learning time.

Mayor Fiorentini stated his full support for remote learning on snow days.

Mrs. Sapienza Donais asked if the traditional notification process would be utilized regarding snow days.

Superintendent Marotta answered yes, robocalls, news media and emails would be employed in the notifying staff, parents and students.

A motion was made by Attorney Magliocchetti to approve the Revised Emergency Closing Policy EBCD as recommended. Ms. Sullivan seconded the motion.

A motion was made by Mr. Wood to approve Revised Emergency Closing Policy EBCD. Attorney Magliocchetti seconded the motion. A roll call vote was requested:

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

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

Mrs. Sapienza Donais: Update on collapse of hybrid classes at Tilton.

Mrs. Antkowiak, Chief of Teaching, Learning and Leading and Tilton Assistant Principal Shaun Bateman provided information on the successful consolidation efforts at the school. Mr. Bateman related that it was a smooth transition, a collaborative process, and outstanding teamwork.

Subcommittee Reports. There were no other subcommittee reports were presented this evening.

Vice Chair Rosa announced that within a few days the Superintendent’s Evaluation materials along with the Evaluation Document will be distributed to the members. He asked that the documents be returned by December 1, 2020 to both himself and Ms. Cassano. Attorney Rosa stated that the Superintendent’s Evaluation would be placed on the December 10, 2020 agenda.

New Business.

The following Warrant(s) were recommended for approval:

- 1) Warrant Number EV202011106 totaling \$264,098.81.  
<https://documentcloud.adobe.com/link/track?uri=urn:aaid:scds:US:6e3f5e9e-bc1e-4663-9280-9260723717ad>
- 2) Warrant Number EV20201106A totaling \$127.43  
<https://documentcloud.adobe.com/link/track?uri=urn:aaid:scds:US:ddbada0cf-102e-458d-a05b-84213c8a4b96>
- 3) Warrant Number EV20201106B totaling \$648,970.17  
<https://documentcloud.adobe.com/link/track?uri=urn:aaid:scds:US:f4e88b88-5b50-4314-9ae2-93c6c8ea4c28>
- 4) Warrant Number EV20201120 totaling \$557,723.34  
<https://documentcloud.adobe.com/link/track?uri=urn:aaid:scds:US:7914cff6-cb20-4fda-bd2d-e9212eef8619>

A motion was made by Attorney Magliocchetti to approve the Warrants #1, 3 & 4. Mrs. Ryan-Ciardello seconded the motion. A roll call vote was requested:

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

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

A motion was made by Ms. Sullivan to approve Warrant #2. Mrs. Ryan-Ciardello seconded the motion. A roll call vote was requested:

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

5 members voted in the affirmative  
 Motion passes

0 members voted in the negative  
1 member abstained

Mr. Pfifferling noted that the recommendation to declare items surplus and disposed in accordance with City Ordinances <https://documentcloud.adobe.com/link/track?uri=urn:aaid:scds:US:b7583991-e26d-4460-8a7a-408e67211d9b> had already been approved and no action was needed by the School Committee.

Items by Consensus.

The following minutes were recommended for approval: Remote Special Meeting Minutes of September 3, 2020 <https://documentcloud.adobe.com/link/track?uri=urn:aaid:scds:US:12cdd779-6a12-4cf5-8bc4-8a1b3882bbc9>

A motion was made by Ms. Sullivan to approve the Remote Special Meeting Minutes of September 3, 2020. Attorney Magliocchetti seconded the motion. A roll call vote was requested:

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

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

A motion was made by Attorney Magliocchetti to adjourn the meeting (8:55 pm). Ms. Ryan-Ciardello seconded the motion. A roll call vote was requested:

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

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