



Haverhill Public Schools - School Committee Hybrid Regular Meeting Minutes of August 8, 2024

Governor Healey has extended pandemic-related authorizations thereby allowing remote and hybrid meeting options for public bodies through March 31, 2025.

School Committee Secretary Beverly McGillicuddy read the following statement published for the record: those attending tonight's meeting should be aware that the meeting is being audio and video recorded by HCTV, ET and WHAV. Any audience members who wish to record any part of the meeting must inform the Chairperson who will announce the recording. This is to comply with the MA wiretap statute.

Roll Call.

Attorney Magliocchetti, Vice Chairperson called the meeting to order (7:00 pm) and requested a roll call vote:

Ms. Collins	Present remotely	Mrs. Ryan-Ciardello	Present remotely
Ms. Diaz	Absent	Dr. Story	Present in person
Ms. Ferguson	Present in person	Ms. Sullivan	Present in person
Dr. Grannemann	Present in person	Attorney Magliocchetti	Present in person
Mrs. Lalumiere	Present in person	Mayor Barrett	Present @ 7:12 pm
Attorney Rosa	Present in person		

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by the school committee members and audience.

Communications/Reports.

Public Comment (In-person & Remote). There was no one present for public comment.

Superintendent Comments/Report.

Summer School Report [Summer Institute Slideshow \(1\).pdf](#).

Superintendent Marotta acknowledged the retirement of Denise Johnson, Discovery Club Director and introduced her successor, Krista Lamontague.

Ms. Jennifer Peterson, spoke regarding the Early Literacy Institute, a program that provides academic instruction and reinforcement in Reading and Writing using the Appleseeds Curriculum, with student attendees will begin kindergarten in the 2024-2025 with no formal prior education.

Ms. Alyse Comeau and Ms. Paula Morris provided an overview of the Extended Summer School and its location and coordinators: Ms. Andrea Carella (Hunking), Ms. Paula Morris (HHS), Ms. Michelle Jondle (Moody Preschool), Ms. Nicole Surette (Bartlett School) and Mr. John DePolo (Greenleaf Academy).

Ms. Kate Lally, Math Curriculum Supervisor offered a summary of the Math Acceleration Academy, which targeted rising grade 5-7 students. Ms. Lally noted that data points used were winter i-Ready, district benchmarks, and teacher feedback. She thanked Dr. Marotta and Mrs. Antkowiak along with the academy's teachers, and support staff.

Ms. Pam Pietrowski and Ms. Courtney Dickson (not present) oversaw the Language Institute, which is a comprehensive program for students who received multilanguage services during the school year. She stated the focus was on the commonalities between math, science and ELA and developing students' academic language in the domains of listening, speaking, reading and writing. Ms. Pietrowski emphasized several of the highlights of the institute.

Ms. Meg DeLong supervised the HHS Credit Recovery and Advancement, a program that allows current HHS students to recover credits and/or advance their credits.

Ms. Viki Hernandez spoke about the Bridge Program, a mandatory program for students in grade 7 and 8 who were not successful during the school year and is designated to help these students gain the necessary skills to be successful in their next grade.

Ms. Krista Lamontague, Discovery Club Director reported that 154 students enjoyed the morning academic enrichment, which included: playful learning, novel engineering, art history, STEM, recreation, high quality project-based learning and STEM Career Awareness. She stated that there were nine (9) STEM interns teaching 4th grade STEM lessons and two (2) education interns in grade 2-3.

Mrs. Dianne Connolly, Director of Title I and Community Outreach offered a brief summary of the YMCA program offerings, including, Step Up to K, Extended Day, and Summer Literacy Academy along Boys & Girls' Club programs with Kids' Club. She thanked Dr. Marotta for her leadership and collaborative spirit.

Attorney Magliocchetti was inspired by the growth of the summer programming including increased structure. He commended the teachers and ESPs for working in these programs.

Ms. Ferguson was impressed with the summer programs which promoted success at each grade level. She anticipated improvement and appreciated the hard work of all.

Attorney Rosa expressed thanks to these program planners. He asked if there were available spaces for all students.

Ms. DeLong responded that there was enough space and several students had to recover fewer credits.

In response to the summer school program attendance question from Attorney Rosa, Mrs. Connolly answered there was significant data collection and analysis. She noted this information would be compiled for students to find out if attendance improved during the school year.

Mayor Barrett commented on the many programs accessible for students during the summer.

School Opening – Transportation Report. [SC Meeting 2024-2025 Back to School Info \(1\).pptx.pdf](#).
Ms. Cannata, Transportation Supervisor, was introduced by Superintendent Marotta.

Ms. Cannata outlined the department's staff and contact information (telephone and email) which included:

Liz Cannata – Transportation Supervisor
Kristin Eldridge – Morning Dispatcher
Michelle Toth – Afternoon Dispatcher
Maria Arce – Bookkeeper
Joshua Anderson - Clerk
978-420-1921
transportation@haverhill-ps.org

Ms. Cannata noted that the following important dates and information for the opening of school 2024-2025:

- 2024-2025 Bus Routes will be published on August 18, 2024
- Posted to our website:
www.haverhill-ps.org > Departments > Transportation > School Bus List
- Families will receive a personalized email or will be contacted directly by the individual vendor on August 19, 2024 with times and stop locations.

- Haverhill Public Schools / Sacred Hearts School / Hillview Montessori School
- Over 600 Daily Routes
- Late Buses / Loop Program / NECCO Early College / Athletics / Field Trips

Please notify Transportation for:

- Missing email notification (after August 18, 2024)
- Alternate pick-up / drop off requests (YMCA / B&G Club / etc.)
- Address / stop changes

Attorney Magliocchetti was especially concerned with new housing developments and its impact on bussing in the spring of 2025.

Dr. Grannemann asked about the relationship between the school system and NRT, and whether the company would be meeting its contractual obligations.

Ms. Collins inquired about communication with parents regarding any updates.

Ms. Cannata replied that email communication was utilized primarily for communication.

Superintendent Marotta added that principals used the remind app and social media.

Following up on timing, Dr. Marotta explained it was an expectation that NRT would provide proper and timely notifications to the school district.

In regards to Ms. Collins' question on parent communication preferences, Dr. Marotta explained that parents should review information on School Brains.

Mrs. Lalumiere stressed the importance of not directly reaching out to NRT.

Ms. Cannata stated that after a 10-minute bus delay, the parent should call transportation at 978-420-1921.

Mrs. Lalumiere noted that parents should directly contact the transportation department.

Superintendent Marotta announced that Greg Labrecque, Interim Business Manager would be overseeing the department. She asked parents to instruct their child to swipe on and off the bus.

Attorney Rosa suggested a robocall to parents to ensure parent contact information was correct in School Brains.

The superintendent agreed that outreach to parents could be held prior to school opening.

Dr. Story spoke about her own experiences with transportation issues over the years. She stated that Ward 5 had difficulties with late morning pickup times. Dr. Story was hopeful that any glitches could be resolved prior to opening day to decrease parent/student anxiety.

Ms. Cannata was optimistic that NRT would have proper staffing. She related that there would be almost daily emails asking for updates from NRT. Ms. Cannata noted there was a google form that parents could complete to describe any problems.

In response to the superintendent's question on routes, Ms. Cannata answered that drivers would be doing

drive-throughs prior to the first day of school.

Dr. Marotta suggested discussions with NRT to discuss strategies for doubling up routes.

Mayor Barrett appreciated all the efforts and work by the transportation department.

Review of job description for Custodial Operations Coordinator and a vote to transfer funds from facilities director line item [Custodial Operations Coordinator FINAL.docx \(1\).pdf](#), (deferred from the last meeting 06.27.24).

Mayor Barrett asked if Attorney Magliocchetti was satisfied with the job description.

A motion was made by Attorney Magliocchetti to approve the transfer funds from facilities director line item to a line-item custodial operations coordinator. Attorney Rosa seconded the motion. The mayor requested a roll call vote with the following results:

Ms. Collins	Yes	Mrs. Ryan-Ciardiello	Yes
Ms. Diaz	Yes	Dr. Story	Yes
Ms. Ferguson	Yes	Ms. Sullivan	Yes
Dr. Grannemann	Yes	Attorney Magliocchetti	Yes
Mrs. Lalumiere	Yes	Mayor Barrett	Yes
Attorney Rosa	Yes		

11 members voted in the affirmative

Motion passes

0 members voted in the negative

0 members abstained

School Committee Reports/Communications.

Attorney Magliocchetti: Request that the superintendent confirm that the HR manual is up to date, and that all safety AHERA manuals are up to date.

Attorney Magliocchetti noted that this topic had come up in discussions with Ms. Collins. He related that the HR manual was under the umbrella of the city.

Mayor Barrett responded that these manuals needed to be updated with new contact information; these revisions were in process at this time.

Attorney Magliocchetti was satisfied that the district was compliant in this matter.

Superintendent Marotta noted that the AHERA manuals were updated twice a year and other manuals are updated the first weeks of school.

Attorney Magliocchetti: Request that the superintendent present to the School Committee a review of the student handbooks for 2024-2025.

Dr. Marotta reported that during the summer the

Attorney Magliocchetti: As the chair of the teachers' negotiations team invites the teachers' union to begin bargaining for a successor contract, beginning in September and meeting twice a month until the groups agree to terms for a successor contract.

Attorney Magliocchetti wanted to open a dialogue with the contract expiring in the next ten months. He made the commitment on behalf of the school committee to meet twice a month.

New Business.

Superintendent's Recommendation to approve Warrant Number EV202400809 and EV20240809B totaling \$2,323,267.71 [Warrant EV20240809.pdf](#), as indicated in the agenda material.

A motion was made by Attorney Magliocchetti to approve Warrant Number EV202400809 and EV20240809B totaling \$2,323,267.71. Ms. Sullivan seconded the motion. The mayor requested a roll call vote with the following results:

Ms. Collins	Yes	Mrs. Ryan-Ciardello	Yes
Ms. Diaz	Yes	Dr. Story	Yes
Ms. Ferguson	Yes	Ms. Sullivan	Yes
Dr. Grannemann	Yes	Attorney Magliocchetti	Yes
Mrs. Lalumiere	Yes	Mayor Barrett	Yes
Attorney Rosa	Yes		

11 members voted in the affirmative

Motion passes

0 members voted in the negative

0 members abstained

Items by Consensus.

Superintendent's Recommendation for approval of the Hybrid Regular Meeting Minutes of July 25, 2024 [Final Edit Approval Hybrid Regular Meeting Minutes 07.25.24 \(1\).pdf](#), as indicated in the agenda material.

A motion was made by Attorney Magliocchetti to approve the Hybrid Regular Meeting Minutes of July 25, 2024. Ms. Sullivan seconded the motion. The mayor requested a roll call vote with the following results:

Ms. Collins	Yes	Mrs. Ryan-Ciardello	Yes
Ms. Diaz	Yes	Dr. Story	Yes
Ms. Ferguson	Yes	Ms. Sullivan	Yes
Dr. Grannemann	Yes	Attorney Magliocchetti	Yes
Mrs. Lalumiere	Yes	Mayor Barrett	Yes
Attorney Rosa	Yes		

11 members voted in the affirmative

Motion passes

0 members voted in the negative

0 members abstained

A motion was made by Attorney Magliocchetti to approve the use of facilities [UOF 08.08.24 \(1\).pdf](#). Ms. Sullivan seconded the motion. The mayor requested a roll call vote with the following results:

Ms. Collins	Yes	Mrs. Ryan-Ciardello	Yes
Ms. Diaz	Yes	Dr. Story	Yes
Ms. Ferguson	Yes	Ms. Sullivan	Yes
Dr. Grannemann	Yes	Attorney Magliocchetti	Yes
Mrs. Lalumiere	Yes	Mayor Barrett	Yes
Attorney Rosa	Yes		

11 members voted in the affirmative

Motion passes

0 members voted in the negative

0 members abstained

A motion was made by Attorney Magliocchetti to adjourn the meeting (8:20 pm). Attorney Rosa seconded the motion. The mayor requested a roll call vote with the following results:

Ms. Collins	Yes	Mrs. Ryan-Ciardello	Yes
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Ms. Diaz	Yes	Dr. Story	Yes
Ms. Ferguson	Yes	Ms. Sullivan	Yes
Dr. Grannemann	Yes	Attorney Magliocchetti	Yes
Mrs. Lalumiere	Yes	Mayor Barrett	Yes
Attorney Rosa	Yes		

11 members voted in the affirmative

0 members voted in the negative

0 members abstained

Motion passes