



Haverhill Public Schools - School Committee
Hybrid Regular Meeting Minutes of October 23, 2025

Governor Healey has extended pandemic-related authorizations thereby allowing remote and hybrid meeting options for public bodies through June 30, 2027.

Attorney Rosa 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, Eagle Tribune 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 Rosa, Vice Chairperson called the meeting to order (7:08 pm) and requested a roll call vote:

Ms. Collins	Present (remote)	Mrs. Ryan-Ciardello	Present (remote)
Ms. Diaz	Present (in-person)	Dr. Story	Present (in-person)
Ms. Ferguson	Absent	Ms. Sullivan	Absent
Dr. Grannemann	Present (in-person)	Attorney Rosa	Present (in-person)
Mrs. Lalumiere	Present (in-person)	Mayor Barrett	Present (in-person)
Attorney Magliocchetti	Present (in-person)		

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all in attendance.

Public Comment (In-person & Remote). There was no public comment at this meeting.

Student Advisory Council Report. Ms. Molly Jordan. The item was postponed until next meeting due to students' involvement in a high school activity.

Superintendent Comments/Reports.

Enrollment Report as requested by Attorney Rosa, Vice Chairperson.

Superintendent Marotta reported that the unofficial enrollment numbers were +150 immigrant students with a total enrollment a little less than last year; however, these figures have not been certified by DESE.

School Safety Presentation as requested by Attorney Magliocchetti, including an invitation to Mr. Barry Davis, Haverhill Education Association President and Ms. Michelle Braga, Haverhill Education Association Teachers' Negotiation Team Chair to participate in this discussion.

Attorney Magliocchetti had asked for this topic to be addressed by the superintendent since it was an important issue impacting the district. He had asked Mr. Davis and Ms. Braga to contribute any documentation to the topic and they both declined to provide any information.

Dr. Marotta addressed the school committee regarding a school safety update (which was distributed to the members). The superintendent stressed the district's on-going commitment to student and staff safety

including numerous interventions. She reviewed the presentation with the school committee and public. Dr. Marotta explained the legal constraints that impacted any actions taken by school personnel.

Attorney Magliocchetti was impressed with the wealth of information provided by the superintendent. He encouraged future school committees to request annual reports. Attorney Magliocchetti referenced the significant investment and effort to ensure safe and secure classrooms. He extended appreciation to Dr. Marotta for providing this extensive report to the school committee tonight. Attorney Magliocchetti had hoped for the Haverhill Education Association's participation and believed this documentation would be helpful in negotiations.

The superintendent emphasized the commitment of the district to providing a safe learning environment, and would not accept that the school district had not made any efforts in this matter.

Dr. Story expressed appreciation for the report. She commented that students needed to feel safe and connected in order to learn in school. Dr. Story emphasized the importance of being proactive with procedures and protocols to address those situations. She made it clear that Haverhill was doing a lot of work happening to make students feel safe and secure in our schools. Dr. Story appreciated the amount of data in the presentation and was hopeful that it would counteract the false information that had been broadcasted in social media and other formats.

In terms of staff injury reports, the superintendent explained the majority were at the elementary school.

Attorney Rosa pointed out that the 74 total staff injuries were mostly at the elementary level.

Regarding Mrs. Lalumiere's question on a school safety focus group for educational support personnel, Attorney Rosa confirmed the creation of this group.

Mrs. Lalumiere was hopeful that these avenues, such as, the creation of the ESP focus group and teachers' safety subcommittee would provide an outlet for bringing concerns to school leadership.

Dr. Marotta mentioned the student support framework (HPS school-based counseling services). She noted the community-based agencies and partnerships that were also available to students and parents. The superintendent underscored the several consultation and training providers for educators.

Mrs. Lalumiere asked about the de-escalation and restraints being the reasons for prohibition of closed doors.

Superintendent Marotta pointed out numerous collaborations with families and communities. Additionally, she described the expanded schools/programs for high-risk students. Dr. Marotta listed the many community partnerships and thanked these partners.

In terms of the student support framework {increased staffing for student supports}, Dr. Marotta outlined the increased staffing from SY'20 to SY'26; pointing out the Haverhill was a well-staffed district. The superintendent noted the pods at the high school by grade level.

Dr. Marotta displayed the many options for community engagement along with social media notifications. She continued by defining student online wellness and security monitoring systems (Linewize -24-hours).

The superintendent disclosed the emergency preparedness and infrastructure/protocols to ensure rapid and effective response to all types of incidents. She noted the increased visitor/access control and security cameras and monitoring.

Dr. Marotta emphasized the magnitude of the facilities in our district (3M square feet similar to Prudential Center). She showed the major building projects since 2016 and underscored the continuous upgrading of the buildings.

Attorney Rosa stated that prior to 2018, practically all the buildings had leaking roofs and had made unbelievable strides in facilities' improvements.

Superintendent Marotta announced the integrated pest management and rodent response. She outlined that since July 1, 2025, there were seven (7) requests. Dr. Marotta urged reporting of any issues so that there could be resolution.

Dr. Marotta pointed out the environmental health (indoor air quality and microbial sampling) including findings and remediation.

Dr. Grannemann stated the importance of funding to address these matters.

Attorney Magliocchetti suggested an annual update on safety for future school committees. He was interested in the investment (\$) over the past several years. Attorney Magliocchetti wished the teachers' union had participated in the discourse.

Superintendent Marotta would not accept that the district was not trying in regards to school safety.

Dr. Story commented that Haverhill was doing extensive work to address student safety. She noted the competing priorities. Dr. Story was hopeful that this information would get out to the public.

Mrs. Lalumiere related that the teachers had agreed at negotiations to resume safety discussions. She added that there would be an ESP focus group on safety.

Attorney Rosa was concerned that there was a perception that the schools were in crisis; which was not an accurate picture. He acknowledged the imperfection.

Superintendent's recommendation for acceptance of a Yamaha P-125 Digital Piano (approximate value \$999.00) from Ms. Cheryl Mills of Wilmington, MA {piano will be housed at Hunking School for both choral performance and general classroom music learning}.

A motion was made by Attorney Rosa to accept the donation of a Yamaha P-125 Digital Piano (approximate value \$999.00) from Ms. Cheryl Mills of Wilmington, MA {piano will be housed at Hunking School for both choral performance and general classroom music learning}. Ms. Diaz seconded the motion. The mayor requested a roll call vote with the following results:

Ms. Diaz	Yes	Mrs. Ryan-Ciardello	Yes
Dr. Grannemann	Yes	Dr. Story	Yes

Mrs. Lalumiere	Yes	Attorney Rosa	Yes
Attorney Magliocchetti	Yes	Mayor Barrett	Yes

8 members voted in the affirmative
0 members voted in the negative
0 members abstained

Motion passes

The school committee thanked Ms. Mills for her donation.

School Improvement Plans and Highlights (distribution of documents) with presentations by Mr. Julio Perez, Nettle School Principal, Mrs. Paula Rodriguez, Golden Hill Principal, and Mr. John DePolo, Greenleaf Upper & Lower Schools Principal.

Principal Rodriguez provided an overview of Golden Hill’s school improvement plans including highlights.

Principal DePolo reviewed Greenleaf Academy Upper and Lower Schools data with the members. He mentioned the addition of an international mathematics teacher from Kenya. Mr. DePolo emphasized the strategic objectives for the school: 1) student/family engagement; 2) literacy K-8; 3) excellence in all schools and 4) careers and citizenship.

Mr. Julio “July” Perez, new Nettle Principal shared a MCAS Summary including action plans to increase growth. He noted there would be an extensive data dive into the results. Mr. Perez pointed out the remarkable language acquisition by Hispanic students. He noted the improvements in addressing chronic absenteeism. Mr. Perez highlighted a big opportunity (15% of students within meeting expectations). He recognized Ms. Nimcy Guerra who recently was honored at both the prestigious Black Excellence on the Hill and Latino Excellence Awards at the Massachusetts State House.

Attorney Magliocchetti acknowledged Mr. Perez’s energy and optimism in advancing Nettle School. He wished him all the best.

School Committee Reports/Communications.

Subcommittee Reports.

Attorney Magliocchetti: Teacher Negotiations Update.

Attorney Magliocchetti reported on the last negotiations sessions held on Monday and the union had presented a counterproposal (\$12M over the school committee’s proposal) which could result in 76 teacher layoffs. He was committed to a new contract. Attorney Magliocchetti was concerned that the members had not been notified of the last school committee offer. He mentioned that Mr. Parolisi believed the salaries could be funded by an override. Attorney Magliocchetti remained optimistic and hopeful for a resolution and common path.

Attorney Rosa: Policy IKFE-Competency Determination Policy (as required by Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) for a first reading, which includes it as a discussion

item, reading of the proposed policy or policies; response from superintendent; report from policy subcommittee; and committee discussion and directions for any redrafting.

Attorney Rosa stated that the policy was a lengthy one and was posted with the meeting materials. He added the public could comment on the proposed policy.

Attorney Rosa: Policy JECA–Admissions Policy for CTE (Career Technical Education) Admissions Update for a second reading, which includes it as a discussion item, reading of the proposed policy or policies; response from superintendent; report from policy subcommittee; and committee discussion and directions for any redrafting.

Attorney Rosa related that the policy was an extensive document and at the next meeting there would be a vote to establish the policy.

School Committee Community Announcements.

New Business.

Superintendent’s Recommendation to approve Warrant Number EV20251023 totaling \$7,178,080.51, as indicated in the agenda material.

A motion was made by Attorney Rosa to approve Warrant Number EV20251023 totaling \$7,178,080.51, as indicated in the agenda material. Mrs. Ryan-Ciardello seconded the motion. The mayor requested a roll call vote with the following results:

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

7 members voted in the affirmative
 0 members voted in the negative
 1 member abstained
 Motion passes

Items by Consensus.

Superintendent’s Recommendation for approval of the Hybrid Regular Meeting Minutes of October 9, 2025, as indicated in the agenda material.

A motion was made by Attorney Magliocchetti to approve the Hybrid Regular Meeting Minutes of October 9, 2025, as indicated in the agenda material. Ms. Diaz seconded the motion. The mayor requested a roll call vote with the following results:

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

8 members voted in the affirmative
 Motion passes

0 members voted in the negative
0 members abstained

Superintendent's Recommendation for approval of use of facilities as indicated in the agenda material.

A motion was made by Attorney Rosa to approve the use of facilities as indicated in the agenda material. Ms. Diaz seconded the motion. The mayor requested a roll call vote with the following results:

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

8 members voted in the affirmative
0 members voted in the negative
0 members abstained

Motion passes

Executive Session (City Hall, Room 206)/Adjournment: The School Committee will go into executive session, pursuant to (M.G.L. c.30A, §21(a)(2) and (3), to discuss matters related to the teachers' negotiations, if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the public body and the chair so declares. After concluding the closed session, the public body may return to an open session to publicly approve any votes taken relative to any business discussed in executive session, if necessary.

A motion was made by Attorney Rosa to go into executive session, pursuant to (M.G.L. c.30A, §21(a)(2) and (3), to discuss matters related to the teachers' negotiations, if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the public body and the chair so declares. After concluding the closed session, the public body may return to an open session to publicly approve any votes taken relative to any business discussed in executive session, if necessary. Attorney Magliocchetti seconded the motion. The mayor requested a roll call vote with the following results:

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

8 members voted in the affirmative
0 members voted in the negative
0 members abstained

Motion passes

Documents reference in the meeting: [HSC Portfolio Binder 10.23.25.pdf](#); [School Safety Update 2025 \(1\).pdf](#)