



Haverhill Public Schools - School Committee
Hybrid Regular Meeting Minutes of December 11, 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.

Mayor Barrett, Chairperson called the meeting to order (7:08 pm) and requested a roll call vote:

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the Unified Athletes and recited by all in attendance.

Mayor Barrett announced that since students were in attendance those items would be taken first on the agenda and then the committee would return to regular agenda order.

Superintendent Comments/Reports.

Superintendent Marotta extended congratulations to HHS on being nationally recognized as a Special Olympics Unified Champion School along with an introduction of the athletes. She acknowledged Ms. Deborah Ibanez, Executive Director of Student Support Services and Mr. Matt Scanlon, HHS Special Education Supervisor. Ms. Ibanez introduced the following students: Aaron Duclos, Lucciano Palacin, Christos Antonopoulos and Lexi Baker.

Executive Director Ibanez explained that Special Olympics engages students with disabilities in sports activities which provide opportunities for social inclusion, enabling all teammates to build meaningful social connections through modeling allowing students to improve their sports skills and fitness. Additionally, Ms. Ibanez related young adolescents with or without intellectual disabilities increased their positive attitudes and perceptions towards their peers and established lifelong friendships. She added that Special Olympics Unified Champion Schools was a recognition schools earn by intentionally promoting meaningful social inclusion to create accepting

environments utilizing three interconnected components. Ms. Ibanez noted that unified sports was part of the MIAA inclusive youth leadership whole school engagement and Haverhill was proud to be a unified champion.

Dr. Marotta noted that the unified champion designation was very significant achievement, since many cities had not received this recognition.

Mr. Scanlon thanked the school committee, HPS leadership, general and special education staff, families and the community for its overwhelming support of the unified sports program. He reported that recently HHS held its second annual unified basketball inclusivity invitational which was held on Monday, November 24, 2025 with students in the health and wellness classes filling the gym's bleachers to cheer on the athletes. He detailed that it was a friendly scrimmage between a combination of the boys' basketball team and the unified basketball team. Mr. Scanlon recognized Ms. Ibanez as the referee and Mayor Barrett, who did the tip off. He reported that it was an exciting game with one of the unified athletes making the winning basket. Mr. Scanlon acknowledged the contributions of the health/wellness department (planning during PLC every other week), ROTC for the presentation of colors, cheerleaders and band to support the teams achieving a whole school engagement event. He reported that the high school was on its way to becoming a national unified banner school of which there were only 221 schools in the country and 17 in Massachusetts with this title. Mr. Scanlon related that the school had been steadily implementing initiatives such as "Best Buddies" to work towards this goal in the next year or two.

Lucciano Pallacin sang the Star-Spangled Banner.

Introduction of High School Select Singers to perform several seasonal selections.

Mr. John Salvi announced the upcoming concert to be held on Wednesday, December 17, 2025 at 6:00 pm. In the High School Auditorium. The select chorus sang the following selections: Winter with You and Carol of the Bells.

Superintendent Marotta extended appreciation to the chorus for their hard work and beautiful voices.

Student Advisory Council Report – Ms. Molly Jordan. Ms. Jordan reported that the recent Powder Puff game resulted in a win for the Seniors and included a half-time kicking competition. She announced the upcoming Coffee House to be held on Thursday, December 18, 2025 from 7:00 pm-9:00 pm in the high school library. Ms. Jordan reported that in regards to policy, the student council would be focusing on the belonging policy noting that two high school representatives attended the recent forum, additionally, there was an upcoming freshmen election with tremendous response from students.

Mayor Barrett wished Ms. Jordan happy holidays.

Public Comment (In-person & Remote).

Mrs. Amanda Basiliere, newly elected school committee member, recognized the outgoing school committee and thanked them for their service to the community and dedication to the job.

Dr. John Maddox 122 Lakeview Avenue, Haverhill, MA, acknowledged the departing members for their service, but highlighted Ms. Sullivan, Attorney Rosa and Attorney Magliocchetti. He was thankful for efforts in securing

Dr. Marotta as superintendent along with navigating the pandemic and dealing with a teachers' strike. Dr. Maddox expressed his appreciation for their courageousness and steadfastness in the best interests of the district's staff and students and listed the many accomplishments accomplished during their tenures. He highlighted Attorney Rosa's efforts with obtaining accelerated repair funds from the state, along with involvement with SEPAC and Unified Sports. Dr. Maddox noted that when he moved to Haverhill in 2004, many people stated that Dr. Glen Lewandowski was one of the best school committee members and he believed Attorney Rosa should be in the same category (Mount Rushmore of School Committees). Dr. Maddox acknowledged the span of time of these three members and asked that the members take great satisfaction in their efforts.

Ms. Gail Sullivan, 18 Hawthorne Street, Haverhill, MA reflected on her Haverhill teaching career i.e., Whittier Tech (15 years) followed by NECC and stated it was a pleasure and a privilege. She commented that one of the reasons for her serving on the school committee was to stay connected to kids. Ms. Sullivan acknowledged that both Attorney Rosa and Attorney Magliocchetti were still working and school committee duties involved hundreds of hours that took them away from families. She concluded that both Attorney Magliocchetti and Attorney Rosa were smart, kind, and ethical and she was grateful to have served with them.

Mayor Barrett presented citations to the outgoing members from both the Mayor and City Council. She commented on the long-serving members and stated the city was better for their service.

Attorney Rosa thanked the mayor along with past colleagues. including principals, teachers, administrators and staff who provided guidance and advice.

Mayor Barrett presented a citation to Ms. Diaz, who thanked everyone including her school committee colleagues and expressed peace and love to everyone.

Mayor Barrett presented a citation to Mrs. Lalumiere and noted her incredible leadership.

Mayor Barrett presented a citation to Ms. Sullivan.

Mayor Barrett presented a citation to Attorney Rosa.

Ms. Mirca Rivera, incoming school committee member, thanked the outgoing members for their service noting that there would be many challenges during the next two years. She was honored to be serving on the school committee and give back to the community.

Superintendent's recommendation for acceptance of a donation (\$2,000) from Karl and Catherine Brunelle, members of the Cogswell Club, to Gateway Academy for the purpose of operating a food truck.

Dr. Marotta acknowledged the donation and asked for a vote by the school committee to accept the donation.

A motion was made by Attorney Rosa to accept the donation (\$2,000) from Karl and Catherine Brunelle, members of the Cogswell Club, to Gateway Academy for the purpose of operating a food truck. Ms. Sullivan seconded the

motion. The mayor requested a roll call vote with the following results:

A roll call vote was requested with the following results:

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

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

Mayor Barrett thanked the Brunelle’s for their donation.

Vote to approve the allocation of \$300,000 for the purpose of entrance into the MSBA Feasibility Study and Schematic Design process for a new roof at Golden Hill School.

Mr. Main, Chief Financial Officer read the language into the record:

That the City of Haverhill hereby appropriates the amount of three hundred thousand (\$300,000) Dollars for the purpose of paying feasibility study and schematic design costs related to a potential Accelerated Repair Project involving a new roof at the Golden Hill School located at 140 Boardman Street, Haverhill, including the payment of all costs incidental or related thereto (the “Project”), which proposed repair project would materially extend the useful life of the school and preserve an asset that otherwise is capable of supporting the required educational program, and for which the City of Haverhill has applied for a grant from the Massachusetts School Building Authority (the “MSBA”), said amount to be expended under the direction of the Mayor. To meet this appropriation, the Treasurer with the approval of the City Council, is authorized to appropriate and transfer from available funds upon certification and availability of funds from General Fund Free Cash said amount under M.G.L. Chapter 44, or any other enabling authority. The City of Haverhill acknowledges that the MSBA’s grant program is a non-entitlement, discretionary program based on need, as determined by the MSBA, and if the MSBA’s Board of Directors votes to invite the City of Haverhill to collaborate with the MSBA on this proposed repair project, any project costs the City of Haverhill incurs in excess of any grant that may be approved by and received from the MSBA shall be the sole responsibility of the City of Haverhill.

Mr. Main related that both the School Committee and City Council had previously voted for a new roof for Silver Hill roof.

A motion was made by Attorney Rosa to approve the allocation of \$300,000 for the purpose of entrance into the MSBA Feasibility Study and Schematic Design process for a new roof at Golden Hill School. Ms. Sullivan seconded the motion. The mayor requested a roll call vote with the following results:

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

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

Motion passes

School Committee Reports/Communications.

Attorney Rosa: FY26 Budget Update, including the “Red/Green” Report.

Chief Financial Officer Main reviewed the report with the school committee. He advocated for being conservative with spending and noted that the district’s finances were in good shape.

Superintendent Marotta noted there was a soft freeze with the budget through the winter months.

Attorney Rosa: An enrollment update and an overview of the financial impact of reduced enrollment on Chapter 70 and other funding sources.

Attorney Rosa provided a brief summary for the agenda item, particularly, the 100-student enrollment decrease.

Dr. Marotta highlighted that there was a reduction of 208 students. She noted that there was a decrease in immigrant students which was being seen throughout the state. The superintendent commented that the reduction may be the reasoning behind the delay in DESE certifying the October 1st enrollment. Dr. Marotta sent a cautionary warning on the enrollment reduction.

Ms. Collins: Update on First Joint Haverhill Public Schools and Haverhill School Committee Student Forum.

A motion was made by Attorney Rosa to table the Update on First Joint Haverhill Public Schools and Haverhill School Committee Student Forum. Mrs. Lalumiere seconded the motion. The mayor requested a voice vote and it was a unanimous vote.

Mrs. Lalumiere: Update on Bus Tag Scanning On/Off System.

Superintendent Marotta reported that half the students were utilizing the system. She stated that there was consistent tracking and asked for parents’ assistance in this matter.

Dr. Marotta announced that “Go Beacon” would be implemented to allow for parents to track their child’s bus.

Mrs. Lalumiere asked for communication to convey the benefits to parents.

Attorney Rosa: Discussion about Whittier Regional Vocational Technical High School's Superintendent's letter (included in the agenda packet) informing the Haverhill School Committee of the expiration of the term of one of its Whittier Tech School Committee members. The discussion may include a timeline for the Haverhill School Committee to select a Whittier Tech representative for Haverhill, and a possible vote on that timeline and the application process.

Attorney Rosa acknowledged the receipt of a letter from Superintendent Maureen Lynch detailing that a term for one of the representatives would be expiring on March 31, 2026. He added that the policy for appointing a

A motion was made by Ms. Sullivan to approve Hybrid Regular Meeting Minutes of November 20, 2025, as indicated in the agenda material. Attorney Rosa seconded the motion. The mayor requested a voice vote and all acknowledged approval.

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

A motion was made by Ms. Sullivan to approve the use of facilities as indicated in the agenda material. Ms. Diaz seconded the motion. The mayor requested a voice vote and all acknowledged approval.

Superintendent’s Recommendation for approval of the field trip request(s) as indicated in the agenda material.

A motion was made by Ms. Sullivan to approve the field trip request(s) as indicated in the agenda material. Mrs. Ryan-Ciardello seconded the motion. The mayor requested a voice vote and all acknowledged approval.

Superintendent’s Recommendation for approval of professional educational conference/workshop request(s) as indicated in the agenda material.

A motion was made by Ms. Sullivan to approve professional educational conference/workshop request(s) as indicated in the agenda material. Ms. Diaz seconded the motion. The mayor requested a voice vote and all acknowledged approval.

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 along with a review/approval of previous executive session minutes 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 along with a review/approval of previous executive session minutes 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. Ms. Diaz seconded the motion. The mayor requested a roll call vote with the following results:

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

8 members voted in the affirmative

0 members voted in the negative

0 members abstained

Motion passes

Items referenced in the meeting: [HSC Portfolio Binder 12.11.25.pdf](#); [Red Green Report 12 11 SC Meeting.pdf](#)