



Haverhill Public Schools - School Committee
FY27 Budget Workshop Minutes of March 19, 2026
Hunking School Library
480 South Main Street, Haverhill, MA 01835

The FY27 budget workshop meeting began at 6:04 pm with the following members present: Mrs. Amanda Basiliere, Mr. Robert Brown III, Ms. Penelope Guerrero (6:19 pm); Mr. Josiah Morrow; Ms. Mirca Rivera; Mrs. Maura Ryan-Ciardillo; Mrs. Toni Sapienza Donais (6:12 pm); Dr. Jill Story; Dr. Thomas Grannemann, Vice Chair and Ms. Melinda Barrett, Mayor & Chairperson. Absent was: Ms. Yonnie Collins.

Agenda

- 1) Call to Order - Roll Call.
- 2) Presentation, review, and discussion of proposed fiscal year 2027 budget. The school committee may take one or more votes regarding the proposed budget.
- 3) Possible discussion of the fiscal year 2026 budget, if necessary. The school committee may take one or more votes regarding the fiscal year 2026 budget.
- 4) Adjournment.

Superintendent Marotta welcomed everyone to the budget workshop.

Dr. Grannemann reviewed the process including slides delineating: key steps in the budget process; school committee role in budgeting; HPS FY27 School Budget Schedule; School Committee manages budget at the cost center level; and HPS spends more on teaching and pupil services and less on administration. He noted documents provided by CFO Clancy Main showing DESE Expenditure Function Code Reference and Percent of Expenditures by Function FY2023.

Mr. Main began a presentation on the FY27 Budget entitled, “Empowering Student Success through Strategic Resource Allocation”.

Dr. Marotta provided insights on the budget development process.

Dr. Grannemann requested principals’ feedback on the budget.

The following principals offered their viewpoints: Mrs. Jennifer Rubera, Walnut Square School; Mr. Ken McDowell, Bartlett School Principal; Ms. Donna Martin, Silver Hill Principal; Mr. Kevin Higginbottom, JG Whittier Principal, and Ms. Victoria Liu, High School Associate Principal.

Dr. Story commented on the priorities that were referenced by principals such as, Literacy, Learning Support and Staffing (Core Curriculum Implementation) and Instruction.

The superintendent provided a quick update on the budget survey and noted that there would be a presentation on the budget survey results at the next school committee meeting.

A motion was made by Dr. Grannemann to adjourn the workshop (7:13 pm). Mr. Brown seconded the motion. All were in favor of adjournment.