



**HOLLISTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
HOLLISTON, MA 01746**

**School Committee Meeting
February 6, 2020**

Present: Mrs. Raffi (Chair); Ms. Hanstad (Vice Chair); Ms. Kocian; Mrs. Listewnik; Mr. Morton; Ms. Neborsky; Ms. Shaughnessy; Dr. Jackson, Superintendent of Schools; Dr. Botelho, Assistant Superintendent; Mr. Buday, Business Manager; Ms. Devoe, Student Representative

Absent: Ms. Powers, Student Representative

Call to Order

Mrs. Raffi called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

On a motion made by Ms. Shaughnessy and seconded by Ms. Hanstad, the Committee voted to accept the minutes of the December 12, 2019, Regular Session as amended.

Vote: Favor: 6 Oppose: 0 Abstain: 1 (Ms. Neborsky) Absent: 0

On a motion made by Ms. Neborsky and seconded by Mr. Morton, the Committee voted to accept the minutes of the January 16, 2020, Regular Session as presented.

Vote: Favor: 6 Oppose: 0 Abstain: 1 (Ms. Shaughnessy) Absent: 0

On a motion made by Mrs. Listewnik and seconded by Ms. Kocian, the Committee voted to accept the minutes of the January 24, 2020, Special Meeting as presented.

Vote: Favor: 7 Oppose: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 0

School Committee Individual Comments

Ms. Devoe reported on the following:

- The Theater 370 One-Acts were performed last weekend, and the Globefest competition is being held in a week or two.
- Biology MCAS was held Wednesday and Thursday of this week for freshmen.
- The Sustainability Coalition is holding their consignment shop this evening, open to anyone in the community.
- The Student Advisory Council presented to the faculty at their meeting on Monday regarding I-Day, which will be the Friday before April vacation, where students and faculty can share their different interests and try new things.
- The wrestling team won the TVL title.
- The hockey team is now in the playoffs.
- Girls' basketball senior night is tomorrow night, February 7th.

Mrs. Listewnik recently attended the 4th and 5th Grade band concert and congratulated the students on their performance.

Ms. Kocian attended a meeting as liaison of “Diverse Holliston.” The group plans to bring in Dr. Botelho to participate in a future meeting.

Ms. Hanstad stated that Friends of HHS Class of 2020 has an upcoming fundraising event: “Designer Bag Bingo” on March 12th. Tickets are \$25.00 each.

Ms. Neborsky reported that the 5th Grade Play will be performed on February 11th and 12th in the cafetorium. She also noted that spring sports registration will be opening in the next month.

Ms. Hanstad then noted that the semester 2 open house at the high school will be on February 13th.

Mrs. Raffi then reported that last week she attended the meeting of the Affordable Housing Committee spearheaded by Mary Greendale. She asked the Affordable Housing Committee to keep the School Committee and school administration informed of any updates with respect to affordable housing in Holliston.

Mrs. Raffi then mentioned that at the next meeting, on February 27, a group of Miller School 5th graders will be on hand to do a presentation on Indigenous People’s Day. The same group of Miller School students recently attended a Select Board meeting and made a formal request to recognize what is currently called Columbus Day as Indigenous People’s Day.

Central Office Administrators’ Comments

Dr. Jackson recently attended the Service Learning Showcase evening and commended high school teacher Kaitlin Mills and the students on their deep commitment to change, improving the environment, and to our country.

Dr. Jackson then reported that on February 7th, high school seniors Bella Bergloff and Jackie Alibrandi will be attending the MIAA National Girls and Women in Sports Day at Faneuil Hall. Both students are multi-sport captains.

He also noted that there was recently an article in the Holliston Town Pages about Sophie Bloecher, who is a member of the Holliston High School Co-Op Gymnastics Team, a co-op team with Medway and Millis. Sophie is a student at Holliston High school and a Special Olympian.

Dr. Botelho spoke about this week’s walk-through at Placentino Elementary, conducted by the district’s Administrative team of Central Office administrators, Principals, Assistant Principals, and Student Service Administrators. The team visited about 30 classrooms and witnessed students clearly at the center of the learning process in each of the classes.

Opportunity for the Community to Address the School Committee

None

Out of State Field Trip Request – HHS Senior Class

Dr. Jackson noted that due to a change in School Committee policy, the out of state field trip request found in the packet did not require School Committee approval, so no Committee action is required.

Metrowest YMCA Proposed After School Program

Mrs. Listewnik introduced Heidi Kaufman, Executive Director of Education for the Metrowest YMCA, and Rick McPherson, CEO and President of the Metrowest YMCA. Ms. Kaufman and Mr. McPherson discussed the potential for a collaborative partnership that offers different options to families than those

currently available, and in light of the change in school start times beginning in the fall of 2020. They took questions and comments from the Committee, and a discussion followed.

School Start Times Implementation Update

Dr. Jackson began an update on the school start times implementation, focusing on the Extended Day implementation work. He outlined the plan proposed by Extended Day Director Carol White, which will provide a bridge program that will begin at the end of the Miller School day and go until the Placentino School end of day. The information will be ready for distribution to parents of K-4 parents on February 14th. It will then be combined with the information regarding the new programs at the Y and will be distributed to parents by February 14th so that parents can make informed decisions about their child care options. Notifications of acceptance will then be sent out to parents by April 15th. He took questions and comments from the Committee, and a discussion followed.

Holliston High School Statement of Interest

Dr. Jackson began a discussion about the Holliston High School Statement of Interest. A copy of the presentation was contained in the packet. He highlighted a list of short-term (0-10 years) infrastructure needs, and cited the two main reasons we are submitting a Statement of Interest:

- To modernize building systems to increase energy conservation and/or decrease energy costs;
- The building no longer provides for full-range of programs consistent with state and local educational requirements.

Dr. Jackson reiterated that there is no cost to submit an Statement of Interest and that it would be subject to the approval of the Select Board.

Policy

Mrs. Listewnik began a discussion on Policy JFABE – Educational Opportunities for Military Children. This was the second reading of this policy. She reviewed changes to the policy from the first reading.

On a motion made by Ms. Neborsky and seconded by Mr. Morton, the Committee voted to waive the third reading of Policy AFABE – Educational Opportunities for Military Children.

Vote: Favor: 7 Oppose: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 0

On a motion made by Mrs. Listewnik and seconded by Mrs. Raffi, the Committee voted to adopt Policy AFABE – Educational Opportunities for Military Children.

Vote: Favor: 7 Oppose: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 0

Superintendent's Recommended FY21 Budget

Dr. Jackson began a discussion of his recommended FY20 budget. He distributed a copy of the presentation to the Committee. He briefly reviewed the budget development process, which is guided by:

- FY17-FY22 Strategic Plan
- Statement of Purpose
- Vision of a Graduate
- The District-wide Improvement Goals

Dr. Jackson noted that this year he had invited the HFT President to meet with him to review the Strategic Improvement Initiatives and offer the HFT's recommendations and input. He will be speaking with the Budget Subcommittee about whether they would consider formally inviting the HFT to participate in the Strategic Improvement Initiatives presentations next year, noting that better understanding of the budget

process will give a better perspective of the possibilities and limitations of the process. He added that #HollistonInnovates is in its 3rd year and has exceeded all expectations and is well positioned for continued growth in Year 4.

He then reported the total fixed costs for the 2020-2021 school year at \$949,920, noting that in 2019-2020, the total fixed costs were \$1,214,450. Notable increases include:

- Contractual Obligations/Salary +2.95%
- Natural Gas and Fuel Oil +0.25%
- Tuition Increase to Norfolk Aggie and TECCA +0.17%
- In-District Transportation +0.08%
- Long-Term Disability Insurance +0.06%

Decreases to the budget include:

- Electricity Costs -0.08%
- Contracted Services/Custodial Services -0.19%
- SPED Tuitions and Associated Costs -0.51%
- Other Miscellaneous Costs -0.02%

He then reviewed his recommendations of each Strategic Improvement Initiative and their related costs, which total \$493,124. The resulting FY21 budget comes to \$36,390,307, an increase of 4.13% over FY20. He is also recommending a spring capital request of \$1,018,086. Dr. Jackson noted that while that is a significant number, it is largely due to the recommended replacement of the Kamitian Field turf and the teacher and administrative support device replacement. Dr. Jackson then reviewed the next steps in the budget process leading up to the May 4th Town Meeting. A discussion followed.

Warrants

On a motion made by Ms. Kocian and seconded by Mrs. Listewnik, the Committee voted to approve a school bill warrant in the amount of \$122,443.24.

Vote: Favor: 7 Oppose: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 0

On a motion made by Mrs. Listewnik and seconded by Mr. Morton, the Committee voted to approve a school bill warrant in the amount of \$386,496.14.

Vote: Favor: 7 Oppose: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 0

On a motion made by Ms. Kocian and seconded by Ms. Shaughnessy, the Committee voted to approve a school bill warrant in the amount of \$146,478.50.

Vote: Favor: 7 Oppose: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 0

On a motion made by Mr. Morton and seconded by Mrs. Listewnik, the Committee voted to approve a cafeteria bill warrant in the amount of \$28,328.07.

Vote: Favor: 7 Oppose: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 0

Items of Information

Mrs. Raffi then noted that contained in the packet were the minutes of the Policy Subcommittee meeting held on January 7, 2020.

She then noted that the Committee has been invited to attend a luncheon discussion on Monday, February 10th, at Senate President Karen Spilka's office regarding the Student Opportunity Act.

Next Meeting

Mrs. Raffi stated that the next regularly scheduled meeting will be at 7:00 p.m. on February 27th. She also noted that the next Policy meeting will be on February 27th at 8:30 in Central Office.

Adjournment of Open Session

On a motion made by Ms. Neborsky, seconded by Mrs. Listewnik, the meeting was adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

Vote: Favor: 7 Oppose: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 0

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa Ahronian

APPENDIX TO MINUTES

School Committee Meeting February 6, 2020

- Agenda
- Minutes of December 12, 2019, Regular Session
- Minutes of January 16, 2020, Regular Session
- Minutes of January 24, 2020, Strategic Improvement Initiatives Presentation
- HHS Statement of Interest Presentation
- Policy JFABE – Educational Opportunities for Military Children
- School Start Times Update
- Superintendent's Recommended FY21 budget
- Minutes of Policy Subcommittee meeting dated 1/7/20
- Out of State Field Trip Request Form - HHS