

APPROVED

SC 02.11.21 7A



**Haverhill Public Schools - School Committee
Remote Regular Meeting Minutes of January 28, 2021**

Mayor Fiorentini, Chairperson read the following Opening Statement: Due to the ongoing COVID-19 Pandemic, Governor Baker issued an Emergency Order temporarily suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A sec. 20. Public bodies otherwise governed by the OML are temporarily relieved from the requirement that meetings be held in public places, open and physically accessible to the public, so long as measures are taken to ensure public access to the bodies' deliberations "through adequate, alternative means." This meeting will be available via live streaming over HCTV and WHAV. The full meeting recording will be posted on the HCTV website.

Roll Call - Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Fiorentini, Chairperson called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm and requested a roll call of the members.

Mrs. Sapienza Donais	Present	Attorney Rosa	Present
Ms. Sullivan	Present	Mrs. Ryan-Ciardiello	Present
Attorney Magliocchetti	Present	Mr. Wood, Vice Chair	Present
Mayor Fiorentini, Chair	Present		

Dr. Margaret Marotta, Superintendent of Schools, and Mr. Michael Pfifferling, Assistant Superintendent were also present.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Public Comment.

Mr. Anthony Parolisi, 169 Summer Street, Haverhill MA, HEA President offered the following remarks:

- The metric for switching between learning models was endorsed this evening;
- The City and School Department must provide as much funds and resources;
- The Committee should provide a living wage for educational support personnel which is \$34,000 per year according to Essex County Statistics and this group is underpaid and one of our hardest workers;
- Budgets are value statements and should reflect our values;
- Secretaries Unit are asking for a modest wage increase during negotiations;
- There should be pressure to obtain additional funding from the State and Federal government.

Student Advisory Council – Ms. Gabriela Vargas.

Ms. Vargas provided an update on Haverhill High School activities.

Superintendent Comments/Reports.

High School: MassCore Aligned Graduation Requirements and Seal of Biliteracy MOA with the Haverhill Education Association to include additional positions in differential schedule.

High School Principal Glen Burns noted the graduation requirements were being aligned with the MassCore, specifically four years of Mathematics. Mr. Burns highlighted the extensive work of the Saturday School where 134 scholars attended (50 students in-person and 84 students remote) and the Intervention Blocks for Grade 9 students. Principal Burns announced NECC FASFA Night on February 25th for the submission deadline of March 4, 2021. He concluded these modifications would assist scholars with success at the next level.

Mr. Wood: 2021 Subcommittee Assignments.

Vice Chair Wood announced the 2021 Subcommittee Assignments [2021 HSC Subcommittee Assignments SW 01.21.21.xlsx.pdf](#). Mr. Wood made adjustments based on members' preferences. He noted that the Council and Legislative Liaisons had been removed. He asked for the Mayor to make his appointments.

Mrs. Sapienza Donais: Clarification from the Superintendent concerning Facebook, school webpages, Twitter, Instagram (what can be used, i.e., first name, last name, picture of student work, picture of student, etc.).

Mrs. Sapienza Donais wanted to receive clarification on this issue.

Dr. Marotta informed the members that recently an email was sent to enforce social media policy with particular attention to the following: "student pictures and names shall not be posted on any Haverhill Public Schools' Social Media Site unless there is a signed Haverhill Public Schools' Media Release on file at the student's school for the current school year." She asked that principals review their postings and practices to assure that they are in compliance with this policy. Additionally, Dr. Marotta related that an updated signed media release by parents was required and without this release there would be no identifiable information allowed to be posted on any platform. Mrs. Sapienza Donais reiterated that with a signed release information could be posted on Facebook, HPS website etc. and the Superintendent concurred with that interpretation.

Mrs. Sapienza Donais was appreciative of Dr. Marotta's efforts.

Attorney Magliocchetti: Plan for teacher and staff vaccinations.

Attorney Magliocchetti wanted to ensure that staff vaccinations were being kept in the forefront of discussions.

Superintendent Marotta deferred to Dr. Maddox and Ms. Vozeolas.

Dr. Maddox commended Dr. Marotta on her forward thinking in regards to pool testing (mentioned in October, 2020) and Ms. Vozeolas along with the amazing nursing team for their exemplary work. He appreciated this topic being on the agenda but there were not clear answers at this time. Dr. Maddox recommended engaging our teaching staff in education efforts to support vaccination. He concluded that it would take a team effort once the vaccine was available to the district.

Mayor Fiorentini noted the following vaccine schedule:

- Residents 75+ and older (7,000 citizens in this category);
- Residents 65-75;
- Residents with two or more comorbidities;
- Essential workers.

The Mayor acknowledged the incredibly difficult task for vaccinating the elderly population which required infrastructure, locations, and vaccines. He indicated several locations were assisting including Walgreens, CVS, Trinity, PMA and Greater Lawrence Family Healthcare. The Mayor noted that essential workers vaccinations would not take place until at least March.

Attorney Magliocchetti communicated this item would be on the agenda to keep discussions in the forefront of the Committee. He asked about the effectiveness of the vaccines.

Dr. Maddox responded the two approved vaccines (Pfizer and Moderna) were two-dose regimen and following two weeks after the second dose, the recipient had a 95% less chance of getting significant COVID disease.

Attorney Magliocchetti asked about the vaccination timeline.

Dr. Maddox responded that the Pfizer vaccine had a three-week time span between first and second doses and Moderna had a four-week time span. He related it depended on the type and the source of our vaccine doses how the rollout schedule would be implemented.

Mayor Fiorentini commented there was a slower than anticipated vaccine rollout, but he was confident that there would be adequate supply of the vaccine in the near future.

Mrs. Sapienza Donais asked that in anticipation of an available vaccine, would there be a survey of staff. Dr. Marotta responded that a survey would be forthcoming to staff.

In response to Mrs. Sapienza Donais' question on which educational staff would be vaccinated; Superintendent Marotta replied all staff would be receive the vaccine and the Mayor concurred that all school staff were consider essential workers.

Mrs. Ryan-Ciardello asked about the timeframe for pool testing once someone has tested positive for COVID.

Dr. Maddox offered 90-day window throughout the world. He noted no one had been diagnosed twice with COVID and the main purpose was to determine a contagious person. Dr. Maddox did not recommend retesting because of the presence of viral fragments.

Dr. Marotta responding to Mrs. Sapienza Donais' question on the protocol for out-of-state vacation during the February break, she noted quarantine protocols would be effect and reminders would be sent out next week.

Attorney Magliocchetti: Plan for offsite tutoring locations.

Attorney Magliocchetti commented that a teacher had contacted him after a recent meeting looking for assistance to help students. He asked the Superintendent to provide more details.

Dr. Marotta commented that the district was looking for small spaces for students to drop in on remote days or evening hours to get tutoring services from teachers.

Mayor Fiorentini offered Wood School and Temple Emanu-El for classroom space along with the former Cogswell School.

Attorney Magliocchetti: Survey results regarding students of families of medical personnel, first responders, and children in need.

Superintendent Marotta updated the members of the preliminary results of the First Responder Survey [../..../Volumes/GoogleDrive/My Drive/Frontline Worker Survey.pdf](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Volumes/GoogleDrive/My Drive/Frontline Worker Survey.pdf) which had asked the question:

Would you interested in having your child attend an In-School Learning Pod during their remote hybrid days? In-School Learning Pods take place at your child's school during their remote days (excluding Wednesday). Classrooms would be comprised of multi-age groups and supervised by another support staff during their remote learning. The In- School Learning Pods will have a different teacher and classmates.

