

***Hanover School Committee Meeting Minutes
January 4, 2023 7:00 PM
In-Person and Virtual Meeting
Hanover High School; Media Center***

Present: Mrs. Libby Corbo, Mrs. Ryan Hall, Mrs. Ruth Lynch, Mr. Pete Miraglia, and Mrs. Kristen Cervantes

Absent: None

Also Present: Matt Ferron, Debbie St. Ives, Michael Oates, Mike Perrone, Kaitlin Morelli, Dan Birolini, Jesse Craddock, Jane DeGrenier, Russ Wilson, Kim Stoloski, Rhonda Nyman

Call to Order: Meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM by Chair Corbo.

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comment: None at this time.

Mrs. Corbo opened up Public Comment with a reminder to the community the same rules and guidance apply to public comment. Please keep your comments kind and respectful. Keep in mind that the School Committee's authority is only limited to the budget, the supervision of the superintendent, and policy matters.

Approval of Minutes:

October 26, 2022: Motion entertained by Mrs. Corbo to approve the *October 26, 2022 School Committee Open Session Minutes* as written. The motion was moved by Mrs. Hall and seconded by Mr. Miraglia. Roll call vote: Pete Miraglia-Aye, Ryan Hall-Aye, Elizabeth Corbo-Aye, Kristen Cervantes-Aye, and Ruth Lynch-Aye. The motion carried unanimously.

November 16, 2022: Motion entertained by Mrs. Corbo to approve the *November 16, 2022 School Committee Open Session Minutes* as written. The motion was moved by Mrs. Hall and seconded by Mr. Miraglia. Roll call vote: Pete Miraglia-Aye, Ryan Hall-Aye, Elizabeth Corbo-Aye, Kristen Cervantes-Aye, and Ruth Lynch-Aye. The motion carried unanimously.

December 7, 2022: Motion entertained by Mrs. Corbo to approve the *December 7, 2022 School Committee Open Session Minutes* as written. The motion was moved by Mrs. Hall and seconded by Mr. Miraglia. Roll call vote: Pete Miraglia-Aye, Ryan Hall-Aye, Elizabeth Corbo-Aye, Kristen Cervantes-Aye, and Ruth Lynch-Aye. The motion carried unanimously.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT:

- **Events and Updates:**

Mr. Ferron shared events and updates throughout the Hanover Public School District:

- Congratulations to Hanover High School Junior Anthony Mann, one of our defending State Champion Wrestlers. He was the undefeated champion at the Marshfield Tournament last weekend.
- Welcome to the team: Introduction of new staff:
 - New Director of Technology Operations Mike Wildrick. Mr. Wildrick will be welcomed at the next School Committee.
 - Accounts Receivable Specialist Janet Chu.

- SEPAC is co-sponsoring a webinar “Checking in on Your Teens; How to Check In and Better Understand Your Child!” on Thursday, January 5th at 7:00 PM. It features Dr. Julia Martin Burch, a child psychologist specializing in cognitive behavioral therapy for children and adolescents.
- The Hanover Middle School Concert is on January 10th at 7:00 PM at the High School.

Please refer to the Hanover Public Schools website for the [January 4th School Committee Meeting](#) for more detail.

Mr. Ferron discussed adjusting the next few meetings for Policy. The first reading of C and D will be moved to the January 18th School Committee Meeting. Section I, which includes the library materials, This is posted on our website and available for people to comment upon. That will likely be pushed to the first meeting in February. Mrs. Lynch added that an updated version of Section I will be released well before February 1st.

Mr. Ferron added the Town Manager and the DPW released their plow contest “Name the Plow Contest” winners. This will be released to the public via social media and Mr. Wilson was kind enough to send an email to Center and Cedar School students and families, letting them know the plow contest winners have been released publicly. Mr. Ferron thanked everybody who participated and the Hanover Public Schools were happy to support the Town Manager in this project.

Questions/Comments:

Mrs. Corbo asked if the Middle School concert will be live streamed and Mr. Ryerson concurred that it will be.

REPORT OF FINANCE DEPARTMENT:

• **FY’ 24 Budget Update Presented by Mr. Matt Ferron and Mr. Michael Perrone:**

Mr. Ferron gave an update on the FY ’24 Budget sharing that the Town Manager presented an [Initial Budget Presentation](#) to the Select Board. A copy of the presentation was sent to the School Committee earlier in the day and it is posted on the town's website. It was a good initial pass but lots of questions need to be addressed. Mr. Perrone and Mr. Ferron will be going to the Select Board meeting Monday at 7:00 PM to discuss just some of the details about the budget proposal and answer questions.

Questions/Comments:

Mrs. Lynch asked why the Town Manager decided to break the budget down this way. Mr. Ferron noted it is a different way to look at the budget so that everyone could understand it.

Mrs. Corbo wanted to be clear that going forward those items in the budget that are not referendum items for the Town Meeting or separate items to be voted on as a warrant article. If we're going to remove them from the budget, then we should “discuss that as a Committee.” Mr. Ferron agreed with Mrs. Corbo's statement.

Mr. Miraglia noted that Chapter 70 isn't typically included in the budget or an offset to put the toll on our budget. But now looking at the possibility based on previous history, there could be an increase. He asked if it is possible that the State is trying to compensate for this increase in tuition and could it come through that vehicle? Mr. Ferron responded it is possible but he cannot speculate at this time.

Mrs. Corbo will reach out to MASC to see if they are taking a policy position and whether the Committee can entertain joining that policy position.

Report on Teaching and Learning:

- **School Improvement Plans: Center and Cedar presented by Mrs. Debbie St. Ives, Ms. Jane DeGrenier, and Mr. Jesse Craddock:**

Mrs. St. Ives invited the Center and Cedar School to present their School Improvement Plans.

The [School Improvement Plans](#) document can be found in its entirety on the School Committee website under Public Meeting Documents. Please refer to the Hanover Public Schools website for the [January 4th School Committee Meeting](#) for more detail.

1. Mr. Craddock thanked and acknowledged the School Council. The School Council members can be found on the [Cedar School Council](#) page on the Town of Hanover website. He presented Cedar's School Improvement Plans.
2. Mr. Wilson introduced and thanked the School Council. The School Council members can be found on the [Center School Council](#) page on the Town of Hanover website. He presented Center's School Improvement.

Questions/Comments:

Mrs. Corbo requested more information about the "Well Initiative Focus on Writing" which was one of the things that were listed in goal number one. Mrs. DeGrenier responded that the fourth-grade, teachers, along with fifth-grade teachers, met with Charlie Heinz several times last year, and then again this Fall. This Fall was kind of the midway wrap-up, so they ended their concert with him. At this time, the focus is shifting to a younger grade. Mrs. St. Ives added this year, they are continuing their work with grades four and five. They started their work with grades six to eighth grade and then grades one and two will have their first session with him at the end of the year and will roll into those younger grades next year. It stands for Written Expressive Language and Literacy Lab and is out of Mass General Hospital. Charlie Haynes is the one that has been coming and doing all the training along with Susan Smith.

Mrs. Corbo inquired if the baseline assessments for reading using DIBELS have been conducted. Mrs. St. Ives replied yes, three times a year. Fall, Winter, and Spring, The Fall was conducted using that information to do the different tiers. Those results were sent home to parent(s)/guardian(s). The second window opens on January 23 and would be Winter. They then regroup and look at the skills and the strengths, and where some of the opportunities are for students to look at it focused direct instruction, and then there'll be one more for this Spring.

Mrs. Cervantes added it is important to note the window opens on January 23rd for three or four weeks. Even though assessments are happening, it is a long time so the test day stress is not so bad for the little ones.

Mrs. Lynch is grateful that all four School Improvement Plans were not done in one night. It is a lot easier for the Committee to synthesize all the material breaking them out into two meetings. She also commented that with the role that she and Kristen have been playing in the development of School Policy, one of the issues is the role of School Councils and the necessity of writing School Improvement Plans, which is required to be done legally. Ms. St. Ives added there was a lot of discussion about timing. There is a consensus about School Improvement Plans setting goals each year, starting fresh in September, and writing them in the Summer. It is felt strongly that not only do you have to get your School Council together when school starts in September, but sometimes there are open seats for different reasons. Not only should that work happen, but they should also lay upon

the Strategic Objectives and align with the other work that is being done in the District and with the Superintendent's Goals.

Mrs. Cervantes agreed and shared what jumps out to her and the trend from this meeting and the last meeting is how much we've humanized the Goal and improvement process. She added that it is a real focus on data that is deliberately on the kids and adults we have in front of us and our responsibility to make sure everybody is learning. Professional Development is key to everybody's job satisfaction and to what our kids need to evolve with the times.

Mrs. Hall noticed that all students and teachers are listening and learning. The communication piece with families and responding to what family needs are deliberate and that is important to highlight. She notes that there is a lot of good data in the Plans. There is an emphasis on student learning and she liked it was different for different schools.

Mr. Miraglia asked what the life cycle of the Plan is. Mrs. St. Ives responded the intent for the Plan is that we will give an update as to where we are with all of these goals and the work that is going on in the fall of next year and that the Plan will end that June. Then the process will start over again.

Mrs. Corbo noted "Everything is developed and moving forward. Well, I think one of the things that should be obvious from the work that's evidenced in these Plans is that there's no stagnation here in Hanover, and everything keeps growing and moving forward and developing in different ways."

Action Items: None at this time.

Public Comment: None at this time.

The next School Committee meeting is January 18, 2023. Expected agenda items will be: FY '24 Budget Update, First reading of Policy Section C and D; First Reading, Policy Section I; Second Reading of Policy IJL/IJL-R (Library Materials), Introduction of IT Director, Mike Wildrick, and others TBD.

Motion entertained by Mrs. Corbo to adjourn the meeting at 8:23 PM. The motion was moved by Mrs. Hall and seconded by Mr. Miraglia. Roll call vote Peter Miraglia-Aye, Ryan Hall-Aye, Elizabeth Corbo-Aye, Kristen Cervantes-Aye, and Ruth Lynch-Aye. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Tahnee Warner

Tahnee Warner
Executive Assistant/ Recording Secretary

Documents Used:

Appendix A School Improvement Plans: Center and Cedar
FY '24 Initial Budget Presentation