



# **HAMILTON-WENHAM REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**

5 SCHOOL STREET, WENHAM, MA 01984 • TEL. 978-468-5310

## **School Committee Meeting**

### **Zoom Virtual Meeting - School Committee Reorganization**

**Zoom Webinar ID: 875 7156 6436**

**Meeting Password: 885035**

**Wednesday, July 1, 2020**

**6:00 PM - 9:00 PM**

### **Present:**

David Polito

Michelle Bailey

Michelle Horgan

Peter Wolczik

Anna Siedzik

Dana Allara

### **Also Present:**

Mary Beth Banios, Superintendent

Vincent Leone, Assistant Superintendent to Finance & Administration

Nicholas Ristaino, Massachusetts Teachers Association

Dorothy Presser, MASC Representative

Naomi Stonberg, District Legal Counsel (present for Executive Session meeting only)

Mahala Lettvin, Recording Secretary

### **1. Call to Order**

6:00 PM

David Polito calls the meeting to order at 6:03 PM.

### **2. Executive Session**

**I MOVE THAT THE HAMILTON - WENHAM REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE ADJOURN INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR PURPOSE #2; TO CONDUCT STRATEGY SESSIONS IN PREPARATION FOR NEGOTIATIONS WITH NONUNION PERSONNEL OR TO CONDUCT COLLECTIVE BARGAINING SESSIONS OR CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS WITH NONUNION PERSONNEL, AND TO RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION.**

### **MOTION by David Polito.**

Peter Wolczik	YES;
Michelle Bailey	YES;
Michelle Horgan	YES;
Dana Allara	YES;
Anna Siedzik	YES;
David Polito	YES.

**MOTION PASSES unanimously through roll call vote of 6 members present.**  
*Open Session reconvenes at 6:42 PM.*

**3. Citizens' Comments**

**4. New Business**

**A. Welcome & Recognitions (originally A)**

- Superintendent, *Mary-Beth Banios*
- New School Committee Members; *Anna Siedzik & Dana Allara*
- Recognition of Service; *Tai Pryjma*

**B. School Committee Reorganization (originally C)**

**★ Chair**

Michelle Bailey accepts the nomination - nominated by Anna Siedzik; seconded by Dana Allara.

**I MOVE THAT THE HAMILTON - WENHAM REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE ACCEPT THE NOMINATION AND ACCEPTS MICHELLE BAILEY AS THE 2020/2021 CHAIR OF THE HAMILTON - WENHAM REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE.**

**MOTION by Michelle Horgan; SECONDED by Peter Wolczik.**

Dana Allara	YES;
Anna Siedzik	YES;
Michelle Horgan	YES;
Michelle Bailey	YES;
Peter Wolczik	YES;
David Polito	YES.

**MOTION PASSES unanimously through roll call vote of 6 members present.**

**★ Vice Chair**

Michelle Horgan accepts the nomination - nominated by David Polito; seconded by Anna Siedzik.

**I MOVE THAT THE HAMILTON - WENHAM REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE ACCEPTS THE NOMINATION AND ACCEPTS MICHELLE HORGAN AS THE 2020/2021 VICE - CHAIR OF THE HAMILTON - WENHAM REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE.**

**MOTION by Michelle Horgan; SECONDED by Michelle Bailey.**

Dana Allara	YES;
Michelle Horgan	YES;
Michelle Bailey	YES;
Anna Siedzik	YES;
David Polito	YES;
Peter Wolczik	YES.

**MOTION PASSES unanimously through roll call vote of 6 members present.**

**★ Secretary**

Dana Allara accepts the nomination - nominated by Michelle Horgan.

**I MOVE THAT THE HAMILTON - WENHAM REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE ACCEPTS THE NOMINATION AND ACCEPTS DANA ALLARA AS THE 2020/2021 SECRETARY OF THE HAMILTON - WENHAM REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE.**

**MOTION by Michelle Horgan; SECONDED by Anna Siedzik.**

Dana Allara	YES;
Michelle Bailey	YES;
Michelle Horgan	YES;
David Polito	YES;
Anna Siedzik	YES;
Peter Wolczik	YES.

**MOTION PASSES unanimously through roll call vote of 6 members present.**

**★ Assistant Secretary**

Anna Siedzik accepts the nomination - nominated by Michelle Horgan.

**I MOVE THAT THE HAMILTON - WENHAM REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE ACCEPTS THE NOMINATION AND ACCEPTS ANNA SIEDZIK AS THE 2020/2021 ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE HAMILTON - WENHAM REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE.**

**MOTION by Michelle Horgan; SECONDED by Peter Wolczik.**

Dana Allara	YES;
Michelle Horgan	YES;
Michelle Bailey	YES;
Anna Siedzik	YES;
David Polito	YES;
Peter Wolczik	YES.

**MOTION PASSES unanimously through roll call vote of 6 members present.**

**★ Appoint District Treasurer & Assistant Treasurer**

**I MOVE THAT THE HAMILTON - WENHAM REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPOINT DON GALLANT AS DISTRICT TREASURER AND KEVIN MAHONEY AS DISTRICT ASSISTANT TREASURER FOR THE 2020/2021 SCHOOL YEAR.**

**MOTION by Michelle Horgan; SECONDED by Peter Wolczik.**

*Discussion:* Mr. Wolczik asks if a new list needs to be generated to reflect new members authorized to sign warrants. This will be done at the next meeting.

Dana Allara	YES;
Michelle Bailey	YES;
Michelle Horgan	YES;
David Polito	YES;
Anna Siedzik	YES;
Peter Wolczik	YES;

**MOTION PASSES unanimously through roll call vote of 6 members present.**

**C. Town Elections Results (originally B)**

[Exhibit](#)

Welcome School Committee members Anna Siedzik (1,324 votes) and Dana Allara (1,275 votes). Thank you to interim School Committee member Tai Pryjma, who served on the School Committee during a particularly challenging time while keeping students' interests in the forefront of his service. A letter will be sent to Mr. Pryjma thanking him for his service.

**D. Subcommittee Reorganization; Policy & Negotiations (originally D)**

Review of Policy Subcommittee and Negotiations Subcommittee charges, responsibilities, meeting dates, and current members. Discussion regarding the need for consistency in members serving on the subcommittee, as well as the role and potential challenges for new School Committee members

**Negotiations Subcommittee**

Ms. Bailey is willing to continue serving on the board, but will step down in the fall.

Dana Allara, Michelle Bailey, David Polito, and Peter Wolczik are interested in serving on the Negotiations Subcommittee. Each of the interested members offer a brief statement regarding their interest and expertise to serve on the subcommittee.

School Committee members identify their top three choices to serve on the Negotiations Subcommittee:

	Dana Allara	Michelle Bailey	David Polito	Peter Wolczik
Dana Allara	✓	✓	✓	
Michelle Bailey	✓	✓		✓
Michelle Horgan	✓	✓	✓	
David Polito	✓	✓	✓	
Anna Siedzik*	✓	✓	✓	
Peter Wolczik		✓	✓	✓

*\*Ms Siedzik notes that she fully supports Mr. Wolczik replacing Ms. Bailey when she steps down from the subcommittee in fall.*

**I MOVE THAT THE HAMILTON - WENHAM REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE ACCEPTS THE NOMINATION OF DANA ALLARA, MICHELLE BAILEY, AND DAVID POLITO TO SERVE ON THE 2020/2021 SCHOOL COMMITTEE NEGOTIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE.**

**MOTION by Michelle Horgan; SECONDED by Anna Siedzik.**

Discussion: Mr. Polito states that he supports Mr. Wolczik coming on to the Negotiations Subcommittee in the fall, given the issues anticipated to occur over the summer. Mr. Wolczik states that he has no conflict of interest, as he has continuously voted and acted in the best interest of the schools and students. He expresses frustration that his integrity has repeatedly been called into question.

Dana Allara YES;

Michelle Bailey	YES;
Michelle Horgan	YES;
David Polito	YES;
Anna Siedzik	YES;
Peter Wolczik	NO;

**MOTION PASSES through majority roll call vote (5:1) of 6 members present.**

Ms. Horgan suggests a motion to elect Mr. Wolczik to the vacant role upon Ms. Bailey leaving the Negotiations Subcommittee this fall. In the interest of time, this motion will be made at a later date.

### **Policy Subcommittee**

**I MOVE THAT THE HAMILTON - WENHAM REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE ACCEPTS THE NOMINATION FOR ANNA SIEDZIK, PETER WOLCZIK, AND MICHELLE HORGAN TO SERVE ON THE 2020/2021 SCHOOL COMMITTEE POLICY SUBCOMMITTEE.**

**MOTION by Michelle Horgan; SECONDED by David Polito.**

*Discussion:* Mr. Wolczik clarifies that Ms. Bailey will not be serving on the Policy Subcommittee as she is now Chair of the School Committee. Ms. Bailey is happy to discuss any issues as they may arise.

Dana Allara	YES;
Michelle Bailey	YES;
Michelle Horgan	YES;
David Polito	YES;
Anna Siedzik	YES;
Peter Wolczik	YES;

**MOTION PASSES unanimously through roll call vote of 6 members present.**

Ms. Bailey requests an amendment to this evening's agenda: moving *Item H, Massachusetts Teachers Association Resolution presented by Nicholas Ristaino*, to the next order of business. Ms. Bailey notes that she will be abstaining from the vote on this matter due to potential conflict of interest given her membership in MTA.

E. Massachusetts Teachers Association Resolution (originally H) [Exhibit](#)  
 Nicholas Ristaino introduces himself and provides an explanation of the Resolution, shown in the [exhibit](#).

**I MOVE THAT THE HAMILTON - WENHAM REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE SUPPORT THE MASSACHUSETTS TEACHERS ASSOCIATION RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF EDUCATION FUNDING IN THE COVID-19 ERA AS DETAILED IN THE [EXHIBIT](#).**

**MOTION by Michelle Horgan; SECONDED by Dana Allara.**

*Discussion:* Mr. Wolczik states that he is also a member of the MTA, however, he does not perceive a conflict and will therefore be voting on the matter.

Dana Allara	YES;
Michelle Bailey	ABSTAIN;
Michelle Horgan	YES;
David Polito	YES;
Anna Siedzik	YES;

Peter Wolczik YES;

**MOTION PASSES through majority roll call vote (5:1) of 6 members present.**

**F. School Committee Training (originally G)**

Dorothy Presser, MASC representative, facilitates the School Committee Training. She asks members to introduce themselves and talk about where the School Committee is today, and what their biggest hope is for progressing as a team in the next year.

Ms. Presser explains the qualities and attributes that make up an effective School Committee, as well as the roles, responsibilities, and ethical considerations for individual School Committee members.

**G. School Committee Liaison Assignments (originally E)**

[Exhibit](#)

This will be addressed at the 07/08/20 School Committee meeting.

**H. Vote on 2020-2021 School Committee Summer Meeting (originally F)**

[Exhibit](#)

Discussion regarding members' availability, scheduling of meetings, scheduling of School Committee retreat, preparation of line item transfers, etc.

**I MOVE THAT THE HAMILTON - WENHAM REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE ACCEPT THE 2020/2021 SCHOOL COMMITTEE SUMMER MEETING SCHEDULE AS PRESENTED IN THE [EXHIBIT](#), WITH THE FORTHCOMING CHANGE/ADDITION OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE RETREAT DATE.**

**MOTION by Michelle Horgan; SECONDED by David Polito.**

Dana Allara YES;  
Michelle Bailey YES;  
Michelle Horgan YES;  
David Polito YES;  
Anna Siedzik YES;  
Peter Wolczik YES;

**MOTION PASSES unanimously through roll call vote of 6 members present.**

**5. Superintendent's Report**

**A. DESE initial guidance for Fall Reopening of Schools**

[Exhibit](#)

Mary Beth Banios reviews DESE initial guidelines for reopening schools in the fall, as detailed in the [exhibit](#). Guidance suggests that districts prepare for 3 possible scenarios: (1) reopening; (2) remote; (3) hybrid. Ms. Banios reviews the changes to the recommendations, including considerations to the costs associated with reopening and potential funding opportunities. Discussion regarding collecting and implementing community feedback. Ms. Banios reiterates that there are a great deal of uncertainties, and that answers and details are constantly evolving.

**B. Enrollment Report**

[Exhibit](#)

Discussion regarding the costs of auditing enrollment report data, as per request of Town to verify the information. Mr. Leone reports that the cost of auditing ranges between \$5,000 - \$10,000.

**6. Chair's Report**

**7. Committee Reports (Continued)**

- A. Capital/Financial Subcommittee
- B. Policy Subcommittee
- C. Negotiations Subcommittee

**8. Consent Agenda**

A. Warrants

[Exhibit](#)

- Voucher No. 1059
- Voucher No. 1060
- Voucher No. 30
- Voucher No. 2906
- Voucher No. 2907
- Voucher No. 2908
- Voucher No. 2909
- Voucher No. 2910

**I MOVE THAT THE HAMILTON - WENHAM REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPROVE THE WARRANTS AS LISTED IN THE CONSENT AGENDA; THERE CAN BE NO FURTHER CHANGES.**

**MOTION by Michelle Horgan; SECONDED by Anna Siedzik.**

Dana Allara	YES;
Michelle Bailey	YES;
Michelle Horgan	YES;
David Polito	YES;
Anna Siedzik	YES;
Peter Wolczik	YES;

**MOTION PASSES unanimously through roll call vote of 6 members present.**

B. Vote to approve prior meeting minutes:

- March 21, 2020 Minutes
- March 23, 2020 Minutes
- March 24, 2020 Minutes
- April 7, 2020 Minutes
- April 15, 2020 Minutes
- May 20, 2020 Minutes

[Exhibit](#)

[Exhibit](#)

[Exhibit](#)

[Exhibit](#)

[Exhibit](#)

[Exhibit](#)

**I MOVE THAT THE HAMILTON - WENHAM REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPROVE THE PRIOR MEETING MINUTES AS LISTED IN THE CONSENT AGENDA ABOVE, EXCLUDING THE MINUTES FROM APRIL 7, 2020; THERE CAN BE NO FURTHER CHANGES.**

**MOTION by Michelle Horgan; SECONDED by David Polito.**

Dana Allara	ABSTAIN;
Michelle Bailey	YES;
Michelle Horgan	YES;
David Polito	YES;

Anna Siedzik ABSTAIN;  
Peter Wolczik YES;

**MOTION PASSES through majority roll call vote (4:2) of 6 members present.**

*Discussion:* Mr. Wolczik notes that the 04/07/20 meeting minutes do not include his name, however, he does not recall missing any School Committee meetings during his 2 years of service. After discussion regarding the purpose of the 04/07/20 meeting, and offers to verify attendance, Mr. Wolczik states that he is comfortable approving the minutes as written.

**I MOVE THAT THE HAMILTON - WENHAM REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPROVE THE 04/07/2020 MEETING MINUTES AS LISTED IN THE CONSENT AGENDA ABOVE; THERE CAN BE NO FURTHER CHANGES.**

**MOTION by Michelle Horgan; SECONDED by David Polito.**

Dana Allara ABSTAIN;  
Michelle Bailey YES;  
Michelle Horgan YES;  
David Polito YES;  
Anna Siedzik ABSTAIN;  
Peter Wolczik YES;

**MOTION PASSES through majority roll call vote (4:2) of 6 members present.**

## **9. Other**

### **A. Topics for Future Meetings**

**Next School Committee Meeting: July 8th 2020, 6:00 PM.**

- School Committee Liaison Assignment;
- Other School Committee working groups;
- Wenham Town Meeting document creation/distribution;
- Anti-Racism Resolution, MASC;
- Chat function via Zoom virtual meetings

**I MOVE THAT THE HAMILTON - WENHAM REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE AUTHORIZE SUPERINTENDENT MARY BETH BANIOS, ACTING ON BEHALF OF THE HAMILTON - WENHAM REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE, TO CONSULT WITH ANY SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS DEEMED NECESSARY, AND TO SUBMIT DOCUMENTS TO THE TOWN OF WENHAM FOR DISTRIBUTION AT TOWN MEETING.**

**MOTION by Michelle Horgan; SECONDED by David Polito.**

Dana Allara YES;  
Michelle Bailey YES;  
Michelle Horgan YES;  
David Polito YES;  
Anna Siedzik YES;  
Peter Wolczik YES.

**MOTION PASSES unanimously through roll call vote of 6 members present.**

## **10. Vote to Adjourn**



**I MOVE THAT THE HAMILTON - WENHAM REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE ADJOURN THE 07/01/2020 MEETING AT 9:24 PM.**

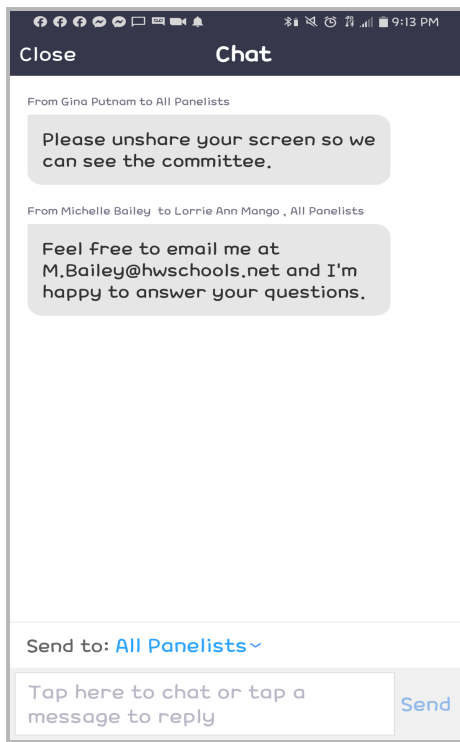
**MOTION by Michelle Horgan; SECONDED by David Polito.**

Dana Allara	YES;
Michelle Bailey	YES;
Michelle Horgan	YES;
David Polito	YES;
Anna Siedzik	YES;
Peter Wolczik	YES.

**MOTION PASSES unanimously through roll call vote of 6 members present.**

*Respectfully submitted July 3rd, 2020 by Mahala Lettvin, Recording Secretary.*

**Comments offered through Chat during Zoom meeting:**



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\*\*Per Governor Baker's order suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A § 20, the public will not be allowed to physically access this School Committee meeting. The School Committee reserves the right to implement additional remote participation procedures and will notify the public of these procedures as soon as practicable. Please [click here](#) to read the Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, § 20.\*\*

\*Zoom App Information: If you plan to participate, download the [Zoom.com](#) application now. The option to download will also be available at the start of the meeting. When opening the Zoom App, select "Join Meeting" in the Hamilton - Wenham School Committee 07/01/2020 Meeting Minutes Page 9 of 10

upper right corner and enter the webinar id: 875 7156 6436; password: 885035. The community should ask questions via the “chat” function within the Zoom application during the Citizen’s Comments section. During the Zoom meeting, participants will be given instructions on how to provide their comments. Unfortunately, we must limit the in-person conversations to just the Committee members. However, for the benefit of all, the School Committee meetings will be available on our local cable channel, HWCam, and [HWCam.org](http://HWCam.org), for review a few hours after the meeting has ended. Members of the public can access the meeting via [YouTube HWRSD live stream link](#) the next day.