

**CITY OF HOLYOKE SCHOOL COMMITTEE  
REGULAR MEETING OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE**

**MONDAY, February 26, 2024**

**TIME: 6:05 PM**

**1. CALL TO ORDER ~ ROLL CALL ~ PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

*Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, s. 20, I am hereby informing all attendees that a video and audio recording is being made of the meeting and the meeting is being live-streamed and run live on the City's community TV channel.*

School Committee Vice Chair Erin Brunelle called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. and announced that pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, s. 20, attendees are hereby informed that a video and audio recording is being made of the meeting and the meeting is being live-streamed and run live on the City's community TV channel.

**PRESENT:** Mayor Garcia, Ms. Brunelle, Ms. Lefebvre, Dr. Rivera-Colón, Dr. Gloria Caballero-Roca, Mr. Whelihan, Mr. Collamore, Mrs. Wilson, Student Representative: Evan Kennedy

Absent: Ms. Tensley-Williams, Mr. Romero

Roll call:

Mayor Garcia-yes

Ms. Brunelle-yes

Ms. Lefebvre-yes

Mr. Romero- absent

Ms. Tensley-Williams - absent

Dr. Gloria Caballero-Roca- yes

Dr. Rivera-Colón - Yes

Mr. Whelihan – yes

Mr. Collamore – yes

Mrs. Wilson – yes

Student representatives- Evan Kennedy

## **2.COMMUNICATION & REPORTS:**

### **a. STUDENT REPORTS**

- I. HHS North Campus- No student representative
- II. HHS Dean Campus
  - Wrestling team- received MIAA Sportsmanship Award
  - Wrestling Senior Isabella Guzman took 6th place in her weight class at the state finals
  - End of Access testing celebration- ice cream sundaes
  - Buyback attendance happened during school vacation week

Motion to take PTO letter out of order made by Ms. Brunelle was seconded by Ms. Wilson.

**Motion passes unanimously**

Motion to invite Wrestling team to School committee meeting- made by Mr. Collamore, seconded by Ms. Wilson.

**Motion passes unanimously**

Motion to suspend rules to allow PTO members to speak made by Dr. Caballero-Roca, was seconded by Mr. Whelihan.

**Motion passes unanimously**

Correspondence from E.N.White PTO

[PTO letter to Receiver Anthony Soto and School Committee](#)

PTO members to speak:

- Meg McGrath Smith-7 Wyckoff
- Maria Chambers-85 Lincoln Street
- Kyle Chambers-85 Lincoln Street

Motion made to refer Wellness Policy to the Policy and Governance Sub Committee for review made by Ms. Lefebvre seconded by Mr. Whelihan.

**Motion passes unanimously**

Motion to request a detailed report from the Receiver regarding length of screen time given to students made by Dr. Gloria Caballero-Roca seconded by Ms. Wilson

Amendment made by Ms. Lefebvre to have report from Receiver to include lunch and recess times

Amendment to motion to also include snack time made by Ms. Wilson. Seconded by Dr. Caballero-Roca

**Motion passes unanimously**

### **b. VICE-CHAIR REPORTS**

- I. Receivership- discussion of next steps.
  - Discussion regarding response to Commissioners decision and submitting an appeal.

Motion to invite Interim Commissioner to the March 25, 2024 School Committee meeting made by Mr. Collamore seconded by Ms. Wilson.

**Motion passes unanimously**

- II. Letter to Commissioner (tabled from last meeting)

Motion made to refer letter to interim Commissioner to Receivership/Local Control Subcommittee made by Mr. Wheilihan and seconded by Ms. Wilson.

Roll call:

Mayor Garcia- No

Ms. Brunelle-yes

Ms. Lefebvre-no

Mr. Romero- absent

Ms. Tensley-Williams - absent

Dr. Gloria Caballero-Roca- no

Dr. Rivera-Colón - no

Mr. Whelihan – no

Mr. Collamore – no

Mrs. Wilson – no

**Motion does not pass.**

Motion to have Receivership/Local Control sub committee send a welcoming letter to Commissioner made by Ms. Wilson seconded by Mr. Collamore.

**Motion passes unanimously**

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- I. Accelerated repair projects
  - The City Council voted to approve the application process to do

roof repairs on schools.

Motion made to refer the accelerated repair projects to the Finance Subcommittee made by Mr. Whelihan and seconded by Dr. Rivera-Colón.

**Motion passes unanimously.**

II. Exterior staircase at HHSN along McKenzie Field-

Motion made to refer exterior staircase at HHSN to Finance Subcommittee made by Dr. Caballero-Roca seconded by Mr. Whelihan.

**Motion passes unanimously**

III. Correspondence from E.N.White PTO

[PTO letter to Receiver Anthony Soto and School Committee](#)

### **ONGOING BUSINESS**

- I. Update re: Purchase of 225 High Street (tabled from last meeting)
  - Team currently working on this. City Finance Committee meeting scheduled for March 4, 2024 at 6:30 pm which will include a proposal. Funding strategy has been forwarded to City Council.
- II. Updates from Sub-Committees-
  - i. Policy & Governance Sub Committee- Review updated Administrative Assistant position. Position reviewed and approved the in Policy and Governance Subcommittee meeting this evening. Next meeting tentatively scheduled for March 13, 2024 at 5:30 pm.

Motion proposed to table the Admin.Asst position until next meeting by Mr. Collamore seconded by Ms. Wilson.

**Motion passes unanimously**

- ii. Finance/Operations Subcommittee-- Finance meeting scheduled for March 8, 2024 at 5:25 at 57 Suffolk Street.

Motion made to refer to the Policy Committee, seconded by Dr. Gloria Caballero-Roca

**Motion passes 7-1**

- iii. Joint City Council/School Committee- Meeting scheduled for March 14, 2024 at 6:30pm in City Council Chambers. Request to City Council to repeat presentation of 225 High street to March 14, 2024 meeting.

Motion to refer 225 High Street to Finance Dr. Gloria Caballero-Roca seconded by Dr. Rivera-Colón

**Motion passes unanimously**

- iv. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Sub-Committee-approval of [December DEI Minutes](#) DEI sub Committee meeting proposed for March 13, 2024

Motion to table DEI minutes made by Ms. Wilson and seconded by Dr. Gloria Caballero-Roca

**Motion passes unanimously**

Plans for collecting feedback for renaming Peck school will be reviewed. Training update recommending DEI training for all school committee members.

- v. Local Control Subcommittee- meetings will be scheduled
- vi. Final 2024 School Committee Calendar-

Motion made to table made Ms. Wilson seconded by Dr. Rivera-Colón

**Motion passes unanimously**

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS -**

- c. Tuesday, February 27, 2024 - FAFSA help night at HHSN

- d. SEPAC - Wednesday, February 28, 2024
- e. Middle School- Groundbreaking Ceremony - March 7, 2024 -3:45pm.
- f. Family Literacy Night- Donahue School- March 7, 2024- 4:30-6:00 pm

Motion set to adjourn by Ms. Wilson seconded by Dr. Rivera-Colón.

**Motion passes unanimously**

**Adjournment 8:48pm**