

SPOTLIGHT

2nd Edition
October 2016



School Committee Goals for 2016/17 School Year

Over the summer, the School Committee met to discuss goals for the upcoming school year. The Committee is always mindful of their primary goal to ensure students are learning within our schools.

The Committee developed four goals for the year.

1. Advocate for a budget that calls for educational excellence while being mindful of financial constraints.
2. Approve a documented process for regular review and update of the district policy manual.
3. Develop revised regional agreement to address apportionment formula to present for approval at the two 2017 Annual Town Meetings.
4. Develop implementation strategies for capital plan with involvement of major stakeholders to include the District Master Plan, Turf Field, and Operational Maintenance.

Ballot Question 2

The Hamilton-Wenham Regional School Committee has taken a position on Question 2 and you may find the Committee's discussion and vote within the minutes of our meeting of September 8, 2016 which are available at HWSchools.net or by [clicking here](#).

Summer Learning in Hamilton Wenham Schools:

Katherine Harris met with the School Committee at the September 22 meeting to discuss Hamilton-Wenham's summer program.

The Hamilton Wenham Schools offers an extended school year program during the summer to meet the educational needs of students with a learning delay or disability. These classes meet Monday through Thursday for a few hours between 8 and noon.

This summer, 68 students attended the extended school year program at the Winthrop School. Since the Hamilton Wenham preschool is located at the Winthrop School during the school year and many of the summer students are preschoolers, the Winthrop location works well for this program.

Self-Administered Medicines for Students



At its Sept. 22, 2016 meeting, the School Committee voted to amend the current school policy on administering medicines to students during the school day.

Under the newly approved rules, these changes have occurred:

The school district may stock nasal naloxone (Narcan), and trained medical personnel and first responders may administer nasal naloxone to individuals experiencing a life-threatening overdose in a school setting.

Students with asthma or other respiratory diseases may possess and administer prescription inhalers.

Students with cystic fibrosis may possess and administer prescription enzyme supplements.

Students with diabetes may possess and administer glucose monitoring tests and insulin delivery systems.

Other situations where a student may self-administer medications will be outlined in the student's medical administration plan, as approved by the school nurse.



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DISTRICT INFO

HAMILTON-WENHAM
REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

HEAD OFFICE
5 School Street, Wenham, MA 01984
978-468-5310

SENIOR STAFF

SUPERINTENDENT - Michael Harvey, Ed.D
ASSISTANT
SUPERINTENDENT - Jeffrey Sands
TREASURER - Don Gallant
DIRECTOR OF CURRICULUM - Peggy McElhinney
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT - Donna Bunk

SCHOOL COMMITTEE

CHAIR - Stacey Matternick
VICE-CHAIR - Hannah Fraley
SECRETARY - Michelle Bailey
ASST SECRETARY -
ASST TREASURER - David Polito
MEMBER - Jeanise Bertrand
MEMBER - Deborah Evans

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

WRITER - Michelle Bailey
WRITER - Deborah Evans
CONTRIBUTING WRITER - Tracy Mayor
ART DIRECTOR - David Polito

Possible Change in Notification of Pediculosis Cases

At its upcoming meeting on October 20, 2016, the School Committee is expected to take a vote on whether to change the current policy regarding the notification to parents of cases of pediculosis – head lice – within a school building. Currently, parents are notified when a case has been detected in their child's school. Under the proposed new rule, parents would not be notified, for reasons of privacy related to the HIPAA (Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act) act.

The Committee has heard several presentations and discussed the topic at various recent meetings and likely will not be holding another public hearing before it votes. To share your concerns or ask questions before a likely vote on October 20th, please email the committee at SC_Communications@hwschools.net. To comment on the day of the vote, address the committee during the Citizens' Comments portion of the meeting, which occurs at 7:00 p.m.. on Oct. 20th.

Superintendent Evaluation

At its September 22nd meeting, the Hamilton Wenham Regional School Committee gave superintendent Michael Harvey his annual evaluation.

Dr. Harvey was awarded an overall grade of "proficient" by the School Committee. In the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education evaluation process a proficient practice is understood

to be fully satisfactory. This is the rigorous expected level of performance. A rating of Exemplary indicates that practice significantly exceeds Proficient and could serve as a model of practice regionally or statewide.

School Committee member Deb Evans spoke after the evaluation to state that the term proficient did not seem adequate enough a term for

Dr. Harvey's work as superintendent and that the Hamilton Wenham School District was lucky to have him.

You may find the rest of the Committee's discussion within the September 22, 2016 meeting minutes which are available at HWSchools.net or by [clicking here](#).



Gifts Received by the HWRSD

The District is fortunate to have a wide variety of organizations supporting the education of the students in the Hamilton Wenham Regional School District. The School Committee gratefully accepted the following gifts at recent meetings.

Friends of Winthrop / Operation Playground	\$11,934.09
Friends of Cutler / Project Gazebo	\$20,000.00
Friends of the Arts (FOTA) / Bose Subwoofer and Case	\$1,204.95
Hamilton Wenham EdFund / Using Legos to solve Physics & Engineering Challenges (STEM work at MRMS)	\$13,867.90
Hamilton Wenham Edfund / Mobile Chromebook cart and Pasco sensors - Science Technology Modernization for Data Analysis	\$15,853.39
Wellness Grant from the Foundation for Alcohol Education / For 6-12 Wellness Department for the improbable Players to perform in the MRMS in January/February 2017	\$1,600.00

Regional Agreement

At its September 8th meeting, the School committee adopted goals for the 2016-2017 school year. One of the goals is to update the Regional Agreement, specifically to "Develop revised Regional Agreement to address apportionment formula to present for approval at the two 2017 Annual Town Meetings."

A subcommittee of the School Committee was created to draft revisions and prepare scenario analysis. Stacey Metternick, Hannah Fraley, and Deb Evans agreed to serve on this

committee. This subcommittee will evaluate alternative formulas for allocating the HWRSD operating expenses to each of the member towns (Hamilton and Wenham). A working group comprised of school representative and town representatives will be meeting in the coming months to discuss alternative formulas.

The operating expenses are currently allocated using a formula that is based on resident student enrolment using a 3 year rolling average. The goal of a new formula will

be to smooth out the fiscal impact of dramatic year over year enrolment increases which potentially affect either town in the future.

School Committee Calendar of Meetings for 2016-2017

Below is a general outline of topics to be discussed by the School Committee. This list is tentative and subject to change as new matters of business develop during the school year that need to be present

All official School Committee agendas must legally be posted 48 hours before meeting time. To find out exactly what's on the agenda for a given meeting, log on to the District Website any time after that point, navigate to the School District's Calendar [page](#), and click the appropriate date and meeting to download that agenda.

October 6, 2016:

Presentation of Superintendent's Goals for 2016-2017
* Presentation of SEPAC Goals for 2016-2017 * Select delegate and alternate for MASC conference * Review of 2017-2018 Academic Calendar * Policy review.

October 20, 2016:

Student government presentation * Presentation from Powers and Sullivan on FY2016 audit * YTD financial report
* Vote on MASC resolutions * Subcommittee reports

November 3, 2016:

SC budget goals discussion * Public hearing regarding school choice * Oct. 1 enrollment report

November TBD, 2016:

Joint meeting with Hamilton and Wenham Finance Committees

November 17, 2016:

District assessment results presentation * Subcommittee reports * SC vote on school choice for FY2018 * Vote on academic calendar for 2017-2018

December 1, 2016:

Policy review

December 15, 2016:

Presentation of Superintendent's recommended FY18 budget * FY18 budget review * Adopt tentative FY18 budget * Warrant for SC elections * Committee reports

January 5, 2017:

FY18 budget review * Policy review

January 19, 2017:

FY18 budget public hearing * FY18 budget review * Committee reports

January TBD, 2017:

Joint meeting with Hamilton and Wenham Finance Committees

February 2, 2017:

Student government presentation * Policy review * FY18 budget review * Adopt FY18 budget

February 16, 2017:

Committee reports * Report on District, SC and Superintendent goal progress for 2016-2017 * Midyear Financial Progress report

March 2, 2017:

Policy review * Midyear update from Student Services

March 16, 2017:

Committee reports * Update from Curriculum, Assessment and Instruction

April 1, 2017 (tentative):

Annual town meetings

April 6, 2017:

Annual town elections

April 6, 2017:

Student government presentation * Policy review *

May 4, 2017:

SC reorganization and election of officers following towns election of April 6 * Review of SC subcommittees * Vote to set last day of school

May 18, 2017:

Set subcommittees

June 8, 2017:

Recognition of retirees * Develop SC goals for 2017 – 2018 * Policy review

June 22, 2017:

Committee reports * SEPAC annual report * End-of-year financial forecast * Report on District, SC and Superintendent goal progress for 2016 – 2017

Please know that not all items on a School Committee meeting agenda are open for public comment. To share your views or ask a question about a given agenda item, please be prepared to address the committee during the Citizen's Comments portion of every meeting, which occurs exactly 10 minutes after the meeting is called to order.

For any other questions about meeting topics, please email the School Committee Communications Work Group at SC_COMMUNICATIONS@HWSCHOOLS.NET.