

**HADLEY SCHOOL COMMITTEE
HADLEY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
HADLEY, MASSACHUSETTS 01035
January 27, 2025**

Zoom Meeting: 5:30 PM – Regular Meeting recording: [Click Here](#)

Hadley Public Schools – We are guided by the mission to provide a safe and supportive environment that fosters cooperation, critical thinking, creativity, and integrity; and educating students to contribute positively to a global society.

Present: H. Fasihuddin, T. Brugger, E. Percy, P. Phifer, C. Pipczynski, Chris Desjardins, A. McKenzie

Student Representative: N/A

Absent:

Guests: Hadley Media representative; HES Principal Jennifer Dowd; Director of Student Services Celia Utley; Michelle Wojtowicz, SEL Coach; Erik Sudnick, Acting Principal Hopkins Academy; *from CHA* (John Tesh, Brendan Hall, Saathak Narsipur and Mitchell Dewein); *from TRANE* (Morgan Perras, Max Ma)

1. Call to Order: 5:30pm:

Motion: Percy Second: Brugger

Vote: 5-0-0

2. Adjustments to the Agenda

A. McKenzie stated Park and Recreation would like to give schools information on a proposed CPA project.

3. [Public Comment](#) – None.

4. Presentations/Discussion Items

a. Update Strategy Documents

- i. [Special Education](#) – Director of Student Services Celia Utley gave an overview of Special Education Strategic Objectives (linked to these minutes.) She stated that the primary goal is to build capacity to avoid having to send students out to districts with specialized programming. We have increased programs at both secondary and elementary levels. Other areas of improvement are professional development opportunities for ESPs. SEPAC is fully functioning at this time.
 - ii. [HES](#) – HES Principal Jennifer Dowd gave an overview of HES Strategic Objectives (linked to these minutes.) She stated that administration continues to look at a variety of assessments across grade levels. Particular attention is being given to Health standards and Science curriculum for next year.
 - iii. [HA - Presentation Overview](#) – Hopkins Academy Acting Principal Erik Sudnick gave an overview of HA Strategic Objectives (linked to these minutes.) He explained that Hopkins' goal is to align with the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education's goals. Under Instructional Design two new pathways have been introduced including a Clean Energy Innovation and an Informational Sciences Pathway. Service learning will also be brought in to the classroom.
 - iv. [District](#) – Superintendent McKenzie gave an overview of the HPS District Strategic Objectives (linked to these minutes.) She thanked all school leadership. Primary overarching goals have changed very little. She thanked school committee for giving the district the time needed to get these objectives done. She stated that next year two new innovative pathways will be added in the areas of Health Services and Manufacturing. Project Lead the Way Biomedical Science will also be implemented
- b. [Curriculum and Instructional Materials](#) – Dr. McKenzie noted that HES specific material was requested by the school committee at their last meeting and is included in the linked document
- c. [Overview](#) of MSBA SOI process and [timeline](#) – Dr. McKenzie stated that the Heat Pump project is not eligible for MSBA program as we did not do not meet the criteria for evaluation as we will have steam pipe fitting at time of application.

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- d. CHA Solutions [Presentation](#) of Engineering [Designs](#) for Geothermal Project – representatives presented information on the HA Deep Energy Retrofit Design project, linked to these minutes. The assessment determined that 40 geothermal wells will be needed to heat and cool the school building, and a supplemental natural gas boiler is recommended as a back up. It was noted that this project will be integrated with the locker room renovation project. Preliminary Cost Estimate were broken down as follows: Exterior Architectural scope-\$125K, Interior Architectural scope cost-\$380K, Geothermal wellfield-\$3M, HVAC, \$4, 022,000, Electrical-\$686K, Sitework-\$85K, Design Contingency-15%. Total cost estimate without incentives is \$9.54M. Potential available incentives include an Eversource Utility incentive (\$810K) and an IRA Tax Credit for a potential incentive of \$3.2M. The total Estimated Project Cost including Incentives is \$5.5M.
 - e. Alternative Procurement through [Energy Management Services](#) and [Performance Contracting](#): Review of [Benefits](#) – Representatives from TRANE (Morgan Perras and Max Ma) presented an overview of procurement services for comprehensive school upgrade projects ([linked here](#)). They guide the process for realizing incentives associated with the project. The team presented their process for coordinating the procurement process including grants and alternative funding. Presenters summarized their presentation stating that their services offer fiscal, social and environmental benefits to the school and community. Discussion ensued regarding the benefits of using a service such as this.
 - f. Update from Park and Rec re: Proposed CPA Project – Jim Shea from the Hadley Park and Recreation Department inquired with SC about their thoughts on space for a pickleball court on property adjacent to Hopkins Academy. This was a preliminary check-in by Parks and Recreation for a future project, based on other the timeline of other town projects and approval. Overall the idea was met with positive feedback, with caution on timeline due to potential disruption by geothermal project.
 - g. FY26 Preliminary Budget (McKenzie/Desjardins) – Preliminary cherry sheets distributed to town officials show that local aid for school is expected to increase minimally. This will be factored into the budget. More information to follow in budget discussions in future meetings.
 - h. Policy Reviews Second and Final Reading – Tabled to next meeting.
 - i. Policy: [Revised AC Non Discrimination](#)
 - ii. Policy: [Revised AC-R](#)
 - iii. Policy: [Revised ACA Non Discrimination on the Basis of Sex](#)
 - iv. Policy: [ACA-R Non Discrimination on the Basis of Sex Under Title IX Including Sex-Based Harassment of Sex](#)
 - v. Policy: [ACAB Sexual and Sex Based Harassment and Retaliation](#)
 - vi. Policy: [International Student Policy](#)
 - i. Elimination of Policy FA-E – Tabled to next meeting.
- 5. Action Items – (not voted in previous discussions)**
- a. Approval of HES Strategy Document/ School Improvement Plan
 - b. Approval of HA Strategy Document/School Improvement Plan
 - c. Approval of HPS Strategy Document/ District Improvement Plan and Special Ed Strategy Document/School Improvement
- Action: Strategy Documents (a, b and c) voted as a group:**
Motion: Brugger Second: Phifer Vote: 5-0-0
- ~~d. Approval of revised policy AC Non Discrimination~~
 - ~~e. Approval of revised policy AC-R~~
 - ~~f. Approval of revised policy ACA Non Discrimination on the Basis of Sex~~
 - ~~g. Approval of revised policy ACA-R Non Discrimination on the Basis of Sex Under Title IX Including Sex-Based Harassment of Sex~~
 - ~~h. Approval of International Student Policy~~

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i. ~~Elimination of policy FA-E~~

j. Approval of payroll and expense warrants for December

Motion: Pipczynski Second: Brugger Vote: 5-0-0

k. Approval of SC Minutes: [12/16/2024](#)

Motion: Pipczynski Second: Phifer Vote: 5-0-0

6. School Committee Updates and General Announcements

- a. Playground, SEPAC, CES: T. Brugger stated that CES will meet this week. SEPAC met today and is well functioning. The playground is going out to bid on the surfacing project.
- b. Finance – no further update. School Committee will be presenting its departmental update to the Select Board on 02/05/2025.
- c. Fields – Work continues on the donor recognition sign.
- d. Capital – No new information
- e. Policy - Percy/Pipczynski – no new information
- f. Student Representative Update – report next month
- g. General Announcements
 - i. David Fil - Selectboard Liaison to SC – no report

7. Executive Session –

Chair Fasihuddin entertained a motion to move to Executive Session to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation and stated an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body, the chair so declares and not return to open session

Motion: Pipczynski Second: Percy

Roll Call Vote: Percy-yes; Phifer-yes; Brugger-yes; Pipczynski-yes; Fasihuddin-yes

8. Next Meeting Dates

February 24, 2025 @ 5:30 pm - Regular School Committee

February 24, 2025 @ 4 pm - Policy subcommittee

9. Adjourn Regular Meeting to Executive Session: (7:58pm)