

**HADLEY SCHOOL COMMITTEE
HADLEY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
HADLEY, MASSACHUSETTS 01035
August 26, 2024**

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

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, A. McKenzie, Chris Desjardins

Student Representative: N/A

Absent: None

Guests: Hadley Media representative; April Camuso, Principal – Hopkins Academy, Jennifer Dowd, Principal – Hadley Elementary School, Lauren Wenner, Director – Hadley Preschool

1. Call to Order: 5:31pm:

Motion: Percy

Second: Brugger

Vote: 5-0-0

2. Adjustments to the Agenda

A. McKenzie informed SC members that Ms. Wenner's presentation on Preschool Handbook has been added to the agenda. Mr. Desjardin will update the committee on the trip to Smith College to view their geothermal system. There is no finance report tonight.

3. [Public Comment](#) – Chair Fasihuddin asked for any public comment. She noted that there were no requests to make a statement or comment.

4. Presentations/Discussion Items

a. Approval HA [Program of Studies](#) – HA Principal Camuso reviewed changes to the HA Program of Studies. There were only a few changes that include the addition of two new innovation pathways as well as updates to current MCAS competency requirements.

b. Approval of HA [Handbook](#) – HA Principal Camuso reviewed the summary of changes to the HA Handbook which are included in the link: [Summary of Changes](#). Ms. Camuso also gave a short synopsis of cell phone usage policy.

c. Approval of HES [Handbook](#) – HES Principal Dowd reviewed the summary of changes to the HES Handbook which are included in the link: [Summary of Changes](#).

d. Approval of PreK [Handbook](#) – Preschool Directory Wenner reviewed the summary of changes to the Preschool Handbook which are included in the link: [Summary of Changes](#).

e. School Committee Reorganization (Chair)

i. The Chair will open the floor for nominations for SC Chairperson.

Nomination of Humera Fasihuddin as Chair:

Motion: Phifer

Second: Brugger

Vote: 5-0-0

ii. The Chair will open the floor for nominations for Vice Chair.

Nomination of Paul Phifer as Vice Chair:

Motion: Brugger

Second: Pipczynski

Vote: 5-0-0

iii. The Chair will open the floor for nominations for two policy subcommittee representatives.

Nomination of Ethan Percy and Christine Pipczynski:

Motion: Brugger

Second: Phifer

Vote: 5-0-0

iv. The Chair will open the floor for nominations for CES representative.

Nomination of Tara Brugger for CES representative:

Motion: Percy

Second: Pipczynski

Vote: 5-0-0

v. The Chair will open the floor for nominations for representative to Town Capital Committee and alternate representative.

Nomination of Christine Pipczynski as representative to Town Capital Committee and Paul Phifer as alternate:

Motion: Percy

Second: Phifer

Vote: 5-0-0

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- vi. The Chair will open the floor for nominations for SC representative at Tri-Board/Finance and alternate representative.

Nomination of Paul Phifer as School Committee representative at Tri-Board/Finance Committee and Humera Fasihuddin as the alternate:

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

- f. [Ten Year Capital Plan](#) – Mr. Desjardins reviewed changes to the School’s capital plan (linked to these minutes). These have been submitted to the Town, but the warrant is still in discussion. Special Town meeting is scheduled for October 24, 2024. Mr. Desjardins reviewed changes in the capital plan as reflected on the attached plan. (Changes are featured in the document and highlighted in yellow.) Many projects will be impacted by future geothermal system. Discussion ensued about the need to replace lockers for both Hopkins Academy and Hadley Elementary School. Principal Dowd pointed out that the need at HES is more of an aesthetic need, not a safety need. The total ask for FY2025 is \$637K.
- g. [NEASC Membership](#) (McKenzie) – A. McKenzie explained that services offered by this membership are not needed as the district is already subject to district performance reviews and the data is available to the public. She recommends terminating membership.

5. Action Items (taken out of order)

- a. Approval of 2024-2034 School Department Capital Plan –
Motion: Pipczynski Second: Phifer Vote: 5-0-0
- b. Approval of withdrawal from NEASC
Motion: Pipczynski Second: Percy Vote: 5-0-0
- c. Approval of payroll and expense warrants
Motion: Pipczynski Second: Percy Vote: 5-0-0
- d. Approval of SC Minutes – Passed Over-no minutes
- e. Approval of Hopkins Academy Handbook:
Motion: Phifer Second: Percy Vote: 5-0-0
- f. Approval of Hadley Elementary School Handbook
Motion: Phifer Second: Percy Vote: 5-0-0
- g. Approval of PreK Handbook
Motion: Pipczynski Second: Percy Vote: 5-0-0
- h. Approval of Hopkins Academy Program of Studies
Motion: Pipczynski Second: Percy Vote: 5-0-0
- h. [Superintendent Updates](#) – The most important updates are the upward trend in student enrollment, and information on the HA locker room project. A. McKenzie also stated that grant awards currently total \$456K in awarded grants for this fiscal year.
- i. Business Manager Report – Mr. Desjardins will present financial reports in September.
- i. [Geothermal Project](#) Updates – Mr. Desjardins reviewed lessons learned from Smith College visit to view their geothermal system. His biggest takeaway is the need for a back up system in the case of system failure, when more capacity is required or in the event of a power outage. Mr. Desjardins discussed this with designers today. Chair Fasihuddin reiterated that the Daily Hampshire Gazette incorrectly reported that this project will be completed that this project will be completed in 2028, when in fact the School Committee has not voted nor has the Town approved moving forward with the project.

6. School Committee Updates and General Announcements – None

7. Executive Session – No executive session

8. Next Meeting Date – September 23, 2024 at 5:30 pm School Committee meeting with Policy Subcommittee meeting at 4:00pm.

9. Adjourn Regular Meeting: (7:00pm)

Motion: Pipczynski Second: Phifer Vote 4-0-0.