

WHITMAN-HANSON REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
Minutes of February 26, 2020
Held at the Whitman-Hanson Regional High School
600 Franklin Street, Whitman MA

Meeting convened: 7:05 p.m.

Meeting adjourned: 9:48 p.m.

Members present: Robert Hayes, Christopher Scriven, Frederick Small, Robert O'Brien, Jr., Daniel Cullity, Christopher Howard, Michael Jones, Dawn Byers, Alexandria Taylor

Members absent: Steve Bois

Administrators present: Jeffrey Szymaniak, Superintendent of Schools
George M. Ferro, Jr., Assistant Superintendent of Schools
John Tuffy, Interim Business Manager

Chair Hayes brought the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and announced the meeting was being recorded and broadcast live.

Moment of Silence

Pledge of Allegiance

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Meeting minutes of January 15, 2020

VOTE: Ms. Byers motioned; Mr. Howard seconded: voted to amend the meeting minutes of January 15, 2020 School Committee meeting under Superintendent's report and replace "each student commented" with "three of the five students commented on their support for the current start times as more beneficial for them." The motion passed unanimously.

VOTE: Mr. Small motioned; Mr. Cullity seconded; voted to approve the meeting minutes of January 15, 2020 School Committee meeting, as amended. The motion passed unanimously.

Meeting minutes of December 15, 2020

Ms. Byers requested the minutes on page 6, paragraph 4, be amended to reflect her statement more accurately from "Ms. Byers stated the committee should consider how much the towns can afford when prioritizing budget items." to "be careful when we talk about the two towns and what they can afford. It also comes down to priorities so be careful not to confuse the two things: what they can afford depends on what choices are made in order to fund and prioritize different things."

VOTE: Ms. Byers motioned; Mr. Howard seconded: voted to amend the meeting minutes of December 11, 2020 on page 6, paragraph 4 from "Ms. Byers stated the committee should consider how much the towns can afford when prioritizing budget items." to "be careful when we talk about the two towns and what they can afford. It also comes down to priorities so be careful not to confuse the two things: what they can afford depends on what choices are made in order to fund and prioritize different things." The motion passed 8-0-1. Mr. Small abstained.

VOTE: Mr. Cullity motioned; Mr. O’Brien seconded; voted to approve the meeting minutes of December 11, 2020 School Committee meeting, as amended. The motion passed unanimously.

STUDENT ADVISORY REPORT

Student Council Advisory Representative Caitlin Veneto, Vice President of Student Council reported on student and school activities. Show Choir will compete in their first competition on February 29. The high school Student Council will participate in the MASC Student Council State Conference in Hyannis March 4-6. The Robotics club is developing its first camp for middle school students to learn the basic coding and fundamentals of robotic engineering. In sports, the boys’ and girls’ basketball teams and boys’ and girls’ hockey teams have made the playoffs.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

The Superintendent took the agenda out of order to accommodate presentations.

Auditor’s Report 2019

Jennifer Cook, Signing Director, for CLA (CliftonLarsonAllen LLP), independent auditors for the School District, presented the FY2019 Auditors Report to the Committee and a brief verbal summary of the Terms of Engagement, Open Items, Executive Summary, Financial Highlights, GAO and OMB Reports and Management Letter. Ms. Cook added the financials are still in draft form. Highlights included: No GAO internal control findings were identified; the Major Federal Awards Program audit – anticipate issuing an unmodified opinion and two informational management letter comments. Financial highlights included the net position on page 9 of the report as well as OPEB (Other Post-Employment Benefits) unrestricted deficit as ~Net Investment in Capital Assets: \$54.8M and ~ Unrestricted Deficit: \$103.6M. There were no findings in compliance with law, regulations, contracts and grants. There was a brief discussion regarding replenishment of E&D, which, notably has not been replenished at the rate of utilization.

District Treasurer’s Report and OPEB Update – David Leary

Treasurer’s Report

District Treasurer David Leary highlighted the following items:

- The School maintains a strong debt position; O/S principal on the regional high school building is \$4,170,000 as of January 2, 2020 and has maintained a “AA” bond rating through Standard & Poors (reviewed annually)
- Short term debt issued for technology needs for \$115,500 and HVAC project for \$500,000
- Investment income estimate for FY2019 was \$50,000. Actual was \$107,507
- In 2018, monies held for scholarships were moved into an investment program that offers better returns while maintaining a conservative approach. Investment return remains steady

PARS (Public Agency Retirement Services report and OPEB (Other Post-Employment Benefits) Update

Kathryn Cannie, PARS Senior Consultant, and Thomas O’Brien, Plymouth County Treasurer presented the Plymouth County OPEB Trust (PCOT) Board Review.

Highlights

WHRSD adopted the Trust Program since fall 2015 starting funding at \$100,000

- Current investment is \$175,000
- No disbursements requested to date
- No disbursement to date
- Current net balance is \$225,903
- Participating in a growth portfolio

Ms. Cannie spoke to returns on investment, adding that the assets are pooled for investment purposes only, and municipality liabilities are not shared. Ms. Cannie explained that under GASB45 in 2006, it was

recommended to begin funding OPEB assessments and set aside assets to offset liabilities. Ms. Cannie indicated short term market corrections may be made as a result of Coronavirus. She also noted the program is a 30-year investment program and anticipate a 7% return overall. Mr. Tuffy confirmed there is no placeholder currently in the budget for additional investment.

Job Postings – Administration

Director of Business and Finance

Superintendent Szymaniak reported the open Director of Business and Finance position was posted on February 24, 2020. Mr. Szymaniak recommended a School Committee member from each town sit on the search committee. He plans to also include a town official from each town, principal and business office staff. It is anticipated the top finalists would be brought to the School Committee prior to the April school vacation week. Mr. Small and Mr. Hayes were appointed to the Search Committee. Ms. Taylor was appointed as an alternate. Paper screenings will begin March 21.

Indian Head Elementary School Principal

Superintendent Szymaniak reported the open Assistant Principal position at the Duval Elementary School was also posted on February 24, 2020. A search committee is being developed and will follow the same time line as the Director of Business and Finance search.

Budget FY2020 Update - John Tuffy

YTD Expenditures and Revenue Reports and Line Item Transfer Request

Mr. Tuffy reported the YTD reports and line item transfers will be tabled until the next School Committee meeting in March.

FY2021 Budget Discussion

The Superintendent presented budget history by line item from FY2018 through FY2020 with the proposed FY2021 budget. Mr. Szymaniak would like the feedback of the Committee on both the recommended and required proposed budget presented at the February 5, 2020 budget hearing meeting. He anticipated the Committee will vote to certify the FY2021 budget and perhaps local assessments at the March 11, 2020. The required proposed FY2021 operating budget will provide level service. There are items in the recommended proposal that are up for the Committee's discussion. The Superintendent stated he also understands that assessment methodology continues to be a topic of discussion. The Superintendent reported the line by line budget history will be posted on the District website on February 27.

It was the consensus of the Committee to schedule the next School Committee meeting on March 4, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. to review the budget history document line by line and invite town officials for input.

Public Comment - Kathleen Ottina, Whitman, requested the Committee consider reviewing elementary class size inequities of 19 in some classes and over 24 in others, specifically at the Duval Elementary School.

Ms. Byers spoke to her position as an appointed member of the Whitman Budget Override Evaluation Committee. She requested the Committee consider the recommendation in Mr. John Madden's report to fund education at a 5% assessment increase to the town of Whitman.

Considerations to assessment increases to both towns were discussed. Superintendent Szymaniak reported he has not had feedback from the Hanson Finance Committee to date. Mr. Howard reflected on the financial impact of the budget cycle assessment calculation swing, not only for this year but future years, and his difficulty in supporting a budget with a \$1 million assessment increase to one town. He also made reference to the recommendations of Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) Christine Lynch

that the towns work to manage the assessment swing over a period of time. In keeping a continued partnership with the towns in mind, Mr. Howard debated the best case scenario for a budget is a level service one.

Laura Kemmett, Hanson Board of Selectmen Chair, reported town officials have recently met and requested to add the Regional Agreement to the School Committee agenda to open discussion. She reported the district has not heard from the Hanson Finance Committee because they need a budget figure from the Committee. Ms. Kemmett reported the Town of Hanson posted an invitation to bid on the operation and comparative audit of the Whitman-Hanson Regional School District due March 12.

The Committee continued deliberation to develop an appropriate budget while being cognizant of the Town of Hanson's challenge to fund a significant assessment increase under the current assessment methodology. Committee members also acknowledged that the state will impose a 1/12th budget of the previous fiscal year, if a school budget is not established by June 30.

Mr. Tuffy indicated when reviewing the budget history line items, there are a number of intentional blanks from year to year. These indicate line items that are no longer in use, were retired, or consolidated into other line items; however, were left in to keep the integrity of the data.

Randy LaMattina, Whitman Board of Selectmen Chair, stated a school budget amount is needed from the Committee relatively soon.

Regional Agreement

Chair Hayes stated the Regional Agreement is on the agenda at the request of elected town officials and others to impanel another regional agreement amendment committee to address and update the regional agreement. It was suggested the most recent Regional Agreement Amendment (RAA) Committee had too many members and there was interest in reducing the number of members.

Chair Hayes recommended the newest Regional Agreement Amendment (RAA) Committee be comprised of one Board of Selectmen from each town, one Finance Committee member from each town, one School Committee member from each town and one community citizen-at-large for a total of eight. All meetings will be public and per open meeting.

Mr. Cullity clarified one from each board from each town. There was discussion of including the Town Administrators who may be too busy to be on the committee. The consensus of the Committee was to keep the RA Amendment Committee small consisting of eight members.

Hanson Town Administrator, Laura Kemmett, stated the most recently impaneled RAA Committee consisted of two board of selectmen members and suggested to either have one town administrator and one board of selectmen or two board of selectmen for good balance.

Chair Hayes added that the Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent would also be participating in the meetings.

Chair Hayes asked for a motion to impanel a new Regional Agreement Amendment (RAA) Committee and request the towns identify the appointed persons comprised of either two Board of Selectmen from each town or one Board of Selectmen and one Town Administrator; one Finance Committee member from each town; one School Committee member from each town; and one community member citizen-at-large.

VOTE: Mr. Small motioned; Mr. Cullity seconded; voted to impanel a new Regional Agreement Amendment (RAA) Committee and request the towns identify the appointed persons comprised of either two Board of Selectmen from each town or one Board of Selectmen and one Town Administrator; one Finance Committee member from each town; one School Committee member from each town; and one community member citizen-at-large The motion passed unanimously.

Chair Hayes recommended member towns select their RAA subcommittee members by March 18. The Citizen-at-large members will be selected by each member town.

North River Collaborative Report
There was nothing new to report.

OLD BUSINESS

2020-21 Academic School Year Calendar

The Superintendent recently presented two proposals for the academic calendar for the upcoming school year. He reported he received feedback from several parents opposing an early start of the school year on August 26. The Superintendent was seeking a vote of the Committee to approve the return to school date in order to develop schedules and events for the next school year in a timely fashion.

Ms. Byers made a motion for the first day of school for students to be on August 31, 2020. The motion was seconded by Mr. Howard. There was considerable discussion and public comment with regard to working parents who depend on summer camps and other such organized assemblies when school is not in session and consider those schedules to be in line with camps and other districts calendars. Several options to amend dates presented in both academic calendar scenarios were discussed. Representatives from Whitman Hanson Education Association (WHEA) Kevin Kavka and Cindy McGann noted an earlier student return date presents less risk of unanticipated no school days and going later into June and more effective teaching time in the fall versus late June. Mr. Small motioned to amend the motion to a start date of August 26, 2020 and early release and last day as discussed. The motion to amend was seconded by Mr. Cullity. Chair Hayes moved to the motion to amend.

VOTE: Mr. Small motioned; Mr. Cullity seconded to amend the motion made by Ms. Byers. The motion to amend the original motion passed 8-2-0. Ms. Byers and Mr. Scriven opposed.

VOTE: Mr. Cullity motioned; Ms. Taylor seconded; voted to accept the 2020-21 school calendar with the first day of school for students on August 26, 2020 return date for students, an early release day on September 4, 2020 and the last day of school as June 11, 2021. The motion passed 8-2-0. Ms. Byers and Mr. Scriven opposed.

NEW BUSINESS

Public Hearing on School Choice Participation for 2020-21 SY

Chair Hayes opened the public hearing on school choice participation for the 2020-21 School Year.

VOTE: Mr. Small motioned; Mr. Cullity seconded by roll call to open the public hearing on school choice participation for the 2020-21 school year.

Mr. Howard – yes

Mr. Jones – yes

Mr. O'Brien – yes

Mr. Cullity – yes

Mr. Small – yes

Mr. Scriven – yes

Ms. Taylor – yes

Ms. Byers – yes

Mr. Hayes – yes

The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Szymaniak recommended continuing participating in school choice for the upcoming 2020-21 school year, in the same configuration as years past, Grades 9 and 10 up to 20 students; any high school student that moves out of district; and in addition, include any existing student that moves out of district, and requests to stay in district, be at the discretion of the Superintendent or his designee. Mr. Szymaniak reported this school year 66 students come in under choice and 30 resident student going out outgoing to other schools. Budget cuts and online schooling (i.e., Tecca Academy) impact student enrollment under choice. Mr. Szymaniak requested more flexibility to determine if a student of any grade may remain enrolled if they move out of town. The Superintendent added that revenue for the choice in student remains with the school building. After brief deliberation the Committee motioned on participation.

VOTE: Mr. Small motioned; Ms. Taylor seconded; voted to participate in School Choice for the 2020-21 School year for Grades 9 and 10 up to 20 students per grade as well as any resident student that moves out of district, at the discretion of the Superintendent or Designee, as discussed. The motion passed unanimously.

VOTE: Mr. Small motioned; Ms. Taylor seconded by roll call to close the public hearing on school choice participation.

Mr. Howard – yes

Mr. Jones – yes

Mr. O'Brien – yes

Mr. Cullity – yes

Mr. Small – yes

Mr. Scriven – yes

Ms. Taylor – yes

Ms. Byers – yes

Mr. Hayes – yes

The motion passed unanimously.

WHRSD Strategic Plan 2020-2023

Mr. Ferro reported the three year WHRSD Strategic Plan is currently in progress. Principals have outreached to school staff, PACs and school improvement committees for input. It is anticipated to be complete by the end of March and adopted by School Committee. Mr. Ferro added, imbedded in the Strategic Plan are items related to the Student Opportunity Act (SOA). The SOA submission must be approved by the Committee and submitted to DESE no later than April 1, 2020.

Capital Projects Warrant Articles

Mr. Small reported the proposed capital warrant articles were reviewed and voted unanimously to approve and to recommend to School Committee for a vote to accept as written. Chair Hayes presented the Article submission as follows for voting of the Committee for the record are listed under the votes of the School Committee.

TOWN OF WHITMAN

Warrant Articles for the Town of Whitman Annual Town Meeting on May 4, 2020 proposed by the Whitman-Hanson Regional School Committee.

VOTE: Mr. Small motioned; Ms. Taylor seconded; voted to place the Whitman Middle School Feasibility Study article for the Town of Whitman Annual Town Meeting on May 4, 2020 proposed by the Whitman-Hanson Regional School Committee, as written. The motion passed unanimously.
Whitman Middle School Feasibility Study

ARTICLE: To see if the Town will approve the \$1,000,000.00 borrowing authorized by the *Whitman Hanson Regional School District*, for the purpose of paying costs of a feasibility study to understand the best solution to the physical and educational deficiencies of the Whitman Middle School, located at 100 Cortrell Avenue, Whitman, Massachusetts, including all costs incidental and related thereto (the “Study”) said amount to be expended under the direction of the *Whitman Middle School Building Committee*, and for which the District may be eligible for a school construction grant from the Massachusetts School Building Authority (“MSBA”), said amount to be expended at the direction of the *Whitman Middle School Building Committee*]. The MSBA’s grant program is a non-entitlement, discretionary program based on need, as determined by the MSBA, and any Study costs the District incurs in excess of any grant approved by and received from the MSBA shall be the sole responsibility of the District and its member municipalities. Any grant that the District may receive from the MSBA for the Study shall be as set forth in the Feasibility Study Agreement that may be executed between the District and the MSBA.

FURTHER VOTED: That within seven (7) days from the date on which this vote is adopted the Secretary be and hereby is instructed to notify the Board of Selectmen of each of the member towns of this District as to the amount and general purposes of debt herein authorized, as required by the District Agreement and by Chapter 71, Section 16(d), of the General Laws.

Explanation: For the purpose of paying costs of a feasibility study to understand the best solution to the physical and educational deficiencies of the Whitman Middle School, located at 100 Cortrell Avenue, Whitman, Massachusetts

TOWN OF WHITMAN

Warrant Articles for the Town of Whitman Annual Town Meeting on May 4, 2020 proposed by the Whitman-Hanson Regional School Committee.

VOTE: Mr. Small motioned; Mr. Cullity seconded; voted to place the following four articles on page 2 of the document for the Town of Whitman Annual Town Meeting on May 4, 2020 proposed by the Whitman-Hanson Regional School Committee, as written. The motion passed unanimously.

Duval and Conley Elementary Schools

ARTICLE: To see if the town will vote to transfer a sum of money from free cash and/or available funds or borrow a sum of \$ 35,000 to replace and repair the sidewalks at the Conley and Duval Elementary Schools, and the Whitman Middle School or take any other action relative thereto.

Explanation: Due to the deterioration caused by the freeze-thaw effect on these sidewalks, there are existing trip hazards at all three locations that need to be rectified.

Estimated cost: \$ 35,000

Duval Elementary School

ARTICLE: To see if the town will vote to transfer a sum of money from free cash and/or available funds or borrow a sum of \$ 20,000 to reimburse the Whitman-Hanson Regional School District for the construction of a parking lot at the rear of the Duval Elementary School or take any other action relative thereto.

Explanation: This reimbursement is for the removal of the decomposed mulch and installation of gravel in the old swing set pit. Placement of asphalt created an additional twenty parking spaces.

Estimated cost: \$ 20,000

Duval Elementary School

ARTICLE: To see if the town will vote to transfer a sum of money from free cash and/or available funds or borrow a sum of \$ 45,000 to reimburse the Whitman-Hanson Regional School District for the installation of a chairlift at the Duval Elementary School or take any other action relative thereto.

Explanation: This reimbursement is for the removal and decommissioning of the existing chairlift that had numerous breakdowns and costly repairs and the Whitman Hanson Regional School District paid for the installation of a new chairlift.

Estimated cost: \$ 45,000

Duval Elementary School

ARTICLE: To see if the town will vote to transfer a sum of money from free cash and/or available funds or borrow a sum of \$ 100,000 for repairs to the Duval Elementary roof and non-working drains or take any other action relative thereto.

Explanation: Both the Whitman Hanson Regional School District and the Town of Whitman have agreed to apply for any and all grants available for roof repairs. Until these grants are available money is needed to continuously repair the Duval Elementary School roof leaks and non-working drains.

Estimated cost: \$ 100,000

VOTE: Mr. Small motioned; Ms. Taylor seconded; voted to place the following articles on page 2 of the document for the Town of Whitman Annual Town Meeting on May 4, 2020 proposed by the Whitman-Hanson Regional School Committee, as written. The motion passed unanimously.

Duval and Conley Elementary Schools

ARTICLE: To see if the town will vote to transfer a sum of money from free cash and/or available funds or borrow a sum of \$ 125,000 for the purchase of a portable generator, to be used between the Conley and Duval Elementary Schools, as well as the installation of two transfer switches or take any other action relative thereto.

Explanation: Currently these buildings have no means of emergency power generation. These sites frequently lose power during storms, and this places the buildings into a condition where we could experience pipe freezing and/or food loss. The portable generator would be transported to either school and plugged into a transfer switch to keep the power on.

Estimated cost: \$ 125,000

Regional High School

ARTICLE: To see if the town will vote to transfer a sum of money from free cash and/or available funds or borrow a sum of \$ 21,000 to reconfigure the existing Whitman-Hanson Regional High School Guidance and Counseling areas or take any other action relative thereto.

Explanation: The reconfiguration of the existing Whitman-Hanson Regional High School Guidance and Special Education Counseling areas will create a cohesive and efficient suite that will streamline student scheduling and services. The connection between these two areas will make a positive impact on the Social-Emotional well-being of the Whitman-Hanson Regional High School student body.

Estimated cost: \$ 21,000 (60% of total cost)

Regional High School

ARTICLE: To see if the town will vote to transfer a sum of money from free cash and/or available funds or borrow a sum of \$ 205,800 to replace the Whitman-Hanson Regional School District telephone system or take any other action relative thereto.

Explanation: The current Whitman Hanson Regional School District telephone system is twenty years old and has reached its end of life. The system is no longer supported and replacement parts are no longer available for repairs or expansion. We are unable to secure a service contract due to the age of the equipment.

Estimated cost: \$ 205,800 (60% of total cost)

TOWN OF HANSON

Warrant Articles for the Town of Hanson Annual Town Meeting on May 4, 2020 proposed by the Whitman-Hanson Regional School Committee.

VOTE: Mr. Small motioned; Mr. Cullity seconded; voted to place the following articles of the document for the Town of Hanson Annual Town Meeting on May 4, 2020 proposed by the Whitman-Hanson Regional School Committee, as written. The motion passed unanimously.

Indian Head and Hanson Middle Schools

ARTICLE: To see if the town will vote to transfer a sum of money from free cash and/or available funds or borrow \$ 50,000 additional funding, for an increase to Article 10, Items 5 and 7 (approved at the May 2019 town meeting) or take any other action relative thereto.

Explanation: Additional funding is needed for the Indian Head and Hanson Middle School roofs due to the increased construction cost and building code requirements.

Estimated cost: \$ 50,000

Indian Head and Hanson Middle Schools

ARTICLE: To see if the town will vote to transfer a sum of money from free cash and/or available funds or borrow a sum of \$ 25,000 to replace and repair the sidewalks at Indian Head School and the Hanson Middle School or take any other action relative thereto.

Explanation: Due to the deterioration caused by the freeze-thaw effect on these sidewalks, there are existing trip hazards at both locations that need to be rectified.

Estimated cost: \$ 25,000

Regional High School

ARTICLE: To see if the town will vote to transfer a sum of money from free cash and/or available funds or borrow a sum of \$ 14,000 to reconfigure the existing Whitman-Hanson Regional High School Guidance and Counseling areas or take any other action relative thereto.

Explanation: The reconfiguration of the existing Whitman Hanson Regional High School Guidance and Special Education Counseling areas will create a cohesive and efficient suite that will streamline student scheduling and services. The connection between these two areas will make a positive impact on the Social-Emotional well-being of the Whitman-Hanson Regional School District student body.

Estimated cost: \$ 14,000 (40% of total cost)

Regional High School

ARTICLE: To see if the town will vote to transfer a sum of money from free cash and/or available funds or borrow a sum of \$ 137,200 to replace the Whitman-Hanson Regional School District telephone system or take any other action relative thereto.

Explanation: The current Whitman-Hanson Regional School District telephone system is twenty years old and has reached its end of life. The system is no longer supported and replacement parts are no longer available for repairs or expansion. We are unable to secure a service contract due to the age of the equipment.

Estimated cost: \$ 137,200 (40% of total cost)

Field Trip Requests

High School Key Club Education Conference Field Trip (overnight)

VOTE: Mr. Small motioned; Mr. Cullity seconded; voted to waive the nurse requirement and approve the overnight Key Club District Education Conference field trip to Springfield, MA from 4/3-4/5/2020, as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Warrant Subcommittee Report

VOTE: Mr. Small motioned; Mr. Cullity seconded; voted to approve the February 12, 2020 warrant subcommittee minutes, as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Warrants signed at the meeting:

- A/P warrant #022620AP in the amount of \$574,905.84
- Payroll warrant #P22720 in the amount of \$1,222,981.57

Policy Subcommittee Report

The Committee was provided a number of proposed policy changes as a first reading for recommendations as outlined in the MASC January 2020 newsletter. A meeting of the Policy Subcommittee will be scheduled in the near future.

Facilities and Capital Project Subcommittee Report

Mr. Small reported out earlier in the meeting on the town warrant articles. He added he contacted local state legislators, Representative Alyson Sullivan and Senator Michael Brady, for support to address the claw back years threshold change from 20 to 27 and accommodate the Duval Room accelerated repair grant submission.

Pilgrim Area Collaborative Report

Mr. Bois was not present to report.

Mr. Scriven requested the Committee appoint their two School Committee members to the new Regional Agreement Amendment (RAA) Committee and volunteered as the Whitman School Committee member position. Mr. Howard volunteered as the Hanson School Committee member. It was the consensus of the Committee to appoint Christopher Scriven and Christopher Howard to the new Regional Agreement Amendment (RAA) Committee with Robert Hayes and Frederick Small serving as alternates.

Executive Session

Chair Hayes declared the Committee will enter into Executive Session under Exception No. 1 to discuss the reputation, character, physical condition or mental health, rather than professional competence, of an individual, or to discuss the discipline or dismissal of, or complaints or charges brought against, a public officer, employee, staff member or individual. The only vote once out of Executive Session will be to adjourn.

VOTE: Mr. Small motioned; Ms. Byers seconded; roll call voted to enter into Executive Session at 9:39 p.m. to discuss the reputation, character, physical condition or mental health, rather than professional competence, of an individual, or to discuss the discipline or dismissal of, or complaints or charges brought against, a public officer, employee, staff member or individual.

Mr. Howard – yes

Mr. Jones – yes

Mr. O'Brien – yes

Mr. Cullity – yes

Mr. Small – yes

Mr. Scriven – yes

Ms. Taylor – yes

Ms. Byers – yes

Mr. Hayes – yes

The motion passed unanimously.

VOTE: Mr. Small motioned; Mr. Scriven seconded; roll call voted to come out of Executive Session at 9:48 p.m.

Mr. Howard – yes

Mr. Jones – yes

Mr. O'Brien – yes

Mr. Cullity – yes

Mr. Small – yes

Mr. Scriven – yes
Ms. Taylor – yes
Ms. Byers – yes
Mr. Hayes – yes
The motion passed unanimously.

Meeting Adjournment

VOTE: Mr. Small motioned; Mr. Scriven seconded; to adjourn the meeting at 9:48 p.m.

Mr. Howard – yes
Mr. Jones – yes
Mr. O’Brien – yes
Mr. Cullity – yes
Mr. Small – yes
Mr. Scriven – yes
Ms. Taylor – yes
Ms. Byers – yes
Mr. Hayes – yes
The motion passed unanimously.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Michelle Lindberg

Signature of School Committee Secretary

Meeting Handouts:

- Meeting agenda for February 26, 2020
- Meeting minutes of January 15, 2020 and February 5, 2020
- Auditor’s Report to be provided at meeting
- Letter from Hanson TA, John Stanbrook, regarding audit of WHRSD
- High School Field Trip Request:
 - Key Club District Education Conference, Springfield, MA from 4/3-4/5/2020.
- Warrant Subcommittee meeting minutes of February 12, 2020
- MASC Policy Newsletter and other potential policy updates – 1st reading with recommendations identified via track changes
- WHRSD Line Item Budget History
- 2020-21 Academic Calendar – students return 8/26/2020
- 2020-21 Academic Calendar – students return 8/31/2020
- Warrant Articles for May 4 Town Meetings, as written