

Hancock School Committee Meeting Minutes
September 2nd, 2025

Present: Kayt Turner, Jim Rodda, Elisa Kryskow, Ana Bradbury, Bruce Weiner

Also Present: Rebecca Phillips (Superintendent/SPED Director), Jay Merselis (Principal), Noelle Todd (3/4 teacher)

1. Call to Order - Kayt called the meeting to order at 6:01pm
2. Public Concerns: None
3. Correspondence: None
4. Meet and Greet new Staff members
 1. Noelle Todd (3/4 teacher)
5. Approval of minutes:
 1. Kayt motioned to approve 8/5/25 minutes. 2nd- Bruce. All in favor.
6. Principal's Report:
 1. Accolades and Happenings
 1. Off to a great start; "Science of Reading," CPR/First Aid recertification, etc.
 2. Mrs. Dowling moving out of the district, Para-Educator process for Alicia Williams
 3. Notable events where flag is at half-staff
 2. Enrollment at 44 students
 1. We do have a new out-of-district PreK student
 2. Percentage of Students that fall under school choice continues to go down significantly. Financial liability of current students that are here on School Choice is relatively small as most of our current school choice students are Lanesboro or Williamstown and thus we are not responsible for their tuition.
 3. Upcoming Events/Schedules
 1. Apple Orchard as an upcoming September Field Trip
 2. Open house 9/18
 3. School Pictures 9/18 with make-up on 9/25
 4. Union Meeting 10/2
7. Superintendent's Report:
 1. Home Rule Bill Update: No new information
 2. Start of School Update:
 1. Showed team building videos with great morale and sense of community from teachers/staff
 2. Brought in Andrew Shanock: "The science of reading" foundation that we will build from. Mr. Shanock will also help us work in a tiered MTSS/RTI curriculum.
 3. CPR/Ethics training for staff.
 4. A number of teachers working through the Wilson Reading Program.
 3. Religious Opt-Out from Specific Curriculum content- Discussion
 1. Brought to the attention of the committee the legal guidance and request form for parents to opt their children out of specific curriculum for religious reasons.
 4. Miscellaneous
 1. New MTA (MA Teachers Association) representative who has stopped by the school to introduce herself.
8. SPED Director Report
 1. 11 Students on IEPs, 0 of which are PreK-K-1, 5 second graders primarily needing assistance with speech (notable to COVID/language development), 1 in 3rd, 2 in 4th, 2 in 5th, 2 in 6th.
9. Financial Report - Reviewed
10. New Business
11. Kayt motioned to adjourn at 6:44, Elisa - 2nd. All in favor.