

Hancock School Committee Meeting Minutes
November 4th, 2025

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

Absent: Ana Bradbury

Also Present: Rebecca Phillips (Superintendent/SPED Director), Jay Merselis (Principal)

1. Call to Order - Kayt called the meeting to order at 6:05pm
2. Public Concerns: None
3. Correspondence: Request from the Selectboard to discuss MCAS scores. School Committee will be attending at their Nov 19th meeting.
4. Approval of minutes:
 1. Kayt motioned to approve 10/7/25 minutes with amendment. Jim - 2nd- . All in favor.
 2. Amendment: Agenda item 6.3.2 (superintendent's report) - clarifying that the 2 students whom we are paying for at MGRSD are School Choice/Home Run Bill.
5. Principal's Report:
 1. Accolades and Happenings
 1. Field trips to Ioka, Sweetwood and Hopkins Forest. Shout out to staff for their recognition of collaboration between/with all grade levels.
 2. MCAS Data Review and Discussion
 1. Really thorough understanding of how our school manages the MCAS data we receive. Review all data with a fine tooth comb to see strengths and weaknesses for each individual question and how to gear our curriculum to focus on specific needs.
 3. Upcoming Events/Schedules
 1. Grandparents/Special Friends Day - Nov 7, 8am
 2. "Raising Resilient Kids in the Age of Anxiety" talk presented by HOPE and Elisa Kryskow, LMHC - Nov 10, 7pm, at the school
 3. Veteran's Day - school closed
 4. Food Drive until Nov 14, HOPE set this up prior to Govt shutdown/SNAP benefit changes. Food is given to Stephentown Pantry, which Hancock residents are welcome to use. Additional food supports are available through the school - please ask if in need.
 5. Bottle Drive - Nov 15, 9am
 6. Term ends Nov 20
 7. Community Thanksgiving - Nov 20, noon
 8. School Closed Nov 26-28
6. Superintendent's Report:
 1. Home Rule Bill Update: No new information
 2. Civil Rights and ELL Audit
 1. Paperwork has been submitted for Civil Rights Audit, Audit in June.
 2. ELL Audit was last month; updated identifying persons responsible.
7. SPED Director Report
 1. Outplaced Student -
 1. Berkshire Hills, \$29K tuition (extremely reasonable!) with \$62k (\$450/day) in transportation costs (only company available is coming from Chicopee). Discussion and vote at next meeting re: reallocation of funds and use of circuit breaker funds to cover costs.
 2. At the beginning of the school year we had 2 School Choice/Home Run Bill students at Greylock; 1 has left the district as of late October.
 3. Demographics - One student just shifted off an IEP. We have 0 IEP in grades Pre-K - 3. (9 IEPs total/44 students).
 4. Special Education Audit: paperwork is completed now and will be submitted in March.

5. SEPAC meeting last night - Nice to have Cornelia Alden's attendance. "Joint" SEPAC with Richmond, albeit no waiver.
6. Alicia Williams hired as long term sub (no certificate) for 90 days. Her position will be posted for Jan as long term sub. If position isn't filled she will again fill the long-term substitute without certification placeholder for 90 days.
8. Financial Report - Reviewed
9. New Business
10. Kayt motioned to adjourn at 7:30, Elisa - 2nd. All in favor.