



*The Board went into non-public session at 6:06 p.m.  
The Board came out of non-public session at 7:06 p.m.*

### **AGENDA ADJUSTMENTS**

Noted was the need for a Board vote following Agenda Adjustments and an additional item under Deliberations to address a request made of the Board.

*There being no objection, the agenda was amended as noted.*

**MOTION BY MEMBER WILLIAMS THAT, ON THE ADVICE OF DISTRICT COUNSEL, THE BOARD DENY MS. WILDER'S REQUEST FOR A HEARING AND DIRECT THE ADMINISTRATION TO WORK WITH DISTRICT COUNSEL TO DRAFT A WRITTEN RESPONSE  
MOTION SECONDED BY MEMBER BROWN  
MOTION CARRIED  
6-0-0**

### **RECESS**

**MOTION BY MEMBER WILLIAMS TO RECESS UNTIL THE CONCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PETITION WARRANT ARTICLE  
MOTION SECONDED BY MEMBER STOLL  
MOTION CARRIED  
6-0-0**

*The Board recessed at 7:07 p.m.  
The Board reconvened at 7:10 p.m.*

### **NOMINATIONS / RESIGNATIONS / CORRESPONDENCE**

Assistant Superintendent Bergskaug informed the Board of the Superintendent's nomination of Yolanda Flamino as the Assistant Principal at the Hollis Brookline High School.

**MOTION BY MEMBER WILLIAMS TO ACCEPT THE SUPERINTENDENT'S NOMINATION OF YOLANDA FLAMINO FOR THE POSITION OF ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL AT THE HOLLIS BROOKLINE HIGH SCHOOL AT A SALARY OF NINETY EIGHT THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$98,000), EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2022  
MOTION SECONDED BY MEMBER SOLON  
MOTION CARRIED  
6-0-0**

Assistant Superintendent Bergskaug informed the Board of a letter received from Heather Hamilton notifying of her intent to take maternity leave. Her anticipated due date is April 23, 2022 and anticipated return date is June 27, 2022.

Assistant Superintendent Bergskaug informed the Board of a letter received from Kimberly Meyer notifying of her resignation from the position of Assistant Principal of Student Services at the Hollis Brookline High School effective June 30, 2022.

**MOTION BY MEMBER WILLIAMS TO ACCEPT THE RESIGNATION OF KIMBERLY MEYER AS ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL OF STUDENT SERVICES AT THE HOLLIS BROOKLINE HIGH SCHOOL WITH AN EFFECTIVE DATE OF JUNE 30, 2022**

**MOTION SECONDED BY MEMBER SOLON**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**6-0-0**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Hollis Brookline Cooperative School Board . . . . . [January 19, 2022](#)

*The following amendments were offered:*

- Page 5, Line 5; “Boards” should be singular
- Page 6, Line 46; replace “started” with “starting”
- Page 8, Line 36; replace “see” with “seen”
- Page 12, Line 9; replace “and” with “an”
- Page 12, Line 24; replace “entirely” with “entirety”
- Page 17, Line 7; replace “4-0-2” with “4-2-0”
- Page 19; Line 25; replace “out” with our”

**MOTION BY MEMBER SOLON TO ACCEPT, AS AMENDED**

**MOTION SECONDED BY MEMBER STOLL**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**5-0-1**

Member Williams Abstained

Hollis Brookline Cooperative School Board – **Non-Public**. . . . . [January 19, 2022](#)

**MOTION BY MEMBER SOLON TO ACCEPT, AS PRESENTED**

**MOTION SECONDED BY MEMBER STOLL**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**5-0-1**

Member Williams Abstained

**PUBLIC INPUT**

Chairman Deurloo Babcock noted Policy [BEDH](#), which states in part:

“The Board will set aside 15 minutes on the agenda for citizens to address the Board.”

“Individual speakers will be allotted 3 minutes per person.”

“Consistent with RSA [91-A:3](#), Policy [BEDB](#), and the laws pertaining to student and family privacy rights, the Board will not place any matter on the public agenda that is to be properly discussed in a non-public session.”

“The Board reserves the right to limit public discussion at Board meetings to agenda items only.”

“All speakers are to conduct themselves in a civil manner.”

“Persons appearing before the Board are reminded that members of the Board are without authority to act independently as individuals in official matters.”

***Chairman Deurloo Babcock opened the floor for public input at 7:15 p.m.***

Jaima Wilder, 48 Pierce Lane, Hollis

Was before the Board to discuss matters of concern relating to last month’s meeting. She viewed the presentation on what is occurring in the schools; that we are ¼ or 1/3 behind proficiency. When Assistant Superintendent Bergskaug was asked the reason for that, her response was it had to do with DNA. She found that very disturbing. When she was a sophomore at this high school, she had to read the books A Separate Peace, The Catcher in the Rye, and Lord of the Rings, and had to write a 10-page paper going through the themes and was not permitted to use a “to be” verb.

Her son is a junior in high school, is half-way through his junior year, and she pulled him out of the school system...

Chairman Deurloo Babcock noted the item being discussed was not on the agenda. Ms. Wilder objected and was asked to complete her comments.

Ms. Wilder stated the district was blaming DNA on why the kids are not performing, and it is because of what is being taught to them. Her son has not done an essay as a junior. His English teacher is giving him a paragraph a week to write. They are reading the books in the classrooms. It is the job of the education system to educate these children, and so much time is being spent focusing on their social and emotional training and their mental well-being that they are not being educated. They are two years behind. She is aware the district is receiving a lot of federal funds and right now is \$240,000 over budget. The positions that are being added will not always be supported by that funding.

Either the Board is aware of what is going on in the schools and are okay with it or members have no idea. She has asked to provide this information. If she is denied, as that is what the Board was talking about in non-public, she will file a complaint with the Commission for Human Rights and the lawyers at the State. That is her only option. She is testifying at the State level.

***The public input period was declared closed at 7:19 p.m.***

## **PRINCIPAL AND ATHLETIC REPORTS**

Tim Girzone, Principal, Hollis Brookline High School (HBHS), highlighted items from the report provided as part of the [agenda](#) packet.

Course registration will wrap up on the 21<sup>st</sup>. The Counseling Department hosted informational sessions for students and parents grades 9-11. The registration process was reviewed with rising 9<sup>th</sup> grade students and parents participated in a zoom informational presentation on course selection.

Three instrumentalists were sent to the New Hampshire Music Educators Association’ All Star Jazz festival. Claudia Pack placed on Alto (4<sup>th</sup>) and Tenor (3<sup>rd</sup>) Saxophone. Miles Montgomery held this year's top score amongst all auditioning drummers. Sonja Colford placed 7<sup>th</sup> place on trumpet. All three were featured soloists in the ensuing performance and represented well our performing arts department's jazz program.

Constance Mulligan won this year's Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR local chapter) Good Citizen Award.

Chairman Deurloo Babcock congratulated Claudia, Miles and Sonja for their accomplishments and Constance for winning this year's Good Citizen Award.

The report of the Athletic Coordinator was discussed. The girls basketball team at the high school, entered Division II tournament play. They won their first round match-up and played in Bow this past Saturday when their season came to an end.

Gymnastics and swim teams both competed this past weekend. A State Champ has been named on the girls swim team. Boys and Girls Alpine Ski Teams were at Cranmore on Monday and Tuesday.

Bowling and wrestling teams begin their postseason on February 19<sup>th</sup>.

The Unified basketball team capped off a great season with a win over Alvirne on their senior recognition day.

The Hollis Brookline Middle School (HBMS) will now be incorporated into the Booster Club and have access to fundraising opportunities and Club support for various activities. Gratitude was expressed to the Booster Club, which recently approved and will be purchasing two large sideline tents to be used on the turf field to shelter teams from the elements. Chairman Deurloo Babcock noted the effort with the Booster Club is currently in process. There is the possibility this will occur.

The Student Athlete Leadership Council (SALC) has held regular meetings. SALC has begun to outline a structure for Captain's workshops for our Spring teams, which will aim to highlight important topics and help provide students with the tools necessary to be successful leaders.

Patrick West, Principal, HBMS, highlighted items related to the HBMS.

Next week is Spirit Week. The week will wrap up with the Student Vs. Staff Basketball Game on Thursday and the first ever Unified Basketball game on Friday, February 25<sup>th</sup>.

Principal West congratulated Genevieve Scales for winning the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) Essay Contest. Her essay will be forwarded to the State DAR.

Neil Tallamraju won the 2021-2022 HBMS Spelling Bee. Viraj Patel, 7<sup>th</sup> grade student, was the runner up.

The Royal Knights Robotics Team moved on to state competition over this past weekend and came in 2<sup>nd</sup> on two awards and finished 18<sup>th</sup> out of 28<sup>th</sup>. Coaches are very proud given they had a pretty late start to the season as we were unable to find an advisor. Thanks to a high school student and their parent, they were able to put together a team and have a pretty successful season overall.

Boys and girls basketball teams made playoff appearances. The wrestling team brought home the Tri-County Division 2 runner-up title. The HBMS is looking forward to the beginning of the Unified Basketball program.

Chairman Deurloo Babcock extended congratulations to all of the athletes at the HBMS.

- NEASC Update

Principal Girzone noted submission of the Special Progress Report to NEASC, which assesses our school's progress on each of the recommendations from the Decennial Accreditation Report (specifically, only those not already classified as Completed at the time of the Five-Year Progress Report). Our Special Progress Report will be reviewed by the Commission at its upcoming March meeting. We have been informed that we can expect to receive a Commission notification letter in response to our report in the weeks following the review.

The NEASC report, in narrative form was included as part of the principals' report.

The recommendation for the first section, Core Values and 21<sup>st</sup> Century learning Expectations, was: "To create a process and timeline that engages all stakeholders including students, parents, Board members, and all staff in the process of regularly reviewing, revising, and implementing the core values, beliefs, and 21<sup>st</sup> Century learning expectations."

Our core values of integrity, intellectual curiosity, innovation, individuality and involvement in the HB community are what drives our instructional practices. Principal Girzone commented his predecessor, Mr. Barnes, instituted the Instructional Practices Steering Committee and subsequent subcommittees all made up of students, staff, administrators, School Board members, and parents to look into and identify areas for close investigation to ensure we are abiding by our core values across the school.

The three sub-committees were the Top Ten, Grade Weighting and Grading and Assessment. The process has proven to be successful. Policy changes have been made at the Board level and implemented for this year's class of 2022. We have made substantive changes to the mid-term and final exam protocols, instituted instructional support based on our Core Values, and altered our practices with regard to class rank and Honors designations in order to give students standards of performance that allow them to challenge themselves without having to compete against each other to show rigor and personal academic goal-setting.

The institution of the instructional practices committees and subsequent progress that has been made with those committees is believed to have completed the response to this recommendation.

Regarding part two of the Core Values and 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning Expectations response, Principal Girzone remarked our core values are driving our instructional practices work, demonstrating the key role these are playing in HBHS culture. Transferable skills are the focus of our weekly Professional Learning Community (PLC) work, as well as our cycles of curriculum review; our World Language Curriculum is an example of shifting our focus to best practices with regards to transferrable skills beyond the work of HBHS.

The recommendation for the second section, Cross-Disciplinary, was: "Ensure depth of understanding, application of knowledge, and opportunities in cross-disciplinary learning for all students in all classes."

We have instituted quarterly cross-department PLCs to discuss student achievement on a cross-disciplinary level that shifts our focus more directly to students in an overarching view from the weekly content-focused PLC groups. That work has been done during the quarterly early release days this year. It has been instrumental in some of this cross-departmental work.

Additionally, we have several events that reach beyond class-based activities to showcase a school-wide, broad-based approach to applied and connected learning. Performing Arts Days, Physics Days, and a recent hosting of a Portsmouth Naval Shipyard careers fair have emphasized a view that connects isolated disciplines to a wider view of applied skills and knowledge.

For the third section, Advisory, NEASC uses a little different language meaning the same thing: “Provide an update on how the formal program or process to ensure each student has an adult in the school beyond the school counselor who knows him/her well and assists the student in achieving the school’s 21<sup>st</sup> Century learning expectations.”

Our response: We adopted a tool that will help to add this time into the schedule without disrupting the current needs. Since this report, the Adaptive Scheduler tool has been utilized to set aside a few CAVBlock times. In addition to the Adaptive Scheduler, we have also set aside time for “home-based CavBlocks”, which is an advisory like group. We have utilized instruction to implement these home-based CavBlocks that serve in an Advisory capacity as needed; not a regular part of the day, but as needed. We have also assembled an Instructional Practices subcommittee focused solely on Advisory in order to maximize the potential student impact of this time by identifying clear objectives for the Advisory time. This is an exciting organizational decision that answers a deeply-felt need that has only increased over the past several years of COVID-influenced school experiences for HB students.

The Advisory Sub-committee met the prior day, and there is a lot of excitement about the work being done.

Chairman Deurloo Babcock noted what was provided was the response to the recommendations made. Principal Girzone stated that to be correct adding that the recommendations are based on areas that, at the time of the five-year report, were noted as not yet completed. Asked about the date of the last report, he stated it to be five years from the visit. Assistant Superintendent Bergskaug stated the district is in year 8. They will come back in two years. The district received an extension on the five-year response (due to COVID). Normally we would have a little bit longer time between this response and their next visit.

Vice Chairman Solon spoke of his understanding of the need to provide the report and present information in the context relevant to the questions but was a little concerned with the representation of CavBlock as advisory. Operationally, the Advisory Sub-committee has pretty much separated CavBlock from advisory and are not really talking about modifying CavBlock as it currently exists to be the advisory as opposed to instituting a stand-alone advisory. He questioned if that is a correct impression. Principal Girzone stated it is. Right now, as a current status report, what we are able to do within our structure is the home-based CavBlock.

Chairman Deurloo Babcock noted, in general, with the adaptive scheduler students have choices around where they want to go during CavBlock time, but there are some required home-based CavBlock times (task specific).

Vice Chairman Solon noted the students on the sub-committee have been clear and vocal that they do not want to lose CavBlock as it currently exists. He would not want the impression to be that they are changing CavBlock in the sub-committee. Chairman Deurloo Babcock commented it is still being discussed, but the response to NEASC is more about this is how we have used CavBlock to have advisory time this year.

Member Brown stated the purpose of CavBlock is very different than advisory. The need for CavBlock is acknowledged and it is mostly an academic need; response to intervention time. It is our teaching time. If we take that from those students, they lose that opportunity to have additional instruction from their teachers. She believes this sort of change, before being put in front of NEASC, would need some sort of Board discussion/approval.

Asked, Principal Girzone stated the responses have already been submitted. Chairman Deurloo Babcock commented from its inception it was always going to be a time where you would have guidance counselors come in and do presentations. There were always going to be times when the students would not have that freedom to choose.

Principal Girzone added, at inception, students did not have permission to just report to a teacher, they had to report to the home-based CavBlock. The challenge was that time was lost signing passes, waiting, etc. Because of the academic focus of CavBlock, Adaptive Scheduler was implemented to save that time.

Times students were pulled to have home-based CavBlock this year have been instances such as when all juniors reported to the cafeteria for college presentation. Chairman Deurloo Babcock stated her understanding it has always been used, at times, as a place to get large-scale messages out to the community of students. This is not a change.

Principal Girzone commented what we are touching on is some of the discussions that have come about in the Advisory Sub-committee where we do not want to rob Peter to pay Paul. Everyone values the CavBlock as an academic intervention essential component of our operations, but we are also recognizing the needs that students have for both a connection to an adult in the building and also at times to address certain issues that come up.

Vice Chairman Solon clarified his point was not to correct the report so much as to make this group aware that the activity going on within the sub-committee is not doing that trade-off. Chairman Deurloo Babcock stated the work is not that CavBlock would become advisory. We treasure and respect what CavBlock is.

Within the current schedule there are limited options. Vice Chairman Solon stated that to be one of the struggles the committee is addressing.

Chairman Deurloo Babcock stated the report to NEASC is that we have used CavBlock somewhat for home-based things, but in general we are working on it. Principal Girzone added, in the same fashion, we have made progress on other fronts like Top Ten where we have implemented the Instructional Practices Committee sub-committee to develop or potentially implement an advisory.

## **DISCUSSION**

- Annual Meeting Presentation

The Board discussed who would take the lead in the presentation of the various warrant articles:

Article 1 – Ventilation/Energy Upgrades Lease; Superintendent Corey or his designee

Article 2 – HESSA Contract; Member Whalen

Article 3 – School Operating Budget; Darlene Mann, Chairman, Budget Committee

Article 4 – SAU Budget; Member Whalen and/or Administration

Article 5 – Facilities Maintenance Trust; Chairman Deurloo Babcock

Article 6 – Special Education Trust; Chairman Deurloo Babcock

The meeting starts at 6:30 p.m. and the first article will be put forth by 7:00 p.m.

Vice Chairman Solon remarked people are commenting on the expectation it will be a two-day meeting. Based on the size of the warrant he is uncertain why that would be the expectation. Assistant Superintendent Bergskaug suggested it could be because it is identified on the calendar that way to set aside the time, if needed. Items required to be by secret ballot are the SAU Budget and the Petition Warrant Article relative to SB2.

**DELIBERATIONS**

**MOTION BY MEMBER WILLIAMS TO APPROVE THE APPLICATION OF ALL THREE (3) STUDENTS TO COMPLETE THE 2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR AT THE HOLLIS BROOKLINE HIGH SCHOOL AND HOLLIS BROOKLINE MIDDLE SCHOOL AND THAT THE TUITION BE WAIVED FOR THE SENIOR STUDENT**

**MOTION SECONDED BY MEMBER STOLL**

**ON THE QUESTION**

Vice Chairman Solon noted a request made of the Board by a family to have three students continue. The family will be moving out of town before the end of the school year.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**6-0-0**

- To see what action the Board will take regarding policy – **BHC** – Board Communications with Staff
  - First Reading 1-19-22

*Given its second reading;*

**MOTION BY MEMBER WILLIAMS TO ACCEPT THE SECOND READING OF POLICY BHC – BOARD COMMUNICATIONS WITH STAFF**

**MOTION SECONDED BY MEMBER SOLON**

**ON THE QUESTION**

Chairman Deurloo Babcock stated there to have been no changes since the time of the first reading.

Vice Chairman Solon noted clarification provided that none of the language restricts a Board member from being asked to come to the school. That is not considered a visit. It allows the Superintendent to designate committee leaders, etc. to invite people to the building to participate.

**AMENDED MOTION BY MEMBER SOLON TO ACCEPT THE SECOND READING, WAIVE THE THIRD, AND ADOPT POLICY BHC – BOARD COMMUNICATIONS WITH STAFF**

**MOTION SECONDED BY MEMBER WILLIAMS**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**6-0-0**

*Vote on the main motion.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

**6-0-0**

- To see what action the Board will take regarding policy – **JCA** – Change of School Assignment – Best Interests
  - First Reading 1-19-22

*Given its second reading;*

**MOTION BY MEMBER WILLIAMS TO ACCEPT THE SECOND READING OF POLICY JCA – CHANGE OF SCHOOL ASSIGNMENT – BEST INTERESTS**

**MOTION SECONDED BY MEMBER SOLON**

ON THE QUESTION

Chairman Deurloo Babcock noted most of the language came from the New Hampshire School Board Association (NHSBA). The Director of Student Services was asked to review and made a slight change that was repeated through to ensure there is a “reasonable” request for tuition to be sent out. There have been no changes made since the time of the first reading.

Vice Chairman Solon commented on a question asked around the ability to refuse a petition to come into district. Assistant Superintendent Bergskaug stated that to be the Administration and counsel’s interpretation of the law, but it has not been tested in the courts.

**AMENDED MOTION BY MEMBER BROWN TO ACCEPT THE SECOND READING, WAIVE THE THIRD, AND ADOPT POLICY JCA – CHANGE OF SCHOOL ASSIGNMENT – BEST INTERESTS  
MOTION SECONDED BY MEMBER WILLIAMS  
MOTION CARRIED  
6-0-0**

Vice Chairman Solon questioned what prompted the change in policy and was informed it was a change in the law.

*Vote on the main motion*

**MOTION CARRIED  
6-0-0**

- To see what action the Board will take regarding policy AC - Non-Discrimination
    - First Reading 1-19-22
- Given its second reading;*

**MOTION BY MEMBER STOLL TO ACCEPT THE SECOND READING OF POLICY AC - NON-DISCRIMINATION, EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYMENT AND DISTRICT ANTI-DISCRIMINATION PLAN  
MOTION SECONDED BY MEMBER WILLIAMS**

ON THE QUESTION

Chairman Deurloo Babcock commented most of the proposed language comes from the sample policy provided by the NHSBA. However, it has been amended and adjusted to better suite our structure. The appendix (included with the agenda packet) identifies the individual(s) who serve as Human Rights Officer, Title IX Coordinator, etc.

At the time of the last reading, Vice Chairman Solon had requested the order be reviewed, e.g., having equal opportunity of employment is somewhat a subset of the majority of the policy. He suggested all of the general information be identified first and the subset items later on in the policy. The Policy Committee reviewed the language and decided not to make any adjustments.

**MOTION CARRIED  
6-0-0**

- To see what action the Board will take regarding policy **JEC** – Manifest Education Hardship (to be rescinded if JCA is adopted)

**MOTION BY MEMBER WILLIAMS TO RESCIND POLICY JEC – MANIFEST EDUCATION  
HARDSHIP**

**MOTION SECONDED BY MEMBER BROWN**

ON THE QUESTION

Manifest hardship was rolled into policy JCA.

Vice Chairman Solon noted policy JCA refers to Policy JEC. That reference will be removed.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**6-0-0**

- To see what action the Board will take regarding policy **ACE** – Procedural Safeguards  
Non- Discrimination on the Basis of Handicap/Disability

*Given its first reading;*

**MOTION BY MEMBER WILLIAMS TO ACCEPT THE FIRST READING OF POLICY ACE –  
PROCEDURAL SAFEGUARDS NON-DISCRIMINATION ON THE BASIS OF  
HANDICAP/DISABILITY, AS PRESENTED**

**MOTION SECONDED BY MEMBER BROWN**

ON THE QUESTION

Assistant Superintendent Bergskaug stated the district is required to follow the law, which changes. At every IEP team meeting, families are offered and provided the procedural safeguard handbook, which outlines all of their rights as a parent as part of the team. The recommendation is simply to be rid of the language from policy because that requires changing through committee and multiple board meetings, and simply reference the fact that we are ensuring all students are provided the procedural safeguards. That is and has been the practice.

Vice Chairman Solon commented the information being deleted includes the identification of the Director of Special Education as the point person. He believes it worthwhile to keep a responsible individual identified.

Asked if the Procedural Safeguard handbook includes that information, Assistant Superintendent Bergskaug stated it does. The information is also included in AC-E – Annual Notice of Contact Information for Human Rights Officer, Title IX Coordinator, 504 Coordinator and Civil Rights Agencies. AC-E will be posted on the website identifying who to go to for grievance procedures. The Procedural Safeguard document also references who to speak to.

Vice Chairman Solon remarked the way this is currently being proposed, to a large extent, is not useful as there is not sufficient information to let people know what to do next. He would like the language to, at a minimum, point to where the information can be found. Member Brown noted the New Hampshire Procedural Safeguards Handbook is on the Department of Education website. It was suggested the website be referenced.

Member Brown suggested it simply state “The school district shall comply with all procedural safeguards for handicapped and disabled students as are required by law.” as opposed to “ensure compliance”.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**6-0-0**

**REPORT OUT BY PROCESS OBSERVER**

Member Williams remarked a bit more time than anticipated was needed for the non-public session; however, they were able to catch up. Good discussion was able to be had.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION BY MEMBER WILLIAMS TO ADJOURN**

**SECONDED BY MEMBER BROWN**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**6-0-0**

*The February 16, 2022 meeting of the Hollis Brookline Cooperative School Board was adjourned at 8:19 p.m.*

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_