The meeting was called to order at 4:00 PM. Those present included Chair Melissa Martin, Vice Chair Linda Chow, Secretary Matt Kelley, and members Sharon Gray and Jim Roberti; Superintendent David Lussier, Assistant Superintendent Cindy Mahr; and Student Advisory Members Violet Lahive and Rachel White. Ms. Martin announced that the meeting was being recorded by local media.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**
No one present wished to speak.

**SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPORTS**
Mr. Kelley reported on the recent work of the Policy Subcommittee primarily on Policy JG, Student Enrollment and School Assignment, which will be brought before the Committee at its next meeting.

Ms. Chow reported that she is scheduling a follow-up meeting to begin planning for more community outreach regarding the practice wall at Sprague Field. Dr. Lussier, DPW Director Dave Cohen, Town Engineer Dave Hickey, as well as Youth Lacrosse representative Jerry Nigro, School Committee member Jim Roberti, and Selectman Beth Sullivan-Woods will participate in this meeting.

World of Wellesley is sponsoring a community gathering and dialogue concerning Wellesley’s core values, scheduled for Tuesday, October 22nd, starting at 7:00 pm. A number of town leaders, including Dr. Lussier, will be participating in the discussion.

The week of October 20-26th is Massachusetts STEM week. The Wellesley Education Foundation has planned a number of activities emphasizing STEM including a robotics workshop at Wellesley College. Additional information is available on WEF’s website.

Ms. Martin reminded the community that the League of Women Voters is holding its annual Meet the Boards event on October 17th, starting at 7 pm at the high school. This is an opportunity for community members to meet with Town board and committee members.

**SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT**
Dr. Lussier reported staff is working on educational planning for the Hardy/Upham Project. This is similar to the process used in the development of the Hunnewell Plan, which included meeting with staff from both schools collectively and then individually to review school-specific work for developing specific educational plans for both sites.

Dr. Lussier also reported that there are two opportunities for parents to learn more about the new Standards-based Report Cards (SBRC): Tuesday, October 15th, at 6:15 pm in the Middle School auditorium; and Thursday, October 17th, at 9 am at the Wellesley Community Center.
CONSENT AGENDA
Trip Approval: All State Festival (March 5-7, 2020)

Upon a motion made by Mr. Kelley and seconded by Ms. Gray, the Committee unanimously VOTED to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

HUNNEWELL PROJECT
Hunnewell Feasibility Study
Ms. Martin reviewed that at last week’s meeting, the Committee voted internal swing space for the Hunnewell Project as both a feasible and acceptable option and recommended it to the SBC. The SBC, at its meeting on October 10th, deliberated on swing space options and voted to recommend the School Administration’s internal swing space option for the Hunnewell School, allowing the Town to proceed to Town Meeting to request design, permitting and bidding funds for the Hunnewell School project and site plan. The next step is for the Committee to take action on the SBC’s recommendation for the Hunnewell Feasibility Study, which represents the feasibility study option voted by the School Committee on August 6th as well, as the addition of the swing space option recommended by the SBC at the October 10th meeting.

Ms. Gray reported that the SBC had a thorough discussion about swing space and next steps, and then unanimously voted to recommend moving forward to the design phase.

Mr. Roberti asked what the next steps are for the Board of Selectmen and whether there will be a joint vote of the School Committee, SBC and Board of Selectmen. Mr. Kelley reviewed the charge, noting that supportive votes are required from all three bodies, however, there is no requirement that it be a 3-way joint vote.

Mr. Roberti wanted to clarify that some of the Selectmen indicated that there were no letters of concern from the community regarding this topic, when there have been a number of letters received voicing opposition to the project. Ms. Gray explained she believed the Selectmen acknowledged that there were some emails in opposition to the project but not many, relative to the greater school community.

After a discussion, upon a motion made by Mr. Kelley and seconded by Ms. Chow, the Committee VOTED to accept and support the full package of the Hunnewell Feasibility Study which includes the feasibility study results previously accepted by the School Committee on August 6, 2019 and the internal swing space option recommended by the School Building Committee on October 3, 2019, which will allow the Hunnewell School Project to proceed to Town Meeting to seek design, permitting and bidding funds. The vote was 4 in favor; 1 opposed.

Request for Special Town Meeting for Hunnewell Project
Mr. Roberti feels there are too many unanswered questions and taking action at this point is premature.

After a brief discussion, upon a motion made by Mr. Kelley and seconded by Ms. Chow, the Committee VOTED to request that the Board of Selectmen call a Special Town
Meeting in the fall of 2019 to request design, permitting and bidding funds for the Hunnewell School Project. The vote was 4 in favor; 1 opposed.

**Redistricting Consultant Request For Proposals**

Ms. Martin provided an overview of the need to do this work now, because the redistricting maps are required in time for use in the SBC deliberations for the Hardy/Upham Project. The goal is to select a redistricting consultant who can provide assistance to the Superintendent throughout the process as set forth. At the SBC meeting, the School Committee’s preferences were brought forth for the School Department to approve the language of the RFP, oversee the selection process for the consultant, and to oversee the redistricting process. Ms. Martin indicated the SBC voted to allow the School Department to oversee the selection process for the consultant, however they would like a representative group involved in the selection of the consultant. The group would include Cindy Mahr and Meghan Jop (representing the procurement section of the Town and School), Superintendent David Lussier, Tom Ulfelder (representing the Selectmen/SBC) and Melissa Martin (representing School Committee). Once the consultant is selected, the contract would be issued and the SBC would pay the invoices as approved by the School Administration. The redistricting process and map development, would then go forward fully under the direction of the Superintendent.

Ms. Martin indicated she is very comfortable with this process since the selection of the consultant will be a direct application of the selection criteria from the RFP, and then the Superintendent would be overseeing the redistricting process and the creation of the maps.

Ms. Mahr summarized the substantive changes made to the RFP. It was suggested that the consultants be provided maps of the current districts.

Mr. Roberti expressed concern that this process is not under the total control of the Schools and he cannot support moving forward with an RFP that does not provide for this. Ms. Martin noted that the only two components that involve the SBC are the funding and participation in the consultant selection process, which is based on a set selection criteria approved by the School Committee.

After a discussion, upon a motion made by Mr. Kelley and seconded by Ms. Chow, the Committee **VOTED** to authorize the release of the Redistricting Consultant Request for Proposals as presented and to accept the selection group as voted by the School Building Committee on October 3, 2019. The vote was 4 in favor; 1 opposed.

**Acceptance of WMS Building Systems Schematic Design**

Ms. Martin indicated that based on the presentation provided to the Committee last week on the WMS Building Systems schematic design, action on acceptance of the schematic design for the Middle School classroom casework and art rooms is needed in order to move forward with this work with the Permanent Building Committee.
Dr. Lussier described the condition of the casework specifically in the Middle School Art rooms, noting there was significant involvement with teachers and staff in determining what is needed.

After a brief discussion, upon a motion made by Ms. Gray and seconded by Mr. Roberti, the Committee unanimously VOTED to approve the schematic design of the Middle School classroom casework and art rooms as presented at the October 1st School Committee meeting and to authorize the sign off of the September 27, 2019 memo titled Classroom Casework and Art Room Scope of Work – Schematic Design.

Ms. Martin asked for the Committee’s permission to take the HHU update item out of order to accommodate a Committee member’s schedule. There were no objections.

**HHU UPDATE**
Ms. Gray reported the new HHU project website has been developed with input from Compass Project Management. The website is not quite complete but there is a lot of information available and is located at [www.wellesleyhhu.org](http://www.wellesleyhhu.org).

Ms. Chow removed herself from the table at 4:52 pm.

Ms. Gray announced that the Hardy/Upham Community Forum Kickoff meeting is scheduled for October 15th. She indicated the presentation will be similar to that of the Hunnewell project with discussion of the overall project, sustainability considerations and opportunity for Q & A, however, there will be additional section explaining the MSBA involvement with this project. It is expected that the forum will be recorded by Wellesley Media and may be available live.

Mr. Roberti expressed concern with the *Wellesley Townsman* headline regarding the Hardy/Upham and Hunnewell projects. He feels the headline is misleading and hopes it can be cleared up. Ms. Gray will reach out to the editor.

Ms. Gray reported that at its last meeting, the SBC had a preliminary discussion of the Hardy/Upham project relative to process and scheduling, as well as the development of the evaluation criteria to be used in selecting a site. She also reviewed upcoming meeting dates. Ms. Gray indicated the project team has prepared a list of 21 building criteria which should be considered by the SBC in developing its own criteria list. Ms. Martin suggested members review the criteria and bring any feedback to a future meeting during the HHU Update portion.

Ms. Gray noted that both the Hunnewell and Hardy/Upham projects are on virtually parallel tracks with different approval points for each, and it is possible that construction funding for both projects could come before the voters at the 2021 spring Town Meeting.

Dr. Lussier discussed his role as a member of the SBC going forward, noting that the since the educational programming work is almost complete for both projects and the decision regarding the site for the school will not impact educational programming, he prefers that his role on the SBC would be that of a non-voting member. Mr. Kelley
noted that even as a non-voting member, the SBC would be looking to Dr. Lussier for input on operational issues.

Ms. Chow returned to the table at 5:10 pm.

**Budget Updates**

Dr. Lussier publicly recognized Ms. Mahr for her work

**Finalized FY19 Budget**

Ms. Mahr reviewed the status of the FY19 finalized budget noting a total turnback to the town of $127,102, or 0.25 percent of the total FY19 budget of $74,428,918. She reviewed the FY19 budget for salary and other compensation, expenses, FY18 carry-forward encumbrances in salaries, and larger balance categories of expenses.

**Recast FY20 Budget**

Ms. Mahr then reviewed the adjusted FY20 Budget, noting that the current FY20 WPS budget totalling $76,783,930 represents the net amount and includes all budgeted offsets with the exception of health benefit costs. She reviewed the distribution of the approved budget across salary and other compensation and expenses which include Instruction, Administration, Operations and Student Services. She reviewed the requested adjustments to the FY20 budget by category. The most significant increase is in the Out of District costs due to several unanticipated changes to student needs and settlement agreements, which began to escalate in the 4th quarter of FY2019 after the FY20 budget was completed. She reviewed out-of-district assumptions in various categories totaling $1,353,965. She discussed the application of $43,647 in additional Circuit Breaker revenue received for this year, use of the prior year Circuit Breaker fund balance of $536,276, a transfer from the General Fund of $291,035, and potentially the need for a transfer from the Stabilization Fund of $483,007 to cover the variance in OOD costs. These adjustments would be made at the end of the fiscal year based on the final balance needed. Ms. Mahr noted that these costs must also be considered in the development of the FY21 budget.

After discussion, upon a motion made by Mr. Roberti and seconded by Mr. Kelley, the Committee *unanimously VOTED* to receive the FY20 Adjusted Budget and approve the related budget transfers as presented.

**Public Comment**

No one present wished to speak.
ADJOURNMENT
At approximately 6:00 pm, upon a motion made by Mr. Kelley and seconded by Mr. Roberti, the Committee *unanimously VOTED* to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

Matt Kelley
Secretary

**Documents and Exhibits Used:**
Trip Approval Form: All State Festival 2020
Harriman Memo – WMS Classroom Casework & Art Room Scope of Work
C Mahr Memo – FY19 EOY Report – 9/28/19
C Mahr Memo – FY20 Adjusted Budget – 10/4/19
FY20 Adjusted Budget Presentation
FY20 Operating Budget Guidelines