



HAMILTON-WENHAM REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

PUBLIC HEARING ON SCHOOL CHOICE

Buker Elementary School
Multi-Purpose Room

Wednesday, January 31, 2018

7:00 PM

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

Buker Elementary School
Multi-Purpose Room

Wednesday, January 31, 2018

7:30 PM

1. Call to Order 7:30
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Citizens' Comments
4. Chair's Report
5. Superintendent's Report
6. Consent Agenda
 - a. Warrants
 - January 17, 2018 Exhibit A
 - b. Minutes
 - January 17, 2018 Exhibit B
 - c. Waiver for 8th grade Spring athletics Exhibit C
 - Boys Lacrosse
 - Girls Lacrosse
 - Softball
7. New Business
 - Vote on Participation in the School Choice Program for 2018-2019
 - FY19 Budget Review Exhibit D
 - Review Leadership Team Request List
 - Capital Plan--Approach relative to timing of debt exclusions
 - Changes to Superintendent's Recommended Budget
 - Authorization of Debt Discussion
 - FY18 Budget Forecast Exhibit E
 - Scholarship – Institution for Savings \$15,000 annually Exhibit F
 - Donation-Grants Exhibit G
 1. FOTA \$1,376.84 for a Cyclorama Curtain in the Ferrini Auditorium
 2. FOTA \$400 to support the Ukulele Melee at the Cutler School
8. Other
 - a. Topics for next meeting
9. Vote to Adjourn 9:30
Secretary: Kerry Gertz, HWRSC

DMB

Knowledge • Responsibility • Respect • Excellence

The District does not discriminate in its programs, activities or employment practices based on race, color, national origin, religion, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, age or disability.

EXHIBIT A

Warrant Working Group
January 17, 2018
Center School, 5 School Street, Wenham, MA

Present: David Polito, Jeanise Bertrand, Gene Lee
Also present: Don Gallant, HWRSD Treasurer

Meeting Called to order at 6:37 by David Polito

The following warrants were approved:

1. Voucher 42:	\$	9,780.66
2. Voucher 1076:	\$	712,510.12
3. Voucher 1077:	\$	108,156.30
4. Voucher 2459:	\$	295.00
5. Voucher 2460:	\$	54.14
6. Voucher 2461:	\$	4,485.83
7. Voucher 2462:	\$	17,067.60
8. Voucher 2463:	\$	198,763.59
9. Voucher 2464:	\$	118,962.21

Motion: I move that we approve the minutes of January 17, 2018 as prepared. Motion – Polito, Second - Bertrand, Unanimously Approve.

Move to adjourn: 6:50 pm. Motion - Polito, Second - Bertrand. Unanimously Approved.

Respectfully submitted,

David Polito

**PUBLIC HEARING
Wednesday, January 17, 2018 7:00pm
Buker School Multi-Purpose Room**

Present:

Jeanise Bertrand
Kerry Gertz
Joshua Liebow, Chair
Gene Lee
David Polito

Also Present:

Michael Harvey, Superintendent

Public Hearing on the School District's FY19 Budget

Joshua Liebow called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm.

Joshua Liebow provides overview of the public hearing agenda. First, Superintendent Michael Harvey will speak on the FY19 HWRSD Budget. Next, public comments will be welcomed.

Michael Harvey provides an overview of the Superintendent's Recommended FY19 Budget presented in detail at 01/03/2018 School Committee meeting. Presentation includes:

- Definition and practice of *level-service*;
- Increase in gross operating expenditures;
- Key assumptions;
- Summary of critical priorities and their implications on budget;
- Primary drivers in FY19 Budget;
- District totals;
- Hamilton and Wenham town expenses;
- Capital improvement plan, including FY19 capital projects and brief plan for future years;
- FY19 Budget calendar overview, including next steps, meetings addressing the budget, and vote & adoption of the Budget.

Joshua Liebow opens the floor to public comment.

No public comment.

Joshua Liebow moves to recess at 7:16 pm until 7:30 pm.

**The Hamilton Wenham Regional
School Committee Meeting
Wednesday, January 17, 2018 7:30pm
Buker School Multi-Purpose Room**

Regular School Committee Meeting

Present:

Jeanise Bertrand
Kerry Gertz
Joshua Liebow, Chair
Gene Lee
David Polito

Also Present:

Michael Harvey, Superintendent

1. Call to Order

Joshua Liebow called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Citizens' Comments

None

4. Chair's Report

- Josh Liebow, Michael Harvey, and Jeff Sands participated in a call with Scott Maddern, Sean Timmons, and Phil Tocci about the Turf Field project. Specifically discussed strategies in how to get people involved, educating the public, and fundraising options. Recreation Committee will attend the HWRSD Committee meeting on 01/31/2018 to present fundraising, awareness, and communication strategies. Scott Maddern has been working with town of Wenham and advocating on behalf of the School Committee and this project.

5. Superintendent's Report

- Kindergarten registration activities are underway. Orientation for parents is scheduled for Tuesday, March 13th at 6:30pm at Winthrop School. Registration takes place:
 - 3/19/2018 - 3/23/2018: 9:00 am - 12:00 pm on each day
 - 3/21/2018: 2:00 pm - 6:00 pmAll registration will take place at District offices, 5 School St., Wenham. HWRSD website has registration packet, and list of required documents and forms.
- School Committee election/nominations have begun. There are 2 seats open, each for a 3-year term. Nomination papers can be picked up at Michael Harvey's office at the district

offices (5 School St.) and must be returned with at least 40 signatures before 5:00 pm on 2/26/2018. Before gathering signatures, candidate must have nomination papers certified by Town Clerk to ensure candidate's voter registration. Contact Donna Bunk, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent at 978-626-0821 for more information or questions about this process.

- Congratulations to the *James and the Giant Peach* cast and crew for a wonderful performance. Friday night's performance was particularly impressive as the power was lost, and audience pulled out their cell phone flashlights. The cast did not miss a beat!
- State auditor Suzanne Bump will be at Triton Regional School Committee Meeting on 1/25/2018 to discuss supporting regional school district structure and finances. State representatives will also be in attendance. Michael Harvey has forwarded event details to towns' Board of Selectmen. Link will be provided in Superintendent's Blog. Members of public are also encouraged and invited to attend.
- On behalf of district, we extend best wishes to retired Wenham Fire Chief Bob Blanchard. Bob has been a champion within the schools and community. He has organized fire safety trainings and education, CPR education, and many other events. Bob has been a consistently positive presence in the lives of our students.
- Congratulations to High School DECA team on their 1/11 competition at the District III Career Development Conference at Merrimack College, North Andover. 750 students from 11 schools participated in this event. 90 Hamilton-Wenham students competed, and 44 qualified for the state career conference to be held 03/08/2018 - 03/10/2018 in Boston. All names and trophies are listed on Superintendent's Blog. Great job!

6. Consent Agenda

- a. Minutes
 - January 3, 2018 (EXHIBIT A)
- b. Warrants
 - January 3, 2018 (EXHIBIT B)
- c. Field Trip - Model UN to MIT (EXHIBIT C)

I MOVE THAT THE HAMILTON-WENHAM REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA: MINUTES FROM 01/03/2018, WARRANTS FROM 01/03/2018, AND THE FIELD TRIP REQUEST FOR MODEL UN TO MIT.

**MOTION by Kerry Gertz; SECONDED by Jeanise Bertrand.
Unanimously approved by 5 members present.**

7. New Business

a. Student Government Presentation

Student government presentation has been pushed to a later date due to midterms.

b. Presentation on School Libraries from Kent Kovachs, Flansburgh Associates (Exhibit D)

Kent Kovachs: We have worked on many school projects, and we think this particular project is a great initiative to focus on libraries. Library is such an important role in developing youth. Presentation will provide evaluation overview of all existing schools, the workshops and education within the library, and strategy on merger of technology and contemporary library uses. Evaluated library conditions, school conditions and finances.

Bill Beatrice: Overview of existing conditions at each school. Evaluated the interior environment, finishes, fixtures, partitions, doors, hardware, etc. Consultants also reviewed and analyzed the plumbing, fire protection, and other considerations. Details provided on Buker, Cutler, Winthrop, and Miles River/High School, as outlined in Exhibit D.

Explanation of the costs of the design proposals which have taken into account the maximum permitting costs. Costs of renovations cannot go above $\frac{1}{3}$ of the assessed building value without having to update the entire building to be code compliant. Because of this, Winthrop, has a \$0 threshold until Spring 2019 due to the other projects. Explanation of calculations of maximum costs for each school.

Betsy (of Flansburg Associates): Mid-June 2017 workshops focused on concepts of library. This included campfire, reading area, stacks, visual reading tables, formal presentation area, innovation lab, and reading nooks. Explains the proposed design to separate noise levels.

Ken Kovachs: Proposes moving to the library across the courtyard which will breathe life into the school. This will invigorate the program and become the focal point upon entrance.

Betsy (of Flansburg Associates) (Cutler): Proposal separating out work spaces based on noise, and separating out spaces by book stacks. Wood tones and nooks and crannies to create warmth and welcoming environment.

Betsy (of Flansburg Associates) (Winthrop): Proposal capitalizes on being adjacent to the courtyard. Design illustrates the doors opening up more and the rear opening further to courtyard with outdoor seating. Incorporates art and music programs to bring a diverse curriculum in the library environment.

Betsy (Flansburg Associates) (HWRSD/Miles River): Wants to introduce height and bring in technology classrooms to the life of the library, opposed to the isolated location currently.

Ken Kovachs: We want to preserve the essence of a traditional library, but incorporate the tech savviness of the students. There is a lot of area to do this, so the proposal includes cyber cafe, 200 audience capacity, and large, boxy space. This concludes our design presentation.

Ken Kovachs: Presents details on financial estimates and each school renovation costs.

Josh Liebow asks about costs of materials and flexibility on material choices to move away from high-end rendering.

Ken Kovachs states there is opportunity to negotiate those costs depending on school needs, but proposal includes consistent palette throughout the designs and costs. Proposals include the following costs*:

Buker	\$947,838
Cutler	\$852,767
Winthrop	\$1.35 million
HS/Miles River	\$2.83 million

* Based on independent cost assessor.

Josh Liebow asks about the high pricing, as compared to the cost of a similar sized house in the area.

Ken Kovachs explains that there are costs associated with code compliance necessary for public education environments, which is different from residential coding. Costs are also more because of the exterior renovations.

Josh Liebow: Thank you, the designs are great!

c. FY19 Budget Review

(Exhibit E)

Peggy McElhinney, *Director of Curriculum Instruction*, presents School Committee Budget requests.

Funding priorities fall into 4 categories:

1. K-5 math resources

Current curriculum is not equipped to meet the Revised Common Core standards, which are very sophisticated and more complex. Because current in-house curricula are pulled from a variety of sources, resources and curriculum are inconsistent. New resources need to be designed specifically with consistency to meet the new Common Core standards and better align pedagogy to reinforce these standards. There are a few months left in the selection process for materials, where a special committee is working to choose the best resource. Estimated costs: \$100,000 for initial year (including professional development for teachers) with a recurring annual cost ranging between \$10,000 and \$25,000.

2. 6-8 math resources

Current textbook is *Big Ideas Math*. The rating from EdReports (unbiased rating agency, similar to consumer-reports) on this current resource shows that 6th and 7th grade does not meet expectations, and 8th grade partially meets expectations. Since teachers are relying on this textbook, it is difficult to emphasize the appropriate learning materials. Suggestion is to replace resources with ones better aligned with pedagogy and standards. Reviews the costs of options being considered.

Estimated cost: \$40,000 for initial year implementation (including professional development) with a recurring annual cost ranging between \$10,000 and \$25,000.

Jeanise Bertrand asks for clarification on whether district is building their own curriculum.

Peggy McElhinney: We have been making education decisions about building this curriculum, but we need the resources so we can create the appropriate curriculum. Resources do not equate to a curriculum.

3. Fountas and Pinnell upgrade

Approach to address elementary literacy on an individualized “just right” curriculum. This takes a tremendous amount of assessment, training, and resources. Fountas and Pinnell has upgraded their assessment system to address the reading comprehension section, which was not ideal in prior editions. A companion resource, the *Literacy Continuum*, will allow interpretation of assessments. Funding is being requested for replacement of the Fountas and Pinnell assessment with the upgraded edition, as well as the addition of the *Literacy Continuum*, bringing the resources up to date so we can enhance what we are already doing.

4. Response to intervention (RTI) screeners and interventions

RTI is a philosophy of how district meets students’ needs. This ensures an accurate reflection of how all students are meeting benchmarks. Predicated on the fact that there are three tiers of instruction interventions:

1. Core instruction interventions (80% of students require)
2. Targeted group interventions (15% of students require)
3. Intensive interventions (5% of students require)

Response to Intervention has been shown to be the 6th most important thing districts can do to increase student achievement.

Funding would support recommended changes from this year’s study (TBD). May need additional tools to make assessments, depending on needs.

Josh Liebow: Thank you!

Student Services Budget Priorities

Stacy Bucyk, M.Ed., *Director of Student Services*

Requests:

- 1. 1.0 FTE Special Education Team Chairperson for OOD**
 - Overview of the need for this position
 - Overview of the responsibilities for this position (75% OOD and 25% in district)
- 2. Elementary and Secondary Special Education Coordinators**

- Currently we have elementary coordinator and secondary coordinator with large caseloads.
 - Overview of the responsibilities. Right now, we are only meeting about the first 5.
- 3. 2.0 FTE HE Special Education Program Based Teachers**
- 4. 1.0 FTE Language-Based Program Teacher**
- a. Cost analysis explained. Over 4 years, with assumptions of tuition numbers for OOD placement for 4 students, we'd see a net savings of 1.3 million

Discussion regarding details of OOD and the programs needed to meet the needs of all students.

Jeanise Bertrand asks if there are more special needs students or if district is better equipped to address the needs (what accounts for lack of program last year).

Michael Harvey clarifies that this is a sustainable position with the incoming students (4 next year, 3 the following, and 3 the following year). Spending the OOD tuition is much higher than hiring staff to offer program in district.

Stacey Bucyk explains annual costs.

5. 1.0 FTE Life Skills Program Teacher

- Four year cost analysis
- We have 4 students that would need this for next year, then 4, then 3.

In district costs would include addition of teacher, as well as 2 TAs

Discussion regarding costs, IEP needs, the two very different sets of needs per population. Language program is for higher cognitive skills, life-skills is for lower functioning cognitive, many of whom are diagnosed on the autism spectrum and require 1 on 1 support.

Discussion regarding the history of HW District offering these types of programs. Michael Harvey explains that last year, with 1 student requiring these services, the program was put on hold because it was more cost effective to send that 1 student OOD instead of paying staff. It is now more cost effective to hire staff and offer the program due to the increase in students requiring such services.

Discussion regarding the number of students to make program sustainable as well as the tuition costs associated with OOD students coming to HW district's programs.

6. .5 FTE MS Special Education Reading Teacher

Currently, the reading teacher has a caseload of 33 students, including language based students. Overview of IEP goals, evaluations, etc. Hiring in district rather than contracting (ranges \$60-\$120 per hour for contract position) will save us money. A .5 FTE will better meet the needs of students and be more cost effective.

Committee members commend Stacy Bucyk on a great presentation. Many agree with the need for a program in the district to target these specific needs.

d. Donations

(Exhibit F)

- **General Electric Institute of International Education**

\$1,000.00

International Education to be used for the district

- **Friends of Winthrop**

\$450.00

To be used in helping pay for students attending the North Shore Music Theatre

I MOVE THAT THE HAMILTON-WENHAM REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE ACCEPT THE DONATIONS FROM GENERAL ELECTRIC INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,000.00 AND THE FRIENDS OF BUKER FOR \$450.00.

MOTION by Kerry Gertz; SECONDED by Josh Liebow.

Unanimously approved by 5 members present.

Thank you for each generous donation!

8. Other

Next meeting 01/24/2018 will take place at Dr. Michael Harvey's office and will focus on a workshop-style approach to the FY19 Budget. The meeting will be off camera, however, the public is more than welcome to attend.

Topics for next meeting:

1. Athletics;
2. Maintenance;
3. Custodial;
4. Facilities;
5. Technology;
6. Review administration's list of critical priorities, and the reasoning for including certain items from that list and not others.

Jeanise Bertrand asks to include an item to discuss order in asking for debt exclusions.

9. Vote to Adjourn

I MOVE THAT THE HAMILTON-WENHAM REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING ADJOURN AT 9:10 PM.

MOTION by Kerry Gertz; SECONDED by Jeanise Bertrand.

Unanimously approved by 5 members present.

Respectfully submitted Mahala Lettvin

From: Genuardo, Craig
Sent: Wednesday, January 10, 2018 12:22:32 PM
To: Tracy, Eric; Hovey, Craig; Harvey, Michael; Liebow, Josh
Subject: 8th Grade Spring Waivers

Good Morning,

On behalf of its coaches and players, HWRHS Athletics seeks approval for 8th Grade Waivers for the upcoming Spring in the sports of

- Boy's Lacrosse
- Girl's Lacrosse
- Softball

The HW Town Youth Organizations have already given their approval in these sports. All three of these sports were given approval last year.

HWRHS Currently additionally 8th Grade Participation in:

- Boy's Ice Hockey
- Girl's Basketball

As with all 8th Grade Waivers, we are making this request to fill out sub varsity rosters in an effort to maximize participation. 8th Graders would only be allowed to play at the lowest level offered. In each of the three cases for which we are requesting waivers, this means we 8th Graders could only play at the Junior Varsity level.

Thanks

Craig



HAMILTON-WENHAM
REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

FY19 Superintendent's Budget Recommendation
School Committee Presentation
January 31, 2018

Prepared by:

Dr. Michael Harvey, Superintendent of Schools
Jeffrey D. Sands, Assistant Superintendent for Finance & Administration
Vincent Leone, Director of Accounting & Payroll



FY19 Budget

Superintendent's Recommendation

Level Service PLUS an Investment in Critical Priorities

What Does “Level Service” Mean?

Level Service is a continuation of the current programs, services and staffing of the District.

For FY19, Level Service translates into a spending increase in our Gross Operating Expenses of \$1,117,099 or 3.56% versus the FY18 Budget.



FY19 Budget

Superintendent's Recommendation

Level Service PLUS an investment in Critical Priorities

What Does investing in “Critical Priorities” Mean?

Provide the targeted funding necessary to better position the District to achieve its goals & objectives as provided for in the “Strategic Blueprint”, including directed investments in people, programs, & technology.

For FY19, the Superintendent and Leadership Team is recommending that an investment be made to fund several Critical Priorities. This investment comes at an additional cost of \$399,379 above what is needed to maintain Level Services for the 2018 – 2019 School Year.



FY19 Budget – District Totals

Level Service PLUS Critical Priorities Net Assessment Budget

Total Expenses					
	FY17 BUD	FY18 BUD	FY19 BUD	Difference	
General Operating Expense (Before Offsets)	\$ 30,166,532	\$ 31,403,624	\$ 32,920,102	\$ 1,516,478	4.83%
Expense Offsets	\$ 1,016,500	\$ 1,203,808	\$ 1,203,808	\$ -	0.00%
General Operating Expenses (After Offsets)	\$ 29,150,032	\$ 30,199,816	\$ 31,716,294	\$ 1,516,478	5.02%
Debt Service Expense	\$ 2,129,250	\$ 2,092,860	\$ 2,115,275	\$ 22,415	1.07%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 31,279,282	\$ 32,292,676	\$ 33,831,569	\$ 1,538,893	4.77%

Total Funding Sources					
	FY17 BUD	FY18 BUD	FY19 BUD	Difference	
Revenues					
Chapter 70-Base Aid	\$ 3,457,966	\$ 3,554,656	\$ 3,606,706	\$ 52,050	1.5%
MSBA Debt Service Reimbursement	\$ 1,132,065	\$ 1,132,065	\$ 1,132,065	\$ -	0.0%
State Transportation Reimbursement	\$ 331,304	\$ 340,686	\$ 330,837	\$ (9,849)	-2.9%
Medicaid Reimbursement	\$ 85,000	\$ 85,000	\$ 150,000	\$ 65,000	76.5%
Interest Income	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000	\$ -	0.0%
Prior Year Unexpended Encumbrances	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	#DIV/0!
Other Non-recurring Income (Including Transp)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	#DIV/0!
Total Revenues	\$ 5,010,335	\$ 5,116,407	\$ 5,223,608	\$ 107,201	2.1%
Transfers In From Other Funds					
Excess and Deficiency	\$ 555	\$ 568,821	\$ 347,218	\$ (221,603)	-39.0%
Total Transfers	\$ 555	\$ 568,821	\$ 347,218	\$ (221,603)	-39.0%
Total Funding Sources	\$ 5,010,890	\$ 5,685,228	\$ 5,570,826	\$ (114,402)	-2.0%
Total Expenditures	\$ 31,279,282	\$ 32,292,676	\$ 33,831,569	\$ 1,538,893	4.8%
Less Total Funding Sources	\$ 5,010,890	\$ 5,685,228	\$ 5,570,826	\$ (114,402)	-2.0%
NET ASSESSMENT including Debt Service	\$ 26,268,391	\$ 26,607,448	\$ 28,260,743	\$ 1,653,295	6.2%

Total Town Assessments					
	FY17 BUD	FY18 BUD	FY19 BUD	Difference	
Hamilton	\$ 17,494,749	\$ 17,401,271	\$ 18,270,570	\$ 869,299	5.0%
Wenham	\$ 8,773,643	\$ 9,206,177	\$ 9,990,173	\$ 783,996	8.5%
NET ASSESSMENT including Debt Service	\$ 26,268,391	\$ 26,607,448	\$ 28,260,743	\$ 1,653,295	6.2%

HAMILTON- WENHAM REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
FY19 Operating Budget: Summary Priority Overlay Template Submissions
****REQUESTS NOT INCLUDED IN THE BUDGET RECOMMENDATION AS OF JANUARY 3, 2018****

Category 1: New Faculty Positions including Stipended Positions

Submitted by:	Position Description	Est Base Salary
Elementary	Increase 3 shared Specialists from 0.7 FTE to 0.8 FTE	\$ 15,689
Buker and Winthrop	Sub Dispatcher Stipends (2)	\$ 1,000
Winthrop	0.3 FTE increase to PreK Teacher	\$ 23,266
MRMS	1.0 FTE Coding/Robotics Teacher	\$ 65,000
Student Services	BCBA-District (Offset by reduction in Contract Svcs)	\$ -
Athletics	Coaches Category I - Varsity Assistant (1)	\$ 5,248
Athletics	Category II - Varsity Assistant (3)	\$ 12,108
Athletics	Category II A - Varsity Assistant (1)	\$ 4,036
Athletics	Category III - Varsity Assistant (14)	\$ 52,584
District	Additional Healthcare Costs for Proposed New Staff (1)	\$ 10,000
	Subtotal:	\$ 188,931

Category 2: New Administrative/Support Positions

Submitted by:	Position Description	Est Base Salary
Buker	(2) 1.0 FTE Kindergarten Teaching Assistants	\$ 44,000
Cutler	(2) 1.0 FTE Kindergarten Teaching Assistants	\$ 44,000
Winthrop	(2) 1.0 FTE Kindergarten Teaching Assistants	\$ 44,000
Cutler	0.2 FTE Therapeutic Special Education TA	\$ 4,400
Cutler	1.0 FTE LBC Special Education TA	\$ 22,000
MRMS	Increase 0.277FTE secretary by 1 hour per day	\$ 6,063
District	Additional Healthcare Costs for Proposed New Staff (7)	\$ 70,000
	Subtotal:	\$ 234,463

Category 3: New Instructional Program Costs

Submitted by:	Cost Description	Est Cost
MRMS	Robotics/Coding materials	\$ 30,000
HS	RISE program PD support through BRYT	\$ 2,500
HS	After school help for students w D or Fs on report card	\$ 3,500
HS	High School Transportation	\$ 5,000
Athletics	Six Large Nets - Stadium / Back Flds	\$ 20,000
	Subtotal:	\$ 61,000

Category 4: Extraordinary One-time Costs

Submitted by:	Cost Description	Est Cost
Buker	10' x 12' wooden storage shed	\$ 5,000
Winthrop	Classroom Ceiling Fans (24)	TBD
MRMS	Ipad pilot	\$ 40,700
HS	Six (6) Spin bikes	\$ 9,000
HS	Six (6) classroom sets of furniture (@13K each)	\$ 78,000
HS	1 Set of science tables and chairs for Physics lab conversion	\$ 11,000
	Subtotal:	\$ 143,700
	TOTAL:	\$ 628,094



Capital Improvement Plan

Administration's Recommendation

- **Background:**
 - The HS/MS Project Bond will be paid-off in May 2019 (FY19) resulting in a decrease in our annual Debt Expense of ~\$711,000 per year.
- **Assumption:**
 - Develop a recommendation that minimizes any incremental increase to the District's Annual Budget request while simultaneously addressing the longer term Capital needs of the District.
- **Scope:**
 - Projects to be funded by the FY19 Operating Budget (\$129K)
 - Winthrop Sprinkler Project (\$1.0M)
 - Athletic Field Complex (\$3.6M)
 - Capital Plan Approach agreed on 9/7/17 by School Committee (~\$2.6M)
 - Includes Safety, Accessibility, and Critical Infrastructure Projects
 - Remaining Projects to be funded by the FY20 – 23 Operating Budgets (~\$350K/Year)
- **Future Debt Expense Point of Reference:**
 - A \$8.5M Bond with a 20 Year Term at an Interest Rate of 4% carries an Annual Cost of ~\$702,000.



Capital Improvement Plan Administration's Recommendation

- 1) Fund \$129K in Projects in the FY19 Operating Budget
 - 2) Propose a \$ 1.0M Winthrop Sprinkler Project Debt Exclusion at April 2018 ATM
 - 3) Propose a \$3.6M Turf Field Complex Project Debt Exclusion at April 2018 ATM
 - 4) Propose a \$2.6M Debt Exclusion for Safety, Accessibility, & Critical Infrastructure Projects as outlined on 5 Year Plan at April 2019 ATM
 - 5) Provide funding for any remaining/new Projects on 5 Year Plan through the Operating Budgets in FY20 – FY23 at ~\$350K per Year
- Debt Exclusion Totals from the above mentioned Projects total \$7.2M.
 - A \$7.2M Bond with a 20 Year Term at an Interest Rate of 4% carries an Annual Cost of \$595,000.
 - A \$595,000 Annual Debt Expense would leave ~\$115,000 per year available that could either reduce Net Assessment amounts or be earmarked to fund the OPEB Trust Fund in future years.
 - Although the Sprinkler and Turf Field Projects would potentially be funded before the HS/MS Project was paid off in May 2019, only minimal costs (e.g., BAN expenses) would be incurred prior to FY20 when the HS/MS Project will have rolled off our books entirely.

Hamilton Wenham Regional School District
5 Year Capital* Improvement Program Summary as of January 3, 2018

Department	Project	Location	Total Est Cost	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23
Fac & Grds	New Roof	HS	3,000,000	-	-	-	3,000,000	-
Fac & Grds	Building Energy Management Systems	Elem Schools	210,000	-	210,000	-	-	-
Fac & Grds	Replace Recalled Sprinkler Heads	HS / MS	37,500	-	37,500	-	-	-
Fac & Grds	Replace Classroom Sinks, Countertops & Water bubblers	Elem Schools	61,000	-	61,000	-	-	-
Fac & Grds	Waste Water Treatment Plant	District	100,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000
Fac & Grds	Repair, refinish & reline Gymnasium Floors	District	60,000	-	-	-	60,000	-
Fac & Grds	Install Keyless Entryway Swipecard Systems	District	35,000	-	35,000	-	-	-
Fac & Grds	Install Exterior Surveillance Cameras	District	30,000	-	30,000	-	-	-
Fac & Grds	Install Main Entry & Main Office Interior Surveillance Cameras	District	25,000	-	25,000	-	-	-
Fac & Grds	Interior Classroom & Hallway Painting	Cut	30,000	-	-	-	30,000	-
Fac & Grds	Replace Classroom Carpets with Tile (2)	Cut	10,000	-	10,000	-	-	-
Fac & Grds	Classroom Shades	Cut, Buk, HS & MS	135,000	-	135,000	-	-	-
Fac & Grds	Emergency Generator	Buk & Admin Bldg	40,000	-	40,000	-	-	-
Fac & Grds	Autoscrubbers (4)	District	60,000	-	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000
Fac & Grds	Replace flooring in HS Fitness Center	HS	15,000	-	-	15,000	-	-
Fac & Grds	Equipment for HS Fitness Center	HS	20,000	-	-	20,000	-	-
Fac & Grds	Install ADA Accessible Handicap Lifts/Ramps for school stages	Win & Buk	30,000	-	30,000	-	-	-
Fac & Grds	Project Adventure Course Upgrades	HS / MS	15,000	-	15,000	-	-	-
Fac & Grds	Replace front sidewalks at Middle School	MRMS	60,000	-	60,000	-	-	-
Fac & Grds	Replace Ceiling Tiles in Primary Wing Classrooms & Hallway	Winthrop	10,000	-	-	-	10,000	-
Fac & Grds	Repair sidewalks and curbing at Admin Bldg	Admin	15,000	-	15,000	-	-	-
Fac & Grds	Upgrade, repair and install Intercom systems	Various	24,000	-	24,000	-	-	-
Fac & Grds	Replace Sound System in gymnasium	HS / MS	20,000	-	20,000	-	-	-
Fac & Grds	40' - 50' Scissor Lift w/ Trailer	District	25,000	-	25,000	-	-	-
Fac & Grds	Buker Drainage	Buker	20,000	-	20,000	-	-	-
Fac & Grds	Buker Side Entryway and Handicap Ramp (Replace)	Buker	80,000	-	80,000	-	-	-
Tech	iPads for Students on Scholarship and F&RL	District	87,500	17,500	17,500	17,500	17,500	17,500
Tech	Classroom Hardware Refresh 4 year cycle (iPads)	District	280,000	21,000	42,000	84,000	70,000	63,000
Tech	Classroom Hardware Refresh 7 year cycle (Laptops & Labs)	District	262,305	33,480	47,470	34,970	92,430	53,955
Tech	Classroom Chromebooks 4 year cycle	District	135,000	-	18,000	18,000	18,000	81,000
Tech	Upgrade Wireless Access Points including wiring	District	49,920	-	49,920	-	-	-
Tech	Replace Phone System with new VoIP System	HS / MS	47,000	-	47,000	-	-	-
Tech	Replace Backup Server / Services	District	52,000	-	52,000	-	-	-
Tech	Replace VMWare Server and Licenses	District	113,000	-	113,000	-	-	-
Tech	Replace Network Area Storage Arrays	District	207,000	-	207,000	-	-	-
Tech	Replace Network IDF	District	72,000	-	72,000	-	-	-
Tech	Replace Classroom SMARTBoards, Projectors, etc	District	232,600	37,216	65,128	65,128	65,128	-
Tech	Upgrade Auditorium Theatrical Electrical Systems	HS	75,000	-	75,000	-	-	-
Tech	Replace Auditorium Lighting Control Console	HS	17,000	-	17,000	-	-	-
Tech	Auditorium HD Projector, Projection Screen & Monitors	HS	50,000	-	-	50,000	-	-

Hamilton Wenham Regional School District
5 Year Capital* Improvement Program Summary as of January 3, 2018

Department	Project	Location	Total Est Cost	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23
Tech	Install redundant line for Internet Connectivity	District	32,000	-	32,000	-	-	-
Food Svc	Kitchen Equipment	District	373,575	-	373,575	-	-	-
Subtotal Operating:			6,253,400	129,196	2,136,093	339,598	3,398,058	250,453
Fac & Grds	Building Fire Suppression System	Win	1,000,000	1,000,000	-	-	-	-
Subtotal Sprinklers:			1,000,000	1,000,000	-	-	-	-
Master Plan	Classroom Furniture (Master Plan)	District	800,000	-	800,000	-	-	-
Master Plan	HS/MS Library Media Center Renovation (Master Plan)	HS / MS	2,460,000	-	-	-	2,460,000	-
Master Plan	Elementary Library Media Center Renovations (Master Plan)	Elem Schools	2,841,825	-	-	-	2,841,825	-
Subtotal Master Plan:			6,101,825	-	800,000	-	5,301,825	-
Athletics	Turf Fields: Track & Field	District	3,671,863	3,671,863	-	-	-	-
Athletics	Turf Fields: Combination Baseball Field	District	3,051,365	-	-	-	-	3,051,365
Athletics	Turf Fields: Entrance Improvements & Amenities	District	2,024,928	-	-	-	-	2,024,928
Subtotal Athletics:			8,748,156	3,671,863	-	-	-	5,076,293
Totals:			\$ 22,103,381	\$ 4,801,059	\$ 2,936,093	\$ 339,598	\$ 8,699,883	\$ 5,326,748

- A "green" shaded entry in FY19 denotes the expense has been incorporated into the FY19 Operating Budget Recommendation.

- An "orange" shaded entry in FY19 denotes the expense will be presented at April 2018 Town Meeting for funding.

* - Tangible assets or projects that cost at least \$10,000 and have a useful life of at least 5 years.

Note - The final principal and interest payment for the HS/MS Project is due in May 2019. Net annual Debt Service Expense Costs associated with that Project are ~\$711,000.



Other Important Topics for Discussion Administration's Recommendation

- **Discuss any suggested changes to Superintendent's Budget Recommendation**
 - The Vote to Adopt an Operating Budget for FY19 is required to take place at our next regular meeting on February 13, 2018.
- **Authorization of Debt Discussion**
 - See Section IX of the Regional Agreement
 - A Vote to incur debt (see Capital Plan Recommendation), if applicable, must take place at our next regular meeting on February 13, 2018.



FY19 Budget: Calendar

SEPTEMBER 18, 2017	DISTRICT SUBMITS FY17 E&D TO MA DOR FOR CERTIFICATION							
OCTOBER 26, 2017	DISTRIBUTION OF OCTOBER 2017 RESIDENT ENROLLMENT DATA TO TOWNS							
NOVEMBER 6, 2017	DISTRIBUTION OF FY19 BUDGET KICK-OFF MEMO TO HWRSD BUDGET HOLDERS							
NOVEMBER 6, 2017	DISTRIBUTION OF FY19 BUDGET CALENDAR							
DECEMBER 7, 2017	FY19 BUDGET PLANNING MEETING #1 WITH TOWN FINANCE COMMITTEES							
JANUARY 3, 2018	FY19 BUDGET RECOMMENDATION PRESENTED TO SCHOOL COMMITTEE							
JANUARY 3, 2018	SCHOOL COMMITTEE REVIEWS FY19 BUDGET RECOMMENDATION							
JANUARY 3, 2018	SCHOOL COMMITTEE ADOPTS TENTATIVE FY19 BUDGET							
JANUARY 10, 2018	DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION ADVERTISES FY19 BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING #1							
JANUARY 17, 2018	SCHOOL COMMITTEE HOLDS FY19 BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING #1							
JANUARY 17, 2018	SCHOOL COMMITTEE REVIEWS FY19 BUDGET RECOMMENDATION							
JANUARY 24, 2018	SCHOOL COMMITTEE CONDUCTS FY19 BUDGET BUDGET WORKSHOP							
JANUARY 30, 2018	DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION MAILED ADOPTED TENTATIVE FY19 BUDGET TO TOWNS							
JANUARY 31, 2018	SCHOOL COMMITTEE REVIEWS FY19 BUDGET RECOMMENDATION							
FEBRUARY 7, 2018	DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION ADVERTISES FY19 BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING #2							
FEBRUARY 7, 2018	FY19 BUDGET PLANNING MEETING #2 WITH TOWN FINANCE COMMITTEES							
FEBRUARY 13, 2018	SCHOOL COMMITTEE REVIEWS FY19 BUDGET RECOMMENDATION							
FEBRUARY 13, 2018	SCHOOL COMMITTEE HOLDS FY19 BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING #2							
FEBRUARY 13, 2018	SCHOOL COMMITTEE ADOPTS FY19 BUDGET							
MARCH 16, 2018	DISTRICT TREASURER CERTIFIES FY19 APPORTIONED AMOUNTS WITH TOWNS							
APRIL 7, 2018	ANNUAL TOWN MEETINGS							



HAMILTON-WENHAM REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

FY18 Operating Expense Forecast As of January 24, 2018

For Presentation to the School Committee on January 31, 2018

Prepared by:

Jeffrey D. Sands, Assistant Superintendent for Finance & Administration

Vincent Leone, Director of Accounting & Payroll



FY18 Operating Expense Forecast (after Offsets) Overview & *Key Assumptions*

- **Salary Costs**
 - Incorporates Actual Costs through 01/24/18 plus all known encumbrances.
 - Includes forecasted values for all Costs not automatically encumbered through June 30, 2018 including; long term substitutes, daily substitutes, overtime, etc.
- **Operating Costs**
 - Incorporates Actual Costs through 01/24/18 plus all known encumbrances.
 - Includes forecasted values for all Costs not automatically encumbered through June 30, 2018 including; school discretionary spending; transportation, out-of district tuition, maintenance, technology, etc.

With 50% of the School Year now complete, we are currently Forecasting to end the year \$9,000 or 0.03% favorable to Budget.


It is likely that the Forecast will change over the course of the next 5 months.



FY18 Operating Expense Forecast (after Offsets)

Summary by DESE Budget Category

Summary by DESE Category		FY18	FY18	FY18
		Budget	YE Projection	Over/Under
Administration		\$ 1,135,489	\$ 1,125,489	\$ 10,000
Capital, Operations, Maintenance		\$ 2,227,622	\$ 2,247,622	\$ (20,000)
Guidance, Counseling, Testing		\$ 1,065,718	\$ 1,065,718	\$ -
Inst. Materials		\$ 873,876	\$ 873,876	\$ -
Instructional Leadership		\$ 2,931,318	\$ 2,916,318	\$ 15,000
Insurance, Retirement, Other		\$ 3,978,971	\$ 3,994,971	\$ (16,000)
Other Teaching Services		\$ 2,408,619	\$ 2,323,619	\$ 85,000
Prof. Dev.		\$ 209,594	\$ 189,594	\$ 20,000
Pupil Services		\$ 2,079,027	\$ 2,114,027	\$ (35,000)
Teachers		\$11,358,184	\$ 11,408,184	\$ (50,000)
Tuitions *		\$ 1,931,399	\$ 1,931,399	\$ -
District Totals		\$30,199,816	\$ 30,190,816	\$ 9,000

	<p style="text-align: center;">A Memo from</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Hamilton-Wenham Regional High School Guidance Office</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Andrea Adamo, Secretary 978-468-0480 a.adamo@hwschools.net</p>
<p>To: Don Gallant, Treasurer</p>	
<p>Date: January 11, 2018</p>	
<p>Regarding: New Scholarship – “Institution for Savings \$15,000 Annual Scholarship”</p>	
<p>Comments:</p> <p>Don, According to the guidelines set forth by the District in our “Guidelines for Establishing a Scholarship”, I am enclosing for your records the original “Scholarship Establishment Form” filled out by a representative of the Institution for Savings to establish a new scholarship to be offered to graduating seniors at the high school.</p> <p>The Institution for Savings will be offering this generous \$15,000 scholarship each year to one of our graduating seniors beginning with the current Class of 2018.</p> <p>If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact me.</p> <p><i>Don - Here is the update - let me know if you have any questions - Andrea</i></p>	



Hamilton-Wenham Regional High School

Scholarship Establishment Form

Name of Scholarship: Institution for Savings \$15,000 - Scholarship

Organization or Individual Name(s): _____

Contact Person (if different from above): Kim Rock

Mailing Address: PO Box 510 Newburyport, MA 01950

Phone: 978-225-1332 Email: Krock@institutionforsavings.com

Scholarship Description (Reason for establishment, donor history, information about memorialized person, etc.):

SEE ATTACHED

(Suggestions for a memorial – where/when was the person born, where did they live, what was their education/occupation/personal interests/family life and what is their connection to the community or HWRHS.)

This scholarship will be: _____ one-time only ☒ yearly

This scholarship is intended for: ☒ one recipient annually
_____ other (explain): _____

Eligibility Criteria (Please check all that apply):

Category

- ☒ Academic success
- ☒ Leadership roles
- ☒ Personal character
- ☒ School involvement
- ☒ Community service
- ☐ Intended major/field of study/career path
- ☐ Commitment to a certain cause
- ☒ Participation in extra-curricular activities
- ☒ Life experiences/interests
- ☒ Financial need
- ☐ Other

Details

Scholarship Funding Options:**Donor held funds:**

- ☒ One-time, one-year only – Amount to be given \$_____ (each) to _____ recipient(s)
- ☒ Yearly - Donor expects to provide annual awards of \$ 15,450 (each) to 1 recipient(s)
- ☐ Yearly - Donor is relying on fundraising efforts for this award and will inform the Guidance Office each January of the amount to be awarded.
- ☐ Other - _____

District held funds:

- ☐ Yearly – Donor expects to make annual deposits into the District account for the purpose of providing an ongoing scholarship in the amount of \$_____ (each) to _____ recipient(s)
- ☐ Endowment – This type of fund is meant to be permanent leaving the principal untouched. Donor designates that \$_____ from the deposit should be used to fund the first year's award and further understands that future awards will be dependent on the amount of interest earned.

Application Process:

- ☐ This scholarship will be added to the Hamilton-Wenham Regional High School's Common Scholarship Application using the description provided on page one of this form.
- ☒ Donor/Representative wishes to provide their own application or other means of gathering potential candidates.
- ☐ Non-Application Option - Donor/Representative prefers that the high school's Scholarship Selection Committee choose a recipient from the current senior class using the eligibility criteria set forth herein.

Selection Process:

- ☒ Donor/Representative will choose recipient(s)
- ☐ Donor/Representative has chosen above to allow the high school's Scholarship Selection Committee to choose a recipient and further acknowledges that if funds are held by the District that the Committee has the authority to split larger amounts between several recipients.

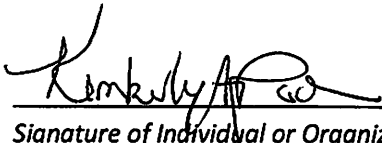
Timeline:

The high school's scholarship ceremony takes place on the Tuesday immediately following Memorial Day each year. It is expected that this scholarship will be given out beginning May of 2018.

Acknowledgments:

My signature below confirms that the information provided on this form is accurate and represents my/my organization's preferences.

I hereby acknowledge that any scholarship funds deposited into a District account will be disbursed only to scholarship recipients as set forth herein and will not be released to any other party or returned to myself/my organization.



Signature of Individual or Organization Representative

12/14/17

Date

Signature of Individual or Organization Representative

Date

The District does not discriminate in its programs, activities or employment practices based on race, color, national origin, religion, gender, sexual orientation, age or disability.



INSTITUTION FOR SAVINGS

BUILDING STRONGER COMMUNITIES TOGETHER SINCE 1820.

\$15,000 Institution for Savings Scholarship

One \$15,000 Institution for Savings Scholarship is awarded annually to a graduating senior that has applied/been accepted for admission at an accredited college or university. The recipient will be among the top 50 students academically in the graduating class and demonstrate traits consistent with the Bank's vision: having a positive affect on other people or his/her community through leadership, volunteerism, innovation, service and academic achievement.

Applicants must complete and submit the sponsor application available in the Guidance Office or on the Bank's website: institutionforsavings.com. Completed application, transcripts, and essays must be submitted no later than March 29, 2018 to the Guidance Office.

Donations/Grants

School Committee Meeting

January 31, 2018

FOTA \$1,376.84

- New Cyclorama Curtain in the Ferrini Auditorium

FOTA \$400.

- Ukulele Melee at the Cutler School

Grant Proposal Hamilton-Wenham Friends of the Arts

Date submitted: 12/14/18

Applicant: Christopher Shailor

Title of proposed purchase or project: Cyclorama Curtain

Amount Requested: \$ 1210.00

- Shipping cost TBD after order

Subject area(s) grant would support: Performing Arts

School(s) grant would impact: All events at Ferrini Dramatics Center

Grade level(s) grant would impact: 6-12

Description: Cyclorama Curtain for the stage.



Rose Brand East
4 Emerson Lane, Secaucus, NJ 07094
800-223-1624 201-809-1730 Fax: 201-809-1851

Rose Brand West CA Lic. #1024256
11440 Sheldon Street, Sun Valley, CA 91352
800-360-5056 818-505-6290 Fax: 818-505-6293

Quote

Quote Number: **164698**

Date: 12/13/2017

Terms: Credit Card

Customer ID: WEB95367

Quote To:

Christopher Shailor
Hamilton-Wenham High School
775 Bay Road
South Hamilton MA 01982
United States

Phone: 9784680474

Email: c.shailor@hwschools.net

Ship To:

Christopher Shailor
Hamilton-Wenham High School
775 Bay Road
South Hamilton MA 01982
United States

S/P Name: Brandi Vold
S/P Email: brandi.vold@rosebrand.com
S/P Phone: 201-809-1730 x138

PO Number:
Ship Via: UPS Ground

Line	Part	Quantity	Unit Price	Ext Price
1	DRAP0001	1.000 Each	\$1,210.00	\$1,210.00

Details: Seamless Drop with Horizontal Fabric
Material: Muslin 20 ft-4 in FR Heavy Weight Natural
17 feet - 0 inches high x 42 feet - 0 inches wide
With 0% Added Fullness, Unlined
Top: Jute webbing grommets & ties, with #3 grommets on
12 inch centers.
Bottom: Pipe pocket w/ skirt (pipe slits), 5 in.
Stage Right: Flat hem, 2 in.
Stage Left: Flat hem, 2 in.

Estimated Freight \$85.90
Misc Sales Tax (quotes) \$80.94

**** Quote may not include applicable charge(s) for Freight and/or Sales Tax ****

I verify the above quotation accurately reflects our agreement and I approve fulfillment of this order on behalf of my company listed in the "Quote To" box. I also agree to the additional terms and conditions found at <http://www.rosebrand.com/customer/terms.aspx>. The appropriate deposit, if required, will accompany this acknowledgement of purchase.

X _____ Date: _____

Sub Total: \$1,210.00
Miscellaneous Charges: \$166.84
Discounts: \$0.00
Quote Totals(Excludes Tax): USD \$1,376.84

Grant Proposal
Hamilton-Wenham Friends of the Arts

Date submitted: January 2, 2018

Applicant: Melissa Graham, Director of String Jam and the Friends of Cutler

Title of proposed purchase or project: As we did last year, the String Jam and Cutler School are hosting the Ukulele Melee. We have asked Stewart Fuchs to perform and run a ukulele workshop for the guests and students. The cost of our headliner, Stewart Fuchs, will be \$800.

Amount Requested: \$400.00

Subject area(s) grant would support: The subject area this grant would support would be music. I run a ukulele group every week. This grant would help to support my students in their ukulele skills and help them to feel a part of a musical community.

School(s) grant would impact: Hosting the Ukulele Melee every year has an enormous impact on my students here at Cutler School. I have 40 Cutler students in the String Jam out of 46 total fifth graders. However, all the fifth grade students are welcome to participate and attend. Every year, the String Jam kids are so inspired by the headliner. In addition, they are excited to be a part of the greater ukulele community. Fifth grade students jam with one another and with older ukulele musicians. This allows them to realize that they are part of something bigger than String Jam.

In addition, students are able to learn new skills in workshops. Last year, the kids loved the Hula workshop. In the back courtyard, the Hawaiian band played on the bandstand, while the Hula instructor taught Hula lessons on the grass. It was a beautiful sight.

Finally, I love watching my students gain a sense of empowerment as they help to run the Ukulele Melee each year. They sell tickets, t-shirts, and food. In addition, they manage the stage, help out in workshops, and organize and decorate the setting prior to the event. They always feel proud to have been part of this exciting event.

Grade Level(s) it would impact: The Ukulele Melee impacts the fifth grade ukulele students I have at Cutler School. In addition, I will be inviting my students from previous years, particularly the ones who participated last year. As a result, it will also affect some of the middle school students. Also, we are hoping to invite other ukulele students from around New England to come and play with our own String Jam.

Last year, the kids from the previous years did come. We arranged a special jam in the Gallery. It was amazing! Ukulele students from three different years of String Jim were playing and singing with the older ukulele musicians. It was so much fun! When we had to stop, there was a big sad, "Aaaaw!" This year, I hope to schedule a longer jam session.

Description: The Ukulele Melee is a ukulele festival that includes ukulele band performances, workshops, solo performances, strum alongs, jam sessions, and a headliner performance. Our headliner this year will be Stewart Fuchs. He is a completely different type of musician than we have had in previous years. He plays the ukulele in a solo style, playing the melody while also playing backup chords. Also, Stewart believes ukulele music to be calming and therapeutic, naming one of his CDs "Ukulele Zen." Referred to as the "Modern Day Pied Piper" by the Buffalo News, Stewart plays jazz, classical, folk, and many other genres of music. For \$800, Stewart will play a concert and teach a workshop during his time at the Ukulele Melee. Thankfully, he is from Southern New Hampshire and will require no hotel room or plane fare.

My students this year were so impressed with Jake Shimabukuro, when we all were lucky enough to see and jam with him at the Cabot Theater. Because of this experience, many of them are interested in playing more solo style ukulele music. Stewart Fuchs will be able to inspire them again and also teach them how to play a song in that style. I feel he is the perfect musician for this year of the Ukulele Melee.

<https://www.stufuchs.com/about>
