

# Effective Communication for School Committees

## Crisis and Controversy

masc

July 13, 2024

**Chris Horan**



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## WHOSE jurisdiction is the crisis?



School Committee

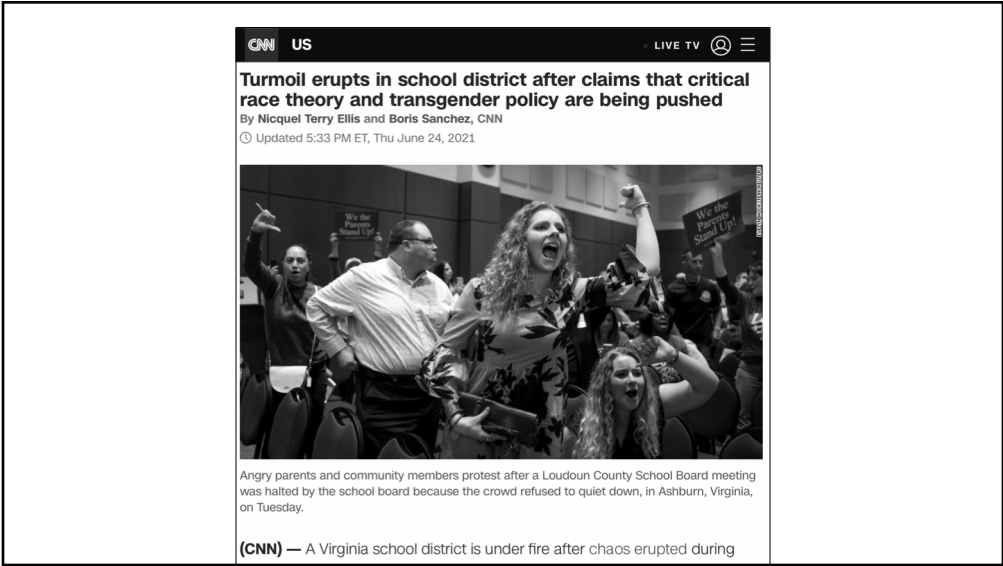


Superintendent

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NEWS WEATHER SPORTS WATCH COMMUNITY 804 EXPERT

HANOVER COUNTY

# Hanover School Board approves stricter cell phone policy amid controversy

by Sahara Sriraman  
Posted: Jul 9, 2024 / 10:37 PM EDT  
Updated: Jul 9, 2024 / 11:06 PM EDT

Ad: (0:18)

Advertisement: 0:18

SHARE

HANOVER COUNTY, Va. (WRIC) — The Hanover County School Board voted 6 to 1 during a Tuesday meeting in favor of revising its cell phone policy.

The board's decision enforces a complete ban on cell phones, headphones and earbuds throughout the school day, including during lunch periods and between classes.

The vote took place just hours after Virginia Gov. Glenn Youngkin issued an executive order directing the Virginia Department of Education to draft policies that limit or ban cell phones in schools across the state.

Supporters of the cell phone policy argue that reducing the use of cell phones will enhance students' focus and minimize distractions. On the other hand, critics have voiced concerns about the

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The Frederick News-Post

ALERT CENTERPIECE

# Updated: School board labors over cuts to services, programs to fill \$50M budget gap

By Sylvia Carignan scarignan@newspost.com May 15, 2024 Updated May 29, 2024 2



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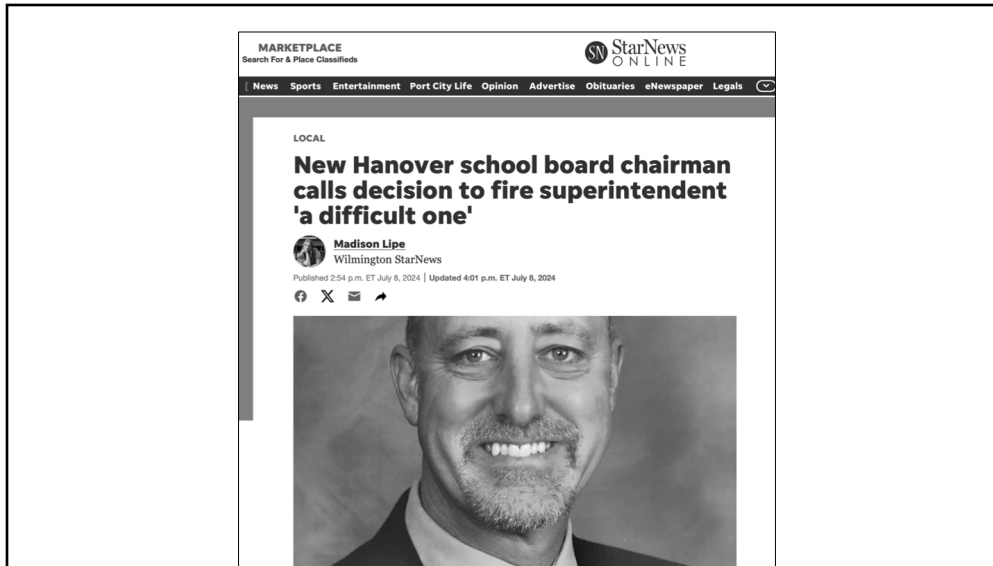
The screenshot shows the top of a news website for WSB-TV 2 Atlanta. The header includes the station logo, a temperature of 72 degrees, and a 'WATCH' button. Below the header is a navigation menu with categories like NEWS, WEATHER, VIDEO, and INVESTIGATES. A 'Live Local News' banner is visible. The main article is titled 'COBB COUNTY' and 'Cobb school board cancels plans to build \$50 million venue over budget concerns'. It is attributed to 'WSBTv.com News Staff' and dated 'July 10, 2024 at 5:55 am EDT'. A photograph of a modern building is shown to the right of the headline. Below the photo are social media sharing icons. The article text begins: 'COBB COUNTY, Ga. — The Cobb County School Board pulled the plug Tuesday on \$50 million project to build a new multi-purpose venue. In March 2023, the school board approved a request from Superintendent Chris Ragsdale to build the facility with the goal of using it for high school graduations and other large district events.'

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The screenshot shows the top of a news website for 'The NEVADA INDEPENDENT'. The header includes the site name, a tagline 'Your state. Your news. Your voice.', and a language selector for 'Español'. Below the header is a navigation menu with categories like Primary Election, Fact Checks, and A's stadium. A search bar is visible. The main article is titled 'OPINION: Douglas County's messy school superintendent search implodes' and is attributed to 'John L. Smith' and dated 'February 18th, 2024 at 2:00 AM'. A photograph of a group of people is shown below the headline. The article text is partially visible: 'In March 2023, the school board approved a request from Superintendent Chris Ragsdale to build the facility with the goal of using it for high school graduations and other large district events.'

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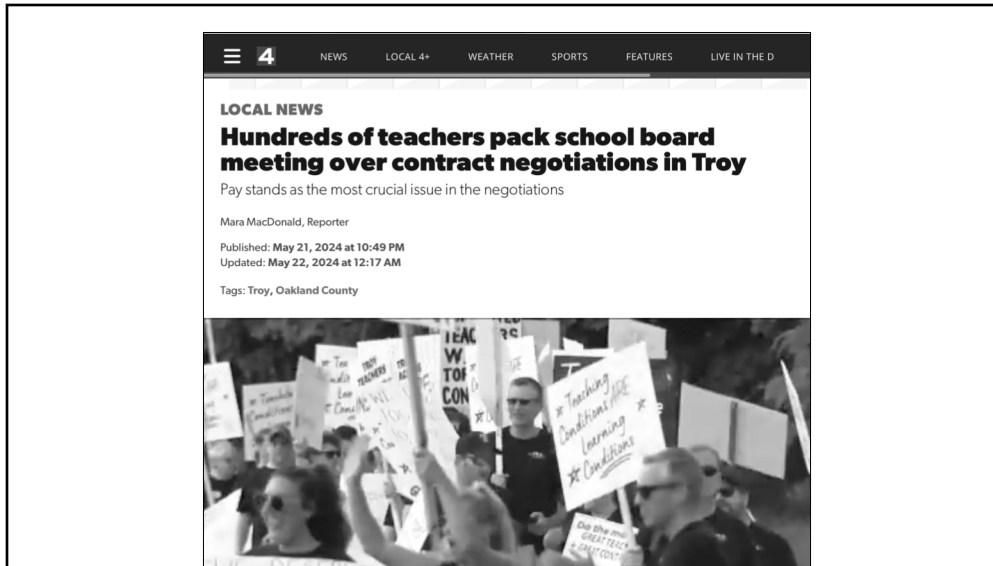




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**OPB** JULY 11, 2024 contribute now

In The News Wildfire hazard map Heat-related deaths Tips for staying cool Oregon's First Lady Deschi

EDUCATION

## Poll finds Portland teachers strike damaged public view of school board, state leaders

By Rob Manning (OPB)  
Feb. 13, 2024 9 a.m.

**A poll conducted by the nonprofit Oregon Values and Beliefs Center found a majority feel the Portland teachers strike should've been avoided.**

The teachers strike that canceled classes across Portland Public Schools for nearly all of November dampened support for several — but not all — of the parties implicated in it, according to a [poll](#) released Monday by the nonprofit Oregon Values and Beliefs Center. But where Oregonians agreed most strongly was when asked if the strike needed to happen at all. A significant majority said it shouldn't have.

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**The Oconee Enterprise** 74 Watkinsville SUNNY

Search

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FORMS

## Oconee school board violates state Open Meetings Act law

By Michael Prochaska | January 17, 2024 | 1

The Oconee Board of Education on Tuesday asked a citizen and a reporter to leave a portion of a public meeting as defined by Georgia code, thus violating Georgia's Open Meeting Act, also known as the state's Sunshine laws.

Following Oconee County Schools' announcement that it would not video record the annual BOE retreat on Jan. 16, retired Journalism Professor Lee Becker asked a representative of The Oconee Enterprise to record the day-long public meeting.

Becker, who manages a journalistic blog covering local government, could not attend the retreat. The Enterprise routinely republishes — though often with edits and sometimes with additions — select stories.

Oconee The Magazine

OCCONEE COUNTY

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### Before crisis strikes...

- Review which issues are the **jurisdiction** of the Superintendent vs. the School Committee.
- Establish clear **roles and responsibilities** for crisis communication, including the chain of notification.
- Clarify who is (and is not) authorized to **speak to the press** during a crisis.



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### Media Relations



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## School Committee Meetings



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## Social Media



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**Hingham Public Schools**  
March 11 · 🌐

What are the total costs of the salary increases for TEACHERS proposed by the Hingham Education Association and the Hingham School Committee over the next three years? This line graph depicts the fiscal impact of the parties' latest proposals between now and Fiscal Year 2026.

[hinghamschools.org/negotiations/](https://hinghamschools.org/negotiations/)

### Cost comparison of proposals: TEACHER salary increases

● Hingham School Committee proposal   ● Hingham Education Association proposal

Fiscal Year	Hingham Education Association Proposal	Hingham School Committee Proposal
FY24	\$2.35 m	\$1.14 m
FY25	\$3.85 m	\$2.40 m
FY26	\$3.43 m	\$1.75 m
<b>Total over 3 years</b>	<b>\$9.6 million</b>	<b>\$5.3 million</b>

3/7/24

**Hingham Public Schools**  
March 14 · 🌐

In ongoing contract negotiations with the Hingham Education Association, the Hingham School Committee has proposed significant increases in the longevity bonuses awarded to teachers for longstanding service.

<https://hinghamschools.org/negotiations/>

### Hingham School Committee contract proposal: Increases in LONGEVITY BONUSES for teachers

● Year 1   ● Year 2   ● Year 3

Experience Level	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
15-19+ years	\$2,150	\$2,650	\$3,150
20-24+ years	\$2,750	\$3,250	\$3,750
25-29+ years	\$3,100	\$3,600	\$4,100
30 years or more	\$3,450	\$3,950	\$4,450

3/7/24

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QUICKLINKS

- ABOUT
- SCHOOLS
- PROGRAMS
- STUDENTS & FAMILIES
- CALENDAR
- NEWS
- EMPLOYMENT

**HINGHAM PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

Translate: English

SEARCH

## CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS

HINGHAM PUBLIC SCHOOLS > ABOUT > SCHOOL COMMITTEE > CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS

**About**

- School Committee
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- ESSR III Information
- Food Services
- Hingham Elementary School Building Project
- History
- Home School Application

**UPDATES FROM THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE** +

**TABLES, CHARTS AND GRAPHS** -

**Overview**

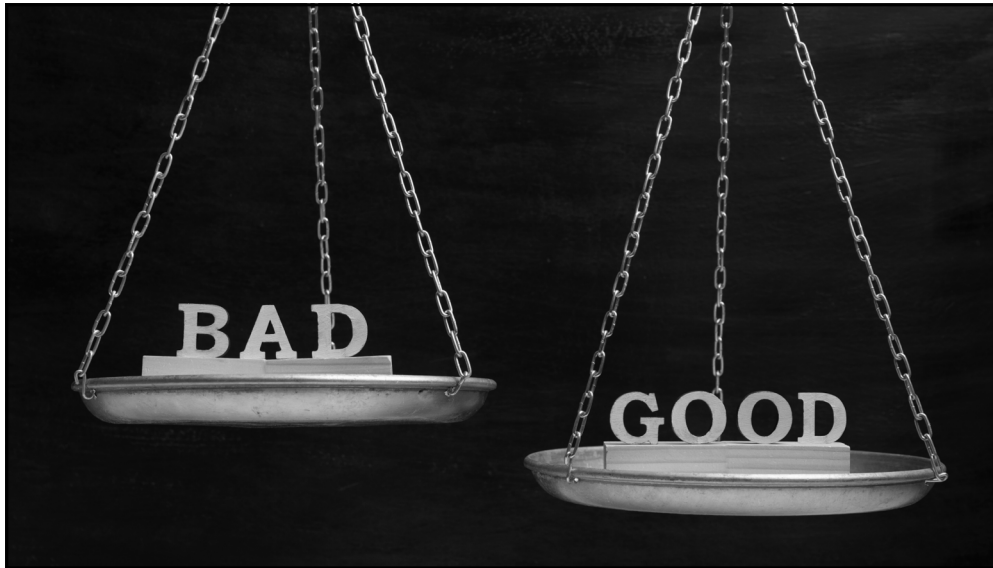
The Hingham School Committee has been engaged in ongoing negotiations with the Hingham Education Association (HEA) Unit B (paraprofessionals) since December 2022 and with the HEA Unit A (teachers) since February 2023.

The Hingham School Committee is the body elected by Hingham citizens, whose responsibilities include working with our employee bargaining units to reach agreement on fair, equitable, and financially sustainable contracts. Five of the seven collective bargaining units in the Hingham Public Schools are currently working under contracts that run from May 2020 through August 31, 2023, and the terms of those contracts remain in effect if new contracts are not ratified after that date.

**Update on Contract Negotiations With Each Unit**

- TEACHERS (HEA UNIT A): +
- PARAPROFESSIONALS (HEA UNIT B): +
- CUSTODIAN AND MAINTENANCE WORKERS CONTRACT (HEA UNIT C): +
- ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANTS (HEA UNIT D): +
- BUS AND VAN DRIVERS: +

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## Questions and Comments

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[horancommunications.com](http://horancommunications.com)



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communications

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