



HUDSON SCHOOL BOARD

18 Library Street Hudson, New Hampshire

6:30 pm Regular Meeting
Followed by Non-public Session

Meeting Minutes - May 8, 2023

In Attendance

Board Members

Gretchen Whiting, Chair
Maureen Dionne, Vice Chair
Ethan Beals
Mike Campbell
Gary Gasdia (absent)

SAU Staff

Dan Moulis, Superintendent of Schools
Kimberly Organek, Assistant Superintendent
Of Curriculum & Instruction
Rachel Borge, Director Special Services
Jen Burk, Business Administrator

Kara Roy, Budget Com. Ex-Officio Member (absent)
Emily Dozois, Student Representative (absent)

A. Call to Order [0:00:10]

1. Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Gretchen Whiting called the meeting to order at 6:30pm. Mike Campbell led the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. Public Input [0:00:36]

There was no public input.

Maureen Dionne made a motion to move the topic of Memorandum of Agreement with Tango Flight Inc. and the NH Aviation Historical Society (Decision) to after the first presentation to the Board. Mike Campbell seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

C. Presentations to the Board [0:01:22]**1. Alvirne High School DEI Club (Information)**

Student members Nazmeen Mohammed-Sidi, Victoria Tilley, and Haley Bassett and Advisor Scott Rush of Alvirne's DEI Club discussed their first World Festival which will take place on Saturday, June 3, 2023. Board members were quizzed on knowledge of country flags, denoting cultures of Hudson students that would be shared at the World Festival. Three main core values were diversity, equity and inclusion. The club expanded the community at Alvirne and allowed people to be open with other people from different backgrounds and cultures. At the World Festival, there will be a fashion show, ethnic food, and information on various cultures. The event provides an opportunity for volunteer hours for the National Honors Society and the Jr ROTC program. Students are working on fundraising through Snap Raise to help defray costs.

D. New Business Item (moved up in the agenda)**2. Memorandum of Agreement with Tango Flight Inc. and the NH Aviation Historical Society (Decision)**

There was review of a Hudson School District Aircraft Build program for 2023-2024 by CTE Director Eric Frauwirth and Jeff Rapsis (Executive Director of the Aviation Museum of NH). Tango Flight worked with Manchester School of Technology to build an airplane (RB12) and they are looking for another school for a similar project. Dr. Frauwirth suggested this as a CTE capstone opportunity for Seniors in the welding, diesel mechanic, engineering and Jr ROTC programs. Part of the mission of the NH Aviation Historical Society is geared toward education to steer students towards aviation and aerospace careers. The model involves community members who serve as mentors to students during the airplane build. No local tax dollars will be used. When the plane is built and certifiable, it will be sold, and the money will be used to purchase the next airplane kit. The museum will raise \$210,000 as a refundable deposit to get the program up and running, as well as \$10,000/year for ongoing expenses once the plane is built and purchased. Some curriculum materials developed by Tango Flight to coincide with the plane build and the annual program fee (\$13,873) could be covered by Perkins Grant money. The plane will be housed in the Nashua Airport hangar.

A Memorandum of Understanding was drafted for Superintendent Moulis' signature and the contract protected all three parties. Insurance and liabilities are carried by Tango Flight. Hudson will be the second New Hampshire high school to participate in this project, which will roll into two school years. The engineering teacher will teach the curriculum and museum experienced volunteers will assist. Volunteer vetting is done by the museum and programs will be run under the policies of the school where they are occurring. The contract was reviewed by school liability carrier Primex and the recommended changes were made. Legal counsel has also reviewed the contract. The program could be disabled if the program does not generate enough student interest. Eight Alvirne students have committed to the program; the number could increase as the years go on. Students will not fly the plane. School Board approval is necessary before the kit can be sent.

Mike Campbell made a motion to move forward with the Memorandum of Understanding with Tango Flight, Inc. and the NH Aviation Historical Society (CTE airplane build project) with the edits presented by Superintendent Moulis and contingent on additional vetting of volunteers. Maureen Dionne seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-1. Ethan Beals was the no vote.

C. Presentation to the Board (continued)

2. Developmental Profiles of Early Learners (Information) (1:22:15)

Special Education Coordinators Nicole Cargill and Heidi Greaves shared a typical day for preschool, kindergarten and first grade students as well as information related to the newly adopted waiver policy. Highlights included social emotional milestones for ages 4, 5, and 6 (typical vs. IEP), daily activities, and indicators for allowance of waivers.

3. Graduation Requirements (Information) (1:35:00)

Director of School Counseling Bill Hughen discussed the FAFSA graduation requirement for 2024. Per NH RSA 193:26-a, starting with the class of 2024, Seniors will need to fill out a FAFSA or a waiver acknowledging there is no need to apply for financial aid. This is part of an effort to have 65% of a graduating class attend higher education by the year 2025. Financial aid night will be on September 18, 2023, and the FAFSA needs to be completed by December 1. Parents are aware of the process.

Social Studies Department Head Jeff Peterson discussed graduation requirements regarding civics, personal finance, and Holocaust studies. Bills related to this are: NH RSA 189:11 Instruction in National and NH State History & Government (passing the United States Citizenship Test with a grade of 70% and the school's competency assessment are required for graduation as of July 1, 2023); SB 216: More Time for Civics"; and NH Ed 306.49 Holocaust and Genocide Education Program. In the piloted Citizenship testing this year, 9 out of 111 Seniors did not pass. Remediation was done through Flex Time and a VLACs .25 credit course. There is dedicated class time for civics in each elementary grade, a half-year course in grades 6-8 and a half-year course in high school that is required for graduation. Holocaust and genocide education is required to be taught no later than grade 8, and each district needs to incorporate it into at least one existing high school course required for graduation. In Hudson, this is in grade 9 World History and grade 11 American Humanities classes).

Maureen Dionne made a motion to move New Business Item American Association of School Librarians Biennial Conference Requests up in the agenda and to postpone the item District Determination Rubric to the May 22nd Board meeting. Ethan Beals seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

D. New Business [2:07:00] (continued)

7. American Association of School Librarians Biennial Conference Requests (Decision)

Superintendent Moulis requested approval for librarians from Hudson Memorial and Hills Garrison to attend the AASL Biennial Conference in Tampa Florida October 19-21, 2023.

Information on Chat GPT would be reviewed as well as digital literacy research skills and leadership.

Ethan Beals made a motion to approve the request for librarians at Hudson and Hills Garrison to attend the AASL Biennial Conference in Tampa Florida from October 19 to 21, 2023. Mike Campbell seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

1. Bid Results (Decision)

Business Administrator Jen Burk presented bid information for:

a. Copy Paper

Ethan Beals made a motion to award W.B. Mason a contract to provide copy paper for the fiscal year 2024 in accordance with policy DJE. The anticipated expenditure amount with W.B. Mason is \$78,000. Mike Campbell seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

b. Office/School Supplies

Ethan Beals made a motion to award W.B. Mason a contract to:

- 1. Provide office and school supplies for the fiscal year 2024 in accordance with policy DJE. The anticipated expenditure amount with W. B. Mason is \$45,000.***
- 2. Provide office and school supplies for the fiscal year 2024 in accordance with policy DJE. The anticipated expenditure amount with Quill is \$45,000.***

Mike Campbell seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

c. Art Supplies

Ethan Beals made a motion to award National Art Supplies a contract to provide art supplies for the fiscal year 2024 in accordance with policy DJE. The anticipated expenditure amount with National Art Supplies is \$35,000. Mike Campbell seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

d. Marching Band Uniforms

Ethan Beals made a motion to award Stanbury Uniforms, LLC, a contract to provide the Marching Band Uniforms for the fiscal year 2024 in accordance with policy DJE. The anticipated expenditure amount with Stanbury for this purchase is \$56,200. Mike Campbell seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

e. Music Instruments

Ethan Beals made a motion to award David French Music a contract to provide the music instruments for the fiscal year 2024 in accordance with policy DJE. The anticipated expenditure amount with David French Music for this purchase is \$27,350. Mike Campbell seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

3. Budget Timeline Proposal (Discussion)

School Board Chair Gretchen Whiting gave an overview of the potential budget timeline and proposed having one joint presentation of the budget to the School Board and Budget Committee on a Saturday morning for questions and answers only, followed by an October 16 meeting for any revisions. There would be another meeting in October and one in November where changes could be presented to the Budget Committee. The thought was to reduce meetings and increase efficiency for all. Overall, the School Board supported the idea surrounding the proposal.

4. Sub Rate and Lunch Monitor Pay (Decision)

Ms. Burk presented a request from Human Resources for sub rate and lunch monitor pay rate increases. Effective on the 21st day of substitute work, there is a proposed increase from \$110 to \$125 per day. This will reward commitment. For certified teachers, the sub rate will be \$150 per day. For registered nurse subs, the rate would also be \$150 per day. Lunch monitors pay rate will increase to \$13.50 per hour. It was requested that those who qualified now for the \$125 per day rate will continue with the rate next year.

Ethan Beals made a motion to approve the request to increase the substitute teacher pay rate (going to \$125/day for those who have worked as a sub for at least 20 days – on the 21st day the rate changes to \$125/day) and the lunch monitor hourly pay rate as proposed, however requested that these changes take effect immediately for the start of the next pay period. Maureen Dionne seconded the motion. Ms. Dionne abstained from voting due to a conflict of interest. Motion passed 3-0-1.

5. Tech Integration Specialists Positions (Decision)

One tech integration specialist position is vacant. The request from Assistant Superintendent Kim Organek is to replace that position with an instructional coach role which will be more useful now. The position is already funded in the budget; it just needs reclassification. The three instructional coaches will cover grades K-3, 4-7, and 8-12. There was discussion about moving positions, metrics of effectiveness of the two current instructional coaches, and needs shifting since the budget season. This will be revisited after further information is given to the board.

6. School Board May Workshop (Information)

Superintendent Moulis discussed the School Board workshop which will take place on Tuesday, May 30, 2023. Agenda ideas include review of academic results, capital improvement projects, school safety, security and infrastructure priorities, being a good employer and budget priorities for the next fiscal year. A preliminary agenda will be reviewed at the May 22 School Board meeting.

8. Student Car Donation (Decision)

Dr. Frauwirth asked for approval to accept the donation from graduating senior Alexis Marble of her 2010 Ford Focus to the Heavy Duty Mechanics and Welding programs to work on as a way of giving back to the CTE programs in which she participated.

Ethan Beals made a motion to accept with appreciation the donation from graduating senior Alexis Marble of a 2010 Ford Focus to the Heavy Duty Mechanics and Welding programs. Maureen Dionne seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

9. Travel Request for Business Administrator (Decision)

Ms. Burk sought approval for the Association of School Business Officials Conference in Maryland from October 19 - 22, 2023.

Ethen Beals made a motion to approve the travel request from Jen Burk to attend the Association of School Business Official Conference in Maryland from October 19 -22, 2023. Maureen Dionne seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

E. Old Business [2:56:50]

1. Year-end Spending (Decision)

Ms. Burk sought approval for year-end spending requests totaling \$146,000.

Ethan Beals made a motion to approve the year-end spending requests totaling \$146,000 as presented. Maureen Dionne seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

F. Recommended Action [2:58:50]

1. Manifests

2. Minutes - April 17, 2023

Maureen Dionne made a motion to approve the minutes of April 17, 2023 as presented. Mike Campbell seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

G. Reports to the Board (Information) [2:59:20]

1. Superintendent Report

Superintendent Moulis reported:

- The Dr. H.O. Smith playground installation went well last week and is almost complete. Thank you to all volunteers.
- He attended the Annual Loyalty Day Scholastic Ceremony sponsored by the VFW. Ms. Sue Bureau, Ms. Mary Levesque, and Ms. Carla Griffin were this year's educational recipients.
- The following Hudson Memorial students were recognized for the Patriots Pen awards essay: Anna Ings, Annika Peterson, and Abigail McCarthy.
- He attended the jazz appreciation and art gallery at Alvirne High School.
- Students completed the state assessment and iReady testing is beginning.
- The first round of the Hills Garrison Elementary School principal search is this Wednesday; semi-finalists will meet with staff at Hills Garrison and there will be a community meet and greet next Wednesday at 6pm.

2. Assistant Superintendent Report

Ms. Organek reported that:

- The K-12 Literacy Committee and the Reading Committee selected Magnetic Reading for grades 3-5 and Being a Writer for grades K-5.
- Progress is being made in the principal search at Hills Garrison.
- Mentor work is being reviewed for FY23 and needs are being determined for FY24.
- This summer, there will be four 1-week STEM camps for students entering grades 1-6. The information is online and will be in an upcoming email.

3. Director of Special Services Report

Ms. Borge reported that interviews are being done. Individual Education Plan (IEP) teams are being supported. Coordinators are working to plan for the extended school year (ESY).

4. Business Administrator Report

Ms. Burk reported that the bid opening for Special Education transportation occurred and will be brought to the next board meeting, as well as bid results for the landscaping, air conditioning, and roof replacement at Library Street and the SAU parking lot. State fiscal monitoring will be done on Thursday for ESSER III grants. Requisitions are being closed out. Total appropriations for next year equal \$66,269,410. The onsite audit will be done the week of July 31, 2023.

H. Committee Reports [3:08:20]

Mr. Campbell noted that the Alvirne Trustees met last week and Principal Beals presented requests from the Alvirne staff. The Trustees were thanked for their generosity. Three finalists for the Hills Family Scholarship will be announced on Awards night.

Ms. Whiting noted that the Budget Committee approved doing a workshop which will include the Select Board, the School Board, the Budget Committee, and any other town individual. The State of the Town will include the Budget Committee and might be renamed. It will be held on Saturday October 16 or 23, 2023 at the Community Center where questions and answers will be provided for the public. Mr. Beals mentioned that feedback from the last State of the Town was to have different sessions for the different boards and committees.

Ms. Dionne felt that people favored smaller conversations versus a formal meeting.

Mr. Campbell agreed that people favored one-to-one conversations with people who have the answers, though he was willing to try the proposed meeting idea.

Ms. Whiting will give this feedback to the Budget Committee.

I. Correspondence (Information) [3:20:21]

1. 2023-24 School Board Calendar

The 2023-24 School Board Calendar notes the School Board Workshop on May 30, 2023.

2. Election Report to the School Board Town and School Voter Totals

The report from School District Moderator Paul Inderbitzen is included in the packet.

J. Board of Selectmen - Liaison Comments [3:21:11]

Ms. Roy is absent.

K. Student Representative Comments - [3:21:13]

Ms. Dozois is absent.

L. Board Member Comments [3:21:15]

Mr. Campbell thanked the schools and town for helping with the playground project. Tickets for the *Beauty and the Beast* play at Alvirne are on sale.

Mr. Beals thanked staff and community members for helping with the principal search and those who volunteered with the playground project.

Ms. Dionne noted that the cast of *Beauty and the Beast* are having a character breakfast on Saturday as well. This is Teacher Appreciation week; she thanked both teachers and the PTO.

Ms. Whiting thanked those who helped with the playground project.

M. Non-Public Session per RSA 91-A:3 II b and c- [3:24:11]

At 9:55pm, Ethan Beals made a motion to enter into non-public session per RSA 91-A:3 II b and c. Maureen Dionne seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0. Roll call vote.

Nominations were approved, Kindergarten waivers were reviewed, a variance request was approved, and a resignation was accepted.

N. Adjournment

At 11:26 pm, Ethan Beals made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mike Campbell seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0. Roll call vote.

Submitted by
Susan DeFelice
Non-public by Dan Moulis