

**Hudson School District  
Hudson School Board Meeting  
Approved Minutes**

Present:

Mr. Gary Gasdia  
Ms. Diana LaMothe  
Mr. Ethan Beals  
Mr. Michael Campbell  
Ms. Gretchen Whiting  
Ms. Kara Roy, Vice-Chairman, Board of Selectman  
Mr. Larry Russell, Superintendent of Schools  
Ms. Kim Organek, Assistant Superintendent  
Ms. Rachel Borge, Director of Special Services  
Ms. Jennifer Burk, Business Administrator  
Ms. Hannah LoVerdi, Student Representative

**A. Call to Order:** Mr. Russell called the meeting to order. Mr. Campbell led the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Russell called for a moment of silence for the loss of Cara Sevigny.

**B. Board Reorganization**

1. Election of Board Chair, Superintendent Presiding:

**Ms. Whiting made a motion to nominate Mr. Gasdia as Board Chair, second by Ms. LaMothe. Mr. Campbell, aye, Ms. Whiting, aye, Mr. Beals, aye, Ms. LaMothe, aye, Mr. Gasdia, aye. Motion passes 5-0.**

2. Election of Board Vice-Chair, Board Chair Presiding:

**Mr. Beals made a motion to elect Ms. LaMothe as Board Vice-Chair, second by Ms. Whiting. Mr. Campbell, aye, Ms. Whiting, aye, Mr. Beals, aye, Ms. LaMothe, aye, Mr. Gasdia, aye. Motion passes 5-0.**

3. 2021-2022 Meeting Calendar:

Mr. Russell presented the meeting calendar for the future school board dates.

**Ms. LaMothe made a motion to approve the Hudson School Board Meeting calendar for 2021-2022, second by Ms. Whiting. Mr. Campbell, aye, Ms. Whiting, aye, Mr. Beals, aye, Ms. LaMothe, aye, Mr. Gasdia, aye. Motion passes 5-0.**

4. Committee Assignments:

Mr. Russell explained the time commitment to the assignments and asked the Board on their preferences on the Committee Assignments. The Board members selected which committees they would like to be a part of.

5. Role of a School Board Member:

Mr. Russell went over the roles of the School Board Member and asked how the Board would like to present orientation for the new board members. The Board Members gave their opinions and advice on this matter.

6. NHSBA Information: Mr. Gasdia and Ms. LaMothe went over NHSBA information which the new Board Members would be receiving.

C. **Public Input:** There was no public input tonight.

D. **Good News:** Mr. Russell congratulated Ms. Borge for being selected as Special Education Administrator of the Year. Additionally, on Saturday, staff received the COVID vaccination which was great turnout. Mr. Russell thanked Walgreens and the fire department for their help.

E. **Old Business:**

1. Enrollment of Children of Staff Members:

Mr. Russell presented the criteria that would allow staff members to enroll their children in the district if they lived out of town. There was a conversation about if this should be offered to full time and part time employees. The Board has agreed to move forward and create a policy and revisit this at a future meeting.

2. School Board Self-Evaluation:

Mr. Gasdia presented to the Board on the first attempt of what the evaluation would look like for a school board member. The plan would entail two evaluations throughout the year. These evaluations are going to be done in a public session. Mr. Gasdia received feedback on the evaluation set up from other board members and will make necessary corrections and come back with an updated evaluation plan.

F. **New Business:**

1. Extracurricular Nominations:

Mr. Russell brought up additional nominations for the high school. Another nomination was made for the 8<sup>th</sup> grade advisor.

**Mr. Beals made a motion to approve both the athletic and the additional nomination for Dan Pooler, second by Mr. Campbell. Mr. Campbell, aye, Ms. Whiting, aye, Mr. Beals, aye, Ms. LaMothe, aye, Mr. Gasdia, aye. Motion passes 5-0.**

2. 2021 Graduation Date:

The proposal for 2021 graduation date would be June 10<sup>th</sup> with a rain date of June 11<sup>th</sup> if they were unable to use the SNHU arena. Mr. Beals is curious to see the feedback from families/staff on if they would benefit more from having graduation on a Friday/Saturday rather than a Thursday/Friday date. Ms. LoVerdi said that it would be more appealing to have a Thursday graduation date than on the weekend.

**Ms. LaMothe made a motion to approve the initial date of June 10<sup>th</sup> graduation date with a rain date of June 11<sup>th</sup>, second by Mr. Campbell. Mr. Campbell, aye, Ms. Whiting, aye, Mr. Beals, nay, Ms. LaMothe, aye, Mr. Gasdia, aye. Motion passes 4-1.**

**G. Recommended Action:**

1. Manifests- Recommended action: Make necessary corrections and sign. These are all set.

**H. Reports to the Board:**

1. Superintendent Report: Mr. Russell stated all warrant articles have passed except article 1 which was the Alvirne renovation. He also stated that there have been several questions about returning to school full-time now that the teachers are going to be vaccinated. Mr. Russell brought up some hurdles that would be faced if they brought everyone back full-time.
2. Assistant Superintendent Report: Ms. Organek said that the mandated training will have to be done every two years and this will be completed this fall. She also stated that March 26<sup>th</sup> is a professional development day. They will also be able to apply for the ESSER and CARES Act grant money by the end of this week.
3. Director of Special Education: Ms. Borge recognized certain individuals who went above and beyond in their district during these difficult times.
4. Business Administrator: Ms. Burk updated the Board on the lion's field property line regarding the application and regulations. She also mentioned that the HFT contract is ready for signatures.

- I. Legislative Updates:** Mr. Russell updated the board on SB130 which will go to full senate this Thursday. He also said HB455 was not passed this year. There was conversation about other bills that are arising in the legislature.

- J. Committee Reports:** No Reports tonight.

**K. Correspondence:**

1. Financial Report: Ms. Burk stated that revenue is forecast to be a little short, so they are keeping an eye on this. She also said that they are starting to see a positive fund balance which is great and she believes this will continue. The CTE fund balance is right on track and everything is going as planned.

Ms. LaMothe requested that the Board start receiving information about needs that have come up after the FY21 budget was established so that they can begin discussing if/how the end-of-year fund balance should be used.

**L. Board Member Comments:**

1. Ms. Kara Roy: Congratulated the new Board Members and Ms. Borge on her award. She also stated that the relationship between the town and school district has grown immensely and hopes this continues.

2. Ms. Hannah LoVerdi: Mentioned that the high school SATs for the juniors are happening and to check the schedule as it has some changes. Ms. LoVerdi also stated that spring sports held meetings this week, so competition will be coming shortly.
3. Mr. Michael Campbell: Mr. Campbell stated that he was excited for the next two years.
4. Ms. Gretchen Whiting: Ms. Whiting is excited to be back and to participate in the positive change.
5. Mr. Ethan Beals: Welcomed the new Board Members.
6. Ms. Diana LaMothe: Welcomed the new board members and is excited to work as a team and getting back to other goals in the district.
7. Mr. Gary Gasdia: Mr. Gasdia mentions that he believes they have a very strong team and is excited to see what they can accomplish.

**M. Upcoming Meetings:**

Meeting	Date	Time	Location	Purpose
School Board	4/5/2021	6:30 pm	Hills Memorial Library	Regular Meeting
School Board	4/19/2021	6:30 pm	Hills Memorial Library	Regular Meeting

**N. Non-public:**

**Mr. Beals made a motion to enter non-public session according to RSA 91-A: 3(c) at 7:50 pm, second by Ms. Whiting. Mr. Campbell, aye, Ms. Whiting, aye, Mr. Beals, aye, Ms. LaMothe, aye, Mr. Gasdia, aye. Motion passes 5-0.**

**Mr. Beals moved to allow a student to finish the school year. After some discussion, Mr. Beals amended the motion to include allowing the student to finish the year tuition-free. The amended motion by seconded by Ms. LaMothe. Motion passes 5-0.**

**Mr. Beals moved to allow a second student to finish the year tuition-free and without transportation, second by Ms. LaMothe. Motion passes 5-0.**

Personnel matter discussed.

Consensus reached to resume hold meetings at Hills Memorial Library beginning with the April 5<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**O. Adjourn:**

**Mr. Beals moved to exit non-public and adjourn, second by Ms. Whiting. Motion passes 5-0**

Meeting adjourned at 8:14 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Amanda Gage (public)  
Kim Organek (non-public)