

**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 Selectmen
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. Gasdia called the meeting to order. Ms. LaMothe led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- B. Public Input:** There was no public input tonight.
- C. Good News:**
Ms. Organek mentioned that the culinary arts program offered pizza delivery to the community and will be offering delivery for this week as well.
- D. Presentations to the Board:**
1. **Returning to School (Next Phase):**
Mr. Russell reviewed the results of the survey that was sent out to parents, guardians, and staff on whether they would want to continue with the hybrid model for the rest of the year or return to full in-person learning. He stated that the governor said that students k-12 should return to in-person learning on April 19th. There was a presentation given by Mr. Bowen and Mr. Tesini on what returning to school would be like if they do return to keep everyone safe.
- E. Public Input (related to “Returning to School” presentation):**
Mr. Gasdia read three emails that were received.
1. Melissa Inzenga: Asked if they could share a plan to get the middle school back to full in-person learning. The presentation did cover this.
 2. Ashish Parekh: Doesn’t support fully opening schools and sent in data to back this up and gave examples as to why full in-person school isn’t safe. He also said that even though the teachers are vaccinated, the students are not.

Mr. Gasdia opened the floor for any in-person comments on returning to school.

1. Lauren Denis and Kim Bourassa commented that the presentation data that was given tonight was very accurate. They also brought up some teacher concerns they might have if they do go full in-person learning.

Mr. Russell suggested to revisit this next week and see where everything is at and mentions that this is a difficult decision. Ms. LaMothe read off scientific facts from the CDC website that highlight the importance of physical distancing and lead her to fully support seeking a waiver to the governor's emergency order. The Board will revisit this next week.

Ms. Whiting stated that she would like to see two plans, one for return to school on 4/19 and one for return to school on 5/3.

Mr. Beals voiced his concerns about not continuing with the waiver process.

Ms. LaMothe made a motion to move forward with the waiver process, second by Ms. Whiting. Mr. Campbell, aye, Ms. Whiting, aye, Mr. Beals, nay, Ms. LaMothe, aye, Mr. Gasdia, aye. Motion passes 4-1.

F. Requests of the Board: No request tonight.

G. Old Business:

1. Copier Bid Update:

Ms. Burk presented a memo to the board regarding a copier bid recommendation. The recommendation is for the board to authorize the administration to contract with SPC Copy Pro to evaluate the bids that they have, do the detailed analysis and to come back with a recommendation on what they should do with the machines. Ms. LaMothe asked Ms. Burk to share this contact with the town so the town may also find cost savings.

Ms. LaMothe made a motion to authorize district administration to enter into a contract with SPC Copy Pro to serve as the district's agent for copying and printing equipment and related services, second by Mr. Campbell. Mr. Campbell, aye, Ms. Whiting, aye, Mr. Beals, nay, Ms. LaMothe, aye, Mr. Gasdia, aye. Motion passes 4-1.

2. Committee Assignments:

Mr. Russell asked the Board to have a discussion on the remaining committee assignment positions. The Board discussed and filled the remaining positions available. Ms. LaMothe brought up the idea to add a capital committee to develop a list of needs for the school district with feedback from stakeholders and coordination with the town. The Board agreed to have the SAU move forward with forming this committee. School Board members to serve on this committee will be determined in a future meeting.

3. End-of-Year Fund Balance:
Ms. Burk stated that the administration is starting to think about the end-of-year fund balance. She presented some projects that this fund could be used for.

H. New Business:

1. School Board Agenda Development & Planning:
Ms. Wolf brought up provisions and agenda modifications for the future Board meetings. She also brought up the idea of having a one-year plan for the meetings, so everyone knows what to expect. Ms. Wolf would like to make some revisions to the school board section on the website. The Board gave their opinions and ideas on this as well. Ms. Whiting stated that there is more to the communication than just the agenda and that we need to ensure that the website is looked at now for requirements for a new contract in 2022. She also stated that we need to enhance the mobile app where people can get notifications and information. Mr. Gasdia stated that this was a move in the right direction and needs to be done.
2. 2021-2022 Staff Nominations:
Mr. Russell presented the staff nominations for 2021-2022 school year.

Ms. LaMothe made a motion to accept the 2021-2022 staff nominations, second by Ms. Whiting. Mr. Campbell, aye, Ms. Whiting, aye, Mr. Beals, aye, Ms. LaMothe, aye, Mr. Gasdia, aye. Motion passes 5-0.

I. Recommended Action:

1. Manifests-Recommended Action: Make necessary corrections and sign. These are all set.
2. Minutes- Recommended Action: Review and approve.
 - a) 03.01.2021 Draft Minutes:
Ms. LaMothe made a motion to accept the March 1st, 2021 minutes, second by Mr. Beals. Mr. Campbell, abstained, Ms. Whiting, abstained, Mr. Beals, aye, Ms. LaMothe, aye, Mr. Gasdia, aye. Motion passes 3-0-2.
 - b) 03.15.2021 Draft Minutes:
Ms. Whiting made a motion to accept the March 15th, 2021 draft minutes, second by Mr. Campbell. Mr. Campbell, aye, Ms. Whiting, aye, Mr. Beals, aye, Ms. LaMothe, aye, Mr. Gasdia, aye. Motion passes 5-0.

J. Reports to the Board:

1. Superintendent Report: Mr. Russell stated that they had their second vaccination clinic on Saturday and thanked Walgreens and Chief Buxton and his crew. Mr. Russell also welcomed Kevin Peterson, the new IT director to the district.
2. Assistant Superintendent Report: Ms. Organek presented the careers and education with the 8th grade which went well. There will also be a new summer program called Summer Scholars which will be for k-8 students who have struggled through the pandemic. This program will be recommended by their teachers for students who need the extra help.

3. Director of Special Education: Ms. Borge mentioned that the life skills program is in a better location and that she is very excited that it will now be in the main hub of the school. She also mentioned that 11 teachers will be attending Orton-Gillingham training. This will be a specialized reading intervention which will benefit the district.
4. Business Administrator: Ms. Burk mentioned that the food service team took part in a ServSafe certification training and mentioned that they all passed the exam on their first try which is a difficult thing to do.

K. Legislative Updates: Mr. Russell said that the house will be looking at issues which include the budget. He also said that SB-130 was approved by the senate after it was revised.

L. Committee Reports: Mr. Campbell said that the Alvirne Trustees met, and they received an investment report and started to discuss the scholarships. Ms. LaMothe mentioned that the CTE Building Committee met and said they have only a few months left until it is complete and is very excited. Ms. Whiting stated that policy committee meetings are being scheduled and will start the week of 4/12.

M. Correspondence Report:

1. Election Information & Statistics: This was just for review of what happened last election.

N. Board Member Comments:

Ms. Kara Roy: Ms. Roy was excited that the vaccination on Saturday went well for everyone.

Ms. Hannah LoVerdi: Ms. LoVerdi said it was nice hearing all the teachers raving about Saturday's vaccination. She also mentioned that the Alvirne merchandise is available and will be open for two more days.

Mr. Michael Campbell: Thanked the principals and staff for the presentation and thanked them for their time.

Ms. Gretchen Whiting: Echoed Mr. Campbell and said it was one of the best presentations that came to the Board.

Mr. Ethan Beals: No comment tonight.

Ms. Diana LaMothe: Thanked everyone for their input tonight. Ms. LaMothe also said that it's great that everyone is receiving the vaccination, but we still must be safe.

Mr. Gary Gasdia: Mr. Gasdia mentioned that Hudson has done a great job with this and echoed what Board members had stated. He is also happy that we are slowly getting back to normalcy.

O. Non-Public Session:

Mr. Beals made a motion to enter non-public session according to RSA 91-A: 3(B, C) at 9:08 pm, second by Ms. LaMothe. Mr. Campbell, aye, Ms. Whiting aye, Mr. Beals, aye, Ms. LaMothe, aye, Mr. Gasdia, aye. Motion passes 5-0.

Ms. Whiting moved to accept Mr. Hurley's intent to retire and waive the notification deadline to receive separation pay, second by Ms. LaMothe. Motion passes 5-0.

Motion by Mr. Campbell to approve a teacher's request for sabbatical leave, second by Ms. LaMothe. Mr. Campbell, aye; Ms. LaMothe, aye; Mr. Beals, nay; Mr. Gasdia, nay; Ms. Whiting, nay. Motion fails 3-2. The board then requested that the teacher be invited to meet with them before the April 12th Board meeting to further discuss.

Ms. LaMothe moved to approve the nomination of Eric Frauwirth to the position of Career & Technical Education Director, second by Mr. Campbell. Motion passes 5-0.

Non-public meeting with School Board members only began at 9:30 pm.

Present: Mr. Gasdia, Ms. LaMothe, Mr. Beals, Ms. Whiting, Mr. Campbell

Mr. Beals made a motion to accept minutes for the March 29, 2021 non-public meeting, second by Ms. Whiting. Ms. Whiting, aye, Mr. Beals, aye, Mr. Campbell, aye, Ms. LaMothe, aye, Mr. Gasdia, aye. Motion passes 5-0.

The letter from the School Board to an employee was approved with amended letterhead. Further follow-up with Superintendent Russell will take place. Mr. Gasdia will ask the NHSBA for guidance.

P. Adjourn:

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

Meeting adjourned 9:41 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Amanda Gage (public)

Kim Organek (1st non-public)

Diana LaMothe (2nd non-public)