



HUDSON SCHOOL BOARD
Hills Memorial Library
18 Library Street, Hudson, New Hampshire

Minutes
June 20, 2022

In attendance:

Board Members

Gary Gasdia, Chairman
Gretchen Whiting, Vice-chair
Ethan Beals
Mike Campbell
Maureen Dionne

SAU Staff

Larry Russell, Superintendent of Schools
Rachel Borge, Director Special Services
Jen Burk, Business Administrator
Kim Organek, Assistant Superintendent of
Curriculum & Instruction

Brett Gagnon, Board of Selectmen Liaison

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

1. Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Gasdia called the meeting to order at 6:30pm. Mike Campbell led the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. Public Input [0:00:33]

There was no public input.

C. Superintendent Recognition [00:44]

Board members and former board members recognized Superintendent Russell for his work in the district, speaking of leadership, appreciation and respect. He was wished a happy retirement and was presented with a keychain and jacket. Photos were taken.

D. New Business [0:19:04]

1. Travel Request - Decision

Director at The Palmer Center, Eric Frauwirth, presented a travel request to the ACTE Vision Convention in Las Vegas. District Career Coordinator, Rich Paiva, created a program this past year, for CTE student ambassadors to lead Career Days for grades 6-8 students. Rich will present a session at the convention, which will include livestreaming the student ambassadors, who will answer questions from the audience. The trip is after Thanksgiving and will be paid with Perkins money.

Ethan Beals made a motion to approve the travel request by Eric Frauwirth for the ACTE Vision Convention in Las Vegas as presented. Maureen Dionne seconded the motion. Motion passed 5:0.

2. Co-Curricular Stipends - Decision

Mr. Frauwirth presented a request for \$500 stipends for each of three advisors attending national conferences. Skills USA is the only club whose national competition happened after the school year ends.

Ethan Beals made a motion to approve the co-curricular request (for stipends for advisors attending national conferences). Mike Campbell seconded the motion. Motion passed 5:0.

3. CTE Budget Transfer - Decision

Mr. Frauwirth presented a request to transfer funds. A change to next year's programming include the digital media class going from a 45-minute, year-long class to an 80-minute, year-long class. Current computers will not run the required software, therefore, the plan is to move the digital media computers into the accounting lab and purchase new computers for the computer lab (\$2,000/computer = \$31,715.30). CTE programs had unspent money due to Covid-related reasons and travel that did not happen in the fall. Some money from revolving accounts will also be used.

Ethan Beals made a motion to approve the CTE budget transfer request totaling \$31,715.30. Maureen Dionne seconded the motion. Motion passed 5:0.

4. Primex CAP - Decision

Business Administrator Jen Burk reviewed the Contribution Assurance Program (CAP) agreement from Primex for FY24 - FY26 (rate stability based on district history):

- FY 2024 July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024 (maximum 7% increase over July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023 contribution)
- FY 2025 July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025 (maximum 7% increase over July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024 contribution)
- FY 2026 July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026 (maximum 7% increase over July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025 contribution)

Ethan Beals made a motion to approve the Contribution Assurance Program (CAP) agreement from Primex for FY24-26 as presented. Gretchen Whiting seconded the motion. Motion passed 5:0.

5. Hudson Federation of Teachers - MOU - Decision

Mr. Russell presented the MOU negotiated with the Hudson Federation of Teachers around the A/B block schedule at Alvirne for the 2022-2023 school year. Consultation of the Hudson Federation of Teachers and School Board included impact on staff, minutes for staff during the day and flex time (5 days/week). It was noted that teachers will not have more than 15 students in a flex period. Continued communication with families and students was urged.

Ethan Beals made a motion to approve the MOU with the Hudson Federation of Teachers regarding the A/B block schedule at Alvirne for the 2022-23 school year. Maureen Dionne seconded the motion. Motion passed 5:0.

E. Old Business [0:44:00]

1. Bid - Dr. HO Smith Playground – Decision

Facilities Director John Pratte provided updated information on the playground project at Dr. HO Smith. Inclusivity and accessibility were addressed in the update. The plan includes rubberized surfaces and two swings. The design was based on a community-build project with supervision by the company who designed it. It was estimated that the community build will take up to three days to complete. It was suggested that a board member work with the PTO (food, drink provision). Mr. Beals and Mr. Campbell volunteered. The PTO has donated \$3,000 to help with the cost of materials. It was suggested to try to have two additional swings be added to the project, if that could be accomplished within the funds available between the year-end funds and the PTO's donation.

Ethan Beals made a motion to award a contract to Utiliplay Parks & Playground for the HOS playground per the proposal specifications in the amount of \$75,000 (to be encumbered) in accordance with policy DJE. Mike Campbell seconded the motion. Motion passed 5:0.

2. Bid - Dr. HO Smith Lift Bid – Decision

Mr. Pratte and Ms. Burk presented the information for the Dr. HO Smith lift bids.

Ethan Beals made a motion to award the bid for the Dr. HO Smith lift to Garaventa USA, Inc. in the amount of \$28,800. Mike Campbell seconded the motion. Motion passed, 5:0.

Mr. Beals spoke about the Pathways program open house and how appreciative families and students were for that opportunity. The program will be expanded to 15 students next year.

Mr. Beals made a motion to approve \$5,000 in spending in furniture and acoustical panels in the alt school portables. Mike Campbell seconded the motion.

Furniture has been ordered through ESSER funds and acoustical panels are budgeted.

Mr. Beals rescinded his motion as this was already covered.

Ms. Whiting was unable to attend the Pathways open house and would like to visit, if there is another opportunity. She suggested discussing what would happen after ESSER grants ran out and how to absorb into the operating budget.

Hand Carry

Mr. Russell presented co-curricular activities at the high school (20) and middle school (4). Some coaches were not on the list yet.

Gretchen Whiting made a motion to accept the fall extracurricular nominations as presented. Mike Campbell seconded the motion. Motion passed 5:0.

F. Recommended Action [1:11:31]

1. Manifests: Make necessary corrections/sign

2. Minutes (February 10, 2022 and June 7, 2022)

Ms. Whiting was awaiting clarification regarding a question on the June 7, 2022 minutes (E1 and E2).

Gretchen Whiting made a motion to approve the minutes of February 10, 2022 as presented. Mike Campbell seconded the motion. Motion passed 4:0:1 (abstention by M. Dionne.)

G. Committee Reports [1:12:48]

Mr. Beals noted that the SAU and School Board bargaining unit have set a first meeting with the Teamsters union. Dan Moulis, incoming superintendent, met with the JEDI committee and discussed a policy, which is being reviewed by the NHSBA and will go to the policy committee.

H. Correspondence [1:16:39]

1. Financial Information

a. Memo

The fund balance was \$3,164,877. Final purchase orders were being wrapped up. Auditors were scheduled for the first week of August; the DOE 25 is due September 1st.

b. Financial Report – June 13, 2022

c. Year-to-Date Spending – June 14, 2022

2. Discipline Report (May 2022)

Superintendent Russell presented the discipline report. Ms. Whiting asked for charts to show trends, using this year as a baseline.

3. School Safety Brochure

The School Safety brochure was shared with the board. It was sent home to families in early May and is on the website.

I. Board of Selectmen - Liaison Comments [1:19:42]

Mr. Gagnon noted:

- The NRPC (National Regional Planning Commission) is working on a 10-year NH Department of Transportation plan (reviewed every 2 years)
- Right to Know Committee is progressing with policy
- Board of Selectmen meeting last week: took applications for the Benson's Park Committee, Recreation Committee and Planning Commission; Hazelton barn replacement; Hills House sign; workshop on municipal association report

J. School Board Member Comments [1:23:35]

The Board members thanked Mr. Russell. Mr. Campbell noted the last day of school was sad for some students who would miss the school community over the summer. Ms. Dionne highlighted some end of year activities: 5th grade events; Nottingham field day (giving kudos to Physical Education Teacher Ms. Rothhaus and volunteers); and 8th grade ceremonies. Mr. Gasdia spoke about the superintendent transition and thanked both Dr. Moulis and Mr. Russell. Mr. Russell thanked everyone and appreciated the Town's support and people coming together during the pandemic.

K. Non-Public Session - RSA 91-A:3 II c. Personnel Matter [1:28:42]

At 8pm, Ethan Beals made a motion to enter into non-public session per RSA 91-A:3 II c. Personnel Matter. Mike Campbell seconded the motion. Motion passed 5:0. Roll call vote.

The board discussed a request to waive tuition by a staff member.

Ethan Beals made a motion to approve the tuition waiver. Maureen Dionne seconded the motion. Motion passed 5:0.

At 8:12 pm, Ethan Beals made a motion to exit non-public and adjourn the meeting. Maureen Dionne seconded the motion. Motion passed 5:0. Roll call vote.

Respectfully submitted by Susan DeFelice (public)
Kim Organek (non public)