



## HUDSON SCHOOL BOARD

Hills Memorial Library 18 Library Street Hudson, New Hampshire

6:30 pm Regular Meeting  
Non-Public Session

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### Minutes - September 12, 2022

#### In Attendance

##### Board Members

Gary Gasdia, Chairman  
Gretchen Whiting, Vice Chair  
Ethan Beals (arriving at 7:30pm)  
Mike Campbell  
Maureen Dionne

##### SAU Staff

Dan Moulis, Superintendent of Schools  
Kim Organek, Assistant Superintendent of  
Curriculum and Instruction  
Rachel Borge, Director Special Services  
Jen Burk, Business Administrator

#### A. Call to Order [0:00:20]

##### 1. Pledge of Allegiance

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

Revisions to the agenda include:

- ***Gretchen Whiting made a motion to allow student Thomas Peaslee to speak before public input. Mike Campbell seconded the motion. Motion passed 4:0.***
- ***Mike Campbell made a motion to allow the public to speak to an item that was not on tonight's agenda. Maureen Dionne seconded the motion. Motion passed 4:0.***

#### B. Presentation - Thomas Peaslee [0:03:27]

Student Thomas Peaslee, a cadet in the Alvirne Airforce JROTC program, reviewed the program he attended this past summer for Airforce JROTC pilot training. He was one of 250 cadets selected to attend, including three from New Hampshire, and the first from Alvirne. There was an in-depth application process. After the training, he received a private pilot's license enabling him to fly solo. He was applauded for his achievement.

#### C. Public Input [0:05:50]

Ms. Whiting read the public input procedure, Policy BEDH

Superintendent Moulis noted that he had sent an email last night to staff and families that Principal Steve Beals is on leave. He then emailed School Board members. He has since received requests for more information but is unable to share more details.

Patrick Quinlan of 12 Sunshine Drive defended Principal Beals for events that occurred during a recent pep rally. He doesn't think the action taken against Mr. Beals is appropriate. He feels Mr. Beals should be reinstated immediately and with an apology.

Kim Frenette of 8B Dumont Road spoke of the importance of Mr. Beals to the students and community. She feels that the situation should be reconsidered.

Kathy Petkus of 2 Shoal Creek Road spoke about how Mr. Beals was present and engaged in students' education and daily school life, and that students had faith and trust in him. She hoped the decision would be reconsidered.

Colin Reynolds of 38 Sutherland Drive expressed disappointment that no further public information could be given of the situation.

Student Olivia Pinnell of 5 Rosemary Court spoke on behalf of Mr. Beals who was a "bright spot" in their days. She felt it was difficult for students not to know the situation and if or when he would return.

Linnea Lavalley said that Mr. Beals is a neighbor. She said he is a big part of student life and wanted to provide a fun pep rally for everyone.

Ken Twining of 38A Burns Hill Road was concerned with the Superintendent's change in the use of the prior word "leave" and the current term "administrative leave." He mentioned this also happened once during the pandemic and questioned if this was deliberate. He said Hudson parents supported Mr. Beals who meant a lot to the community and students.

Student Cody Sullivan of 76 Burns Hill Road spoke about how Mr. Beals is a source of fun times for him and students in high school. He mentioned that Mr. Beals uses the Journey song "Don't Stop Believing" to help students and it means a lot to him.

Nancy Lanzillo of 26 Sheffield Street is concerned about the lack of transparency with this situation. She spoke of how long Mr. Beals has served in the school district and that he is one of the best things that had happened to students there.

Student Ashlyn Tutton of 55 Melendy Road spoke of Mr. Beals' help when she returned to school after a car accident. She spoke of the love and support he had for the job and students. She asked for him to be reinstated.

Alex Beaudoin of 538 Abbott Farm Lane expressed wanting to shake Mr. Beals' hand and hear "Don't Stop Believing" at graduation. He said Mr. Beals is the "heart" of Alvirne and would like to see him back as soon as possible.

Samantha Deans of 83 Mobile Drive spoke about how quickly Mr. Beals got to know her special needs son and ensured transportation pickup and drop-off. She did not think there was intent to do wrong and feels that the punishment does not fit the situation.

Student Isabella Twining of 38A Burns Hill Road spoke about the high level of support that Mr. Beals gave to people and that he regularly attended band, athletic and club activities. She felt it was hurtful to students to take away the support he gave to them.

Student Aiden Lechner of 21 Mallard Drive spoke of the positive impact that Mr. Beals had on him and other students at Alvirne. He is the heart of the school and takes pride in the way he runs the school and in knowing his students.

Student Anna Hennessey of 87 Dracut Road noted that seniors were impacted by the pandemic in their freshman and sophomore years and had scheduling differences last year. She is concerned with this news of Mr. Beals in her senior year.

Student Rob Earl of 8 Windham Road spoke about the community support of Mr. Beals and felt input should have been sought from parents and students involved.

Student Colin Landry of 30 Derry Road spoke in support of Mr. Beals.

Beth Baker of 4 Ironwood Road mentioned that Mr. Beals is a supportive educator and leader of staff and students.

Student Hannah Catanzero of 1 Greentrees Drive spoke of the loyalty love Mr. Beals had for his students and school.

Student Madison Hyman of 18 St. Anthony Drive spoke in support of Mr. Beals and about feeling welcome at Alvirne after having attended various schools.

Student Dylan Metevier of 54 B Shadowbrook Drive spoke about Mr. Beals helping him and other students through school challenges; he wanted to help Mr. Beals with this struggle.

Student Armon Prescott of 17 Tamarack Street spoke in support of Mr. Beals. He felt if the assembly was an issue, people could think of alternative ways to run them instead of releasing him.

Jeremy Drown of 12 McCann Road understands that a process needs to be followed and that he is thankful the community is being heard tonight.

Dave Dyer of 17 Timothy Lane spoke about Mr. Beals leading a recent pep rally to drum up support for Hudson sports teams. He noted students have not had such pep rallies in the past few years.

Caleb Stewart of 406 Elwood Drive spoke of his support for Mr. Beals. He mentioned that students showed support by walking out of class today and that students might continue to do so until more information is shared.

Roman Provencher of 31 Baker Street spoke of Mr. Beals being the cornerstone of the school community and helping with school spirit. He takes time to get to know each student.

Student Lauren Carbonneau of 21 Lenny Lane spoke about the pep rally with the balloon incident. She said nothing was meant to be wrong and that the events were planned ahead of time.

Dana Burk of 16 George Street spoke of the poor ranking of the school district and that Mr. Beals was a helpful reason students attended school. He asked for Mr. Beals to be reinstated.

David Forman of 12 Watersedge Drive supported Mr. Beals, noting the positive stories he had heard from families in town.

2 MINUTE RECESS

#### **D. Good News Update [0:50:44]**

Special Services Department Manager Mary Siperek was congratulated for being recognized by the Boston Red Sox for her 20 years of service in the US Air Force in “Hats off to Heroes”.

#### **E. Presentations to the Board [0:51:38]**

##### **1. CTE Program Overview (Information)**

Director of the Wilbur H. Palmer Career and Technical Education Center, Eric Frauwirth, presented an overview of the CTE program. Congresswoman Annie Kuster toured the agricultural center and there will be discussions about federal funding for the solar panels in the barn. She took a photo with Cadet Peaslee.

Review of the CTE program included:

- RSA 188-E provided CTE guidelines in NH
- Currently there are 20 CTE Regions and 30 CTE Centers
- Eight school districts are assigned to the region
- Sources of funding include local school budget, federal Perkins funds, and out-of-district tuition
- Review of enrollments (currently, no one is on a waiting list)
- With non-resident tuition for 2022-23 currently \$16,500, the district could charge between 20-40% for area students to attend CTE in Hudson for 2022-23, there are 207 regional students (130 new and 77 returning)
- Approximately \$1,257,300 will be brought in from area student tuition this year (to come from the State in December 2023)
- All programs are 90 minutes long now (as opposed to 45 minutes); anomalies were reviewed
- Curricula are built as 2-year programs, though there were some third-year students
- Applications of Alvirne students to CTE reduced from 86% to 66% due to:
  - Regional agreement (any student could attend)

- Transportation is a factor for area students
- CTE renovations saw increases in applications
- There were complaints made in other districts where area students need to apply but home district schools can be added by the school counselors. To be equitable, all students now have to complete applications.
- There is concern about a decline in Alvirne student applications to the CTE. Historically, students put in requests for regular classes each spring; any student interested in CTE has to do an application. A waitlist forms, students declare their interests and discussions are had. Sometimes, students don't follow through with completing the application
- There was discussion about allocated percentages/seats in the program and counselors following through with interest.
- The program is guided by state legislation for the region.
- The program is promoted and marketed to Alvirne students (down to middle school) more than area schools.
- There was discussion about breaking up the region into three.
- There were some parts of CTE that were exclusive to sending schools due to scheduling (e.g., due to transportation available in the middle of the day).
- Of the 400 students who were accepted in the CTE program, 83 opted out on their own.
- There is room for growth; having a manageable long-term growth plan was suggested.
- HB1661 was recently passed and includes provisions for CTE: further clarification of the regional agreement and calendar alignment and granting credit for embedded competencies.
- Program evolutions include natural resources (add content in alt. energy); engineering 2 additional PLTW); AFJROTC (drone pilot/ground school certification and flight simulator; Health and Human Services (include competencies from Careers in Education into Human Services pathway option); and add Running Start and IRCs to more classes.
- There is concern about the lack of Careers in Education programs.
- A suggestion was to have a focus group of students to see why they are not applying to CTE from Alvirne.

## 2. Opening Day Update (Information)

Superintendent Moulis shared an update on the opening of school There were Senior Night activities and Grade 6 Orientation. Freshman Orientation was on August 26, 2022, at Alvirne. The ELC community fair was held. He attended morning meeting times at the elementary schools. School arrival and dismissals were doing well. He attended the Early Learning Center PTO meeting that reviewed support of the installation of the playground. A mums flower fundraiser and book fair were planned. He attended the Alvirne football game, and the band did well also. He thanked the Hudson Police Department for supporting the game.

## F. Old Business [2:11:04]

### 1. NESDEC Report Follow UP (Decision)

Superintendent Moulis brought more information to the Board regarding the NESDEC reports. The initial report will look at basic census data in current enrollment numbers (\$2,390). The more comprehensive report would include looking at building permits, working with local realtors, and touring with building principals and would cost around \$8,150. The NESDEC recommendation was to go with the initial report first. The initial report will be a 2-week

turnaround and the more comprehensive report could last up to 3 months. The Board felt there is value in the second report but favored beginning with the first report. The October 1, 2022, enrollments will be reviewed.

***Mike Campbell made a motion to approve the initial NESDEC enrollment report totaling \$2,390. Gretchen Whiting seconded the motion. Motion passed 5:0.***

## **G. New Business [2:20:40]**

### **1. School Enrollment (Informational)**

Superintendent Moulis gave an update on the beginning of the year school enrollment. There is an increase in enrollment in the younger grades. The total enrollment is 3,108 students (an approximate increase of 70 students from last year). 101 students are currently enrolled in preschool.

### **2. Review of Joint Board of Selectmen & School Board meeting (Discussion)**

There was discussion about the joint board meeting. Topics included: school safety (crossing guards funded in school budgets); school resource officers (funded in various ways between the two budgets); and emergency management scenarios/training (re. narcotics/drugs). There was discussion about funding from either the town or school budgets (as taxpayers paid for both). The town could invoice the school district for services. An advantage for crossing guards to remain with the police department was that the department will provide trained substitution for guards who are out sick/absent. There was discussion about having 180 days of School Resource Office (SRO) time, noting that SROs could be taken if needed for emergencies by the police department. Board consensus was to move forward with working with the police department on crossing guards and then revisit discussion regarding SROs.

Feedback was to have the fair portion of the meeting later and to use resources effectively, considering the hourly rate. People favored having the opportunity to ask questions.

### **3. Budget Transfer - Hudson Memorial (Decision)**

Ms. Burk presented budget transfer information and paperwork for Hudson Memorial School nursing services.

***Gretchen Whiting made a motion to approve the budget transfer in the amount of \$101,250 as presented. Maureen Dionne seconded the motion. Motion passed 5:0.***

### **4. Approval of Compensation Structure (Decision)**

Superintendent Moulis explained the compensation structure to teach a class that exceeded contractual responsibilities. The memorandum of understanding (MOU) was voted on and approved by the Hudson Federation of Teachers (HFT). The MOU was for teaching a sixth class at Alvirne High School and at Hudson Memorial School. Teachers instructing a sixth class in the same subject area or grade level would be paid 13% of their per diem rate. If assigned to a course outside of a subject area or grade level, they would be paid 20% of their per diem rate.

***Gretchen Whiting made a motion to approve the HFT MOU (compensation structure) as presented. Mike Campbell seconded the motion. Motion passed 5:0.***

#### **5. Policies (First Reading)**

EEAA - Video Surveillance On School Property: NHSBA version replaced current district policy

JI - Student Rights And Responsibilities: Revised with tracked revisions

JICD - Student Discipline And Due Process: Revised/updated with descriptive language and removing more procedural aspects

JIH - Student Searches And Their Property: Revised/rewritten to include lockers, personal belongings, technology, etc.

JLCJ - Concussion And Head Injuries: NHSBA version replaced current District policy (updates to provisions related to student participation in sports/athletic programs and return to learning protocols.

#### **6. Policies (For Removal)**

JIA - Student Due Process: For removal - now incorporated in policy JICD

#### **7. Tuition Rate for 2022-2023 School Year (Decision)**

Superintendent Moulis reviewed the tuition rate to be set for the 2022-2023 school year which is \$17,500 based on the NH DOE cost per pupil and a 2% administrative fee.

***Ethan Beals made a motion to set the 2022-23 tuition rate as \$17,500. Mike Campbell seconded the motion. Motion passed 5:0.***

#### **8. Nominations (Decision)**

Nominations included: Freshman Volleyball (Karen Bonney: \$700; Sandra Ivos: \$1,575); co-curricular nominations as presented in the agenda packet; Hills Garrison School Chorus (Lisa Hansen: \$2,000); and HMS Extra-curricular nominations as presented in the agenda packet.

***Gretchen Whiting made a motion to approve the nominations for: Freshman Volleyball; co-curriculars; Hills Garrison School Chorus and HMS extra-curriculars as presented. Mike Campbell seconded the motion. Motion passed 5:0.***

### **H. Recommended Action [2:55:30]**

#### **1. Manifests**

#### **2. Minutes - August 22, 2022**

***Gretchen Whiting made a motion to approve the minutes of August 22, 2022, as presented. Maureen Dionne seconded the motion. Motion passed 5:0.***

**I. Reports to the Board (Information) [2:56:00]****1. Superintendent Report**

Superintendent Moulis noted there would be emergency management training tomorrow; he attended the retirement Open House with Chief Buxton; Congresswoman Kuster visited the CTE center; he and Mr. Gasdia met with the Hudson Library Trustee Board to discuss future use of Hills Memorial Library; administration members attended the budget committee meeting last week where there was review of the Alvirne renovation project; this week was a district forum at Alvirne with a tour and presentation

**2. Assistant Superintendent Report**

Ms. Organek noted that there was no school for students tomorrow (voting day); there would be professional development regarding a reading pilot in grades K-5. the next professional development day would be November 8th. Saturday was Constitution Day and classrooms were doing recognitions celebrating the signing of the Constitution.

**3. Director of Special Services Report**

Ms. Borge distributed handouts from the Budget Committee meeting regarding McKinney Vento which is the federal law that governs school responsibilities regarding homelessness. The act deals with educational stability.

**4. Business Administrator Report**

Ms. Burk provided a follow-up to the cost of the legal matter involving the Budget Committee: the district paid \$4,644 and the town paid \$4,414.

**J. Committee Reports [3:02:56]**

Ms. Whiting reiterated that the Budget Committee heard review of the McKinney Vento law; there was discussion over the court's decision and rewrites of the bylaws that fit what the order stated. Following that, Chair Bill Cole and Vice Chair Bob Clegg stepped down and Ted Trost was nominated as Chair, Norm Martin as Vice Chair, Patrick Quinlan as Clerk, and Kathy Leary as Assistant Clerk. There were discussions regarding renovations and a facilities study. A sub-committee was appointed to work with the renovations; the chair is Rich Weissgarber.

Where Mr. Gagnon was at the Selectmen meeting tonight, Mr. Gasdia noted that at the most recent meeting, Captain Dave Cayot was recognized for 20 years of service. There was also discussion on what the town plans to do with the 10-year transportation improvement plan (closing gaps in sidewalks along Route 102 near the high school).



**K. Legislative Update (Information) [3:07:17]**

Superintendent Moulis provided an update on recent legislation impacting the district:

- Health, Physical Education and Wellness, Personal finance literacy bills
- Civics Instruction - to go into effect July 1, 2023 (to graduate, students must attain a locally sanctioned passing grade on a competency assessment in a grade of 70% or better on the 128 question civics test including history/government.)
- To go into effect on August 23, 2022: areas added to substantive educational content for adequate education: civics, government, economics, geography, history, Holocaust, genocide, wellness education, technology application, personal finance literacy (FY24).

**L. School Board Member Comments [3:10:01]**

Ms. Whiting appreciated people voicing opinions today and she hoped that same turnout would occur during voting periods.

Mr. Gasdia noted that the annual 9/11 Memorial Ceremony was held yesterday, and it was good to see people attending. Schools are closed tomorrow as it is voting day. He thanked people for coming to tonight's meeting and he admired that people were respectful.

**M. Non-Public Session - RSA 91-A:3 II b. and c [3:12:43]**

***At 9:45 pm, Mike Campbell 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 5:0. Roll call vote.***

Reviewed and accepted letters of resignation, reviewed application and nomination was approved for Library Street School teacher, further questions from the Board on another application, a parent request was reviewed by the School Board, and a personnel matter was discussed.

**N. Leave Non-Public Session and Adjourn**

***At 10:45pm, Ethan Beals made a motion to return to general session. Maureen Dionne seconded the motion. Motion passed 5:0. Roll call vote.***

Submitted by  
Susan DeFelice  
Non-Public by Superintendent Moulis