



HUDSON SCHOOL BOARD

18 Library Street Hudson, New Hampshire

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

Minutes - June 19, 2023

In Attendance

Board Members

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

SAU Staff

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

Victoria Tilley, Student Representative

A. Call to Order [0:00:09]

1. Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Gretchen Whiting called the meeting to order at 6:30pm. Newly elected student representative Victoria Tilley led the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. Public Hearing (Information) [0:00:33]

Pursuant to RSA 198:20-b, and in accordance with Article 4 of the March 6, 1992, Town Meeting and School Board Policy KCD, the Hudson School Board held a public hearing to receive a donation of property. As outlined in the accompanying memo from Steve Beals, Principal at Alvirne, Pam and Arthur Bartlett would like to donate an electronic message board to go on the Alvirne sign. The estimated value of this sign is \$40,000. There was no public input. The School Board was very appreciative. The hearing was closed.

C. Donation of Property - Electronic Sign (Decision) [0:02:54]

Ethan Beals made a motion to accept the donation from Pam and Arthur Bartlett of an updated electronic sign for Alvirne High School (estimated value of \$40,000). Mike Campbell seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0

D. Public Input [0:03:40]

There was no public input.

E. Good News Update [0:03:55]

Highlights included:

- Dr. HO Smith School welcomed Hudson Police as part of a social studies unit on community/helpers
- Hills Garrison and Nottingham West welcomed incoming second graders during First Grade Step Up Day
- Alvirne High School Graduation
- Alvirne High Schools' The B Naturals performed at the New Hampshire State House
- Hudson Memorial held its first School Science Bee - congratulations to the winner, Delaney Flanagan
- Library Street School held its "Turn the Corner Celebration" for students moving onto first grade
- Kindergarten classes visited the fire station
- Students at Hills Garrison and Nottingham West went on their annual third-grade field trips, touring historical Hudson spots
- The Hudson Memorial PTO put on a great grade 8 dance
- Nottingham West held a staff vs. students basketball game (students won)
- Victoria Tilley was welcomed as the student representative to the School Board

F. Presentations to the Board [0:08:22]

1. Review of the Alvirne High School Block & Flex Schedule

Dean of Academics Susan Bureau and Principal Steven Beals shared information on the successes and challenges to the changes in block and flex scheduling. Highlights included the AB schedule, flex/intervention period and skill development.

AB Schedule: PLC (Professional Learning Communities) were important this year for consistency and collaborating amongst teachers. It provided a secure start to the school year, especially for new teachers. There was reflection on student achievement. Pockets of dysfunction, especially with freshman, were addressed. Students used flex time for ongoing help with competencies. Next year, PLCs will include an examination of grading practices across the district. It was noted that students needed more elective opportunities at Alvirne. A goal is to have less students in study halls and more students in managed academic time. There were many filled classes and sections. The Advanced Placement program is a marker for the school, and many students took AP classes and did well on AP tests. AP pre-calculus was added. Teachers are eager to do different things with a variety of programs/schedules. Students haven't expressed many concerns about the 80-minute classes. Graduation rates were reviewed.

Flex/intervention: The thirty-minute timeframe was successful. Some of the benefits were students maintaining the same flex home teachers and the use of guest speakers and the Adaptive Schedule. SAT prep was done, American Humanities sections ran embedded honors through flex, such as an additional book, and teacher-led flex occurred. Flex time was also used for some freshman development. A challenge was students not following through with intervention or extra help. There is a need to find appropriate ways of accountability and to provide interaction and a connection with students, families and teachers. The 25-minute lunch periods worked well, using consistent reinforcement with attendance for flex periods, and consequences for missing them.

Other intervention/skill development: Flex periods support executive functioning and include strategies courses. The Academic Support Center is very helpful in the high school. There is a need for a shift to Humanities in the Academic Support Center as well as credit recovery programs and being proactive vs. reactive. Freshman Seminar also takes place in flex time. There was 90.3% participation in the SAT testing. Students and staff were thanked for their work and the School Board thanked Ms. Bureau for her work in the district as today was her last day.

Ethan Beals made a motion to move the “Reclassification of Alvirne High School business position to an art position” as the next agenda item. Maureen Dionne seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

2. Reclassification of Alvirne High School Business Position to Art Position (Decision)

Principal Steve Beals requested to modify one business position to an art position for 2023-2024. More students are interested in taking art classes and elective areas are expanding with enrollment numbers. Students are encouraged to take electives such as forestry, introduction to pet care, and others, as opposed to study halls. Currently, students are registered in Accounting 1, entrepreneurship and personal financial literacy for next year. Mr. Beals feels that the business position will cover all needs. Sending school student enrollment relative to CTE courses to the School Board was discussed.

Gary Gasdia made a motion to repurpose the business teacher to an art teacher at Alvirne High School. Mike Campbell seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

G. New Business [1:34:03]

1. Facilities Bids (Decision)

Director of Facilities John Pratte presented facilities bid information which included the updated playground design for HO Smith School from Utiliplay Parks & Playground in the amount of \$28,797.10

Ethan Beals made a motion to award a contract to Utiliplay Parks & Playground for the HOS Playground Phase 2 per the proposal specifications in the amount of \$28,797.10 in accordance with policy DJE. Maureen Dionne seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

The Alvirne High School fire door replacement project attracted three vendors who submitted bids. The recommendation was to award the bid to Solid Roots Construction, LLC in the amount of \$21,067.80 (the FY24 budget was for \$20,000).

Ethan Beals made a motion to award a contract to Solid Roots Construction, LLC. For the AHS fire door replacement in the amount of \$21,067.80 per the bid specifications in accordance with policy DJE. Mike Campbell seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

With the DW Blue Strobe Emergency Notification System RFP, one out of four vendors submitted a bid.

Ethan Beals made a motion to award a contract to Astronaut Security Technologies, LLC. For the AHS fire door replacement in the amount of \$45,999 per the bid specifications in accordance with policy DJE. Maureen Dionne seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

The replacement of masonry and wall flashing at Nottingham West Elementary School project was a hand carry this evening. Corolla Roofing was proposed in the amount of up to \$80,000 to allow for contingencies (\$66,250 was the quote).

Ethan Beals made a motion to award a contract to Corolla Roofing for the replacement of masonry and wall flashing at Nottingham West Elementary School in the amount of up to \$80,000. Mike Campbell seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

2. Alvirne High School Fall Sports Nominations (Decision)

Superintendent Moulis presented nominations from Athletic Director Karen Bonney for fall sports at AHS.

Ethan Beals made a motion to approve the nominations for fall sports as presented. Mike Campbell seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

3. Food Service Student Debt (Decision)

Ms. Burk presented a memo from the Food Service Department on student debt payoff. Despite best efforts, the unpaid meals account was currently at \$46,690.15 as of June 12. This is a common balance for the end of the year. Efforts will still be made to receive the unpaid meal debt. Free/reduced lunch forms were sent to families who are encouraged to complete the forms.

Mike Campbell made a motion to purchase the yet unpaid student meals debt, not to exceed \$50,000. Maureen Dionne seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

4. New District Hires (Information)

Superintendent Moulis presented the current list of new hires to the School Board:

- Kathleen Murphy – Earth Science Teacher AHS
- Krista Indelicato – School Counselor AHS

- Two more teachers had since accepted contracts: Alex Quigley – Sped Teacher at Hudson Elementary School and Chloe True, grade 3 at Hills Garrison

Ethan Beals made a (symbolic) motion to approve the nominations as presented. Maureen Dionne seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

H. Policies – Second Reading [1:58:03]

DJE Bidding Requirement
IKF High School Graduation Requirements
JICDD Student Discipline Out of School Actions

Maureen Dionne made a motion to approve the following policies as written: Mike Campbell seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

I. Recommended Action [1:59:00]

5. Manifests

J. Reports to the Board (Information) [1:59:05]

1. Superintendent Report

Superintendent Moulis attended the kindergarten “turn the corner” ceremony at Library Street School, and first graders had step up day. He reported that grade three students learned about local historical landmarks on their tours of Hudson. Grade 4 students visited Squam Lake and Hills Garrison fifth grade students visited the CTE Center. There was a Dads for Donuts party at Nottingham West as well as a students vs. staff basketball game on Thursday. Eighth grade class day was today. High school students completed final exams last week, and summer remediation would begin on Wednesday and run through June 30. Updates to the district website included moving the CTE Center to the Alvirne High School page and the naming of the CTE Center was updated to reflect Wilbur H. Palmer Career Technical Education Center at Alvirne High School. He thanked everyone for their hard work this year.

K. Committee Reports [2:03:11]

Ms. Whiting attended the Select Board Meeting where the electric aggregation was discussed and could go live as early as February 2024. Residents may search online ahead of time.

L. Legislative Update (Information) [2:04:35]

Superintendent Moulis mentioned that the NHSBA is working on evaluating the current version of the budget.

M. Correspondence (Information) [2:05:16]

The fund balance is on track. There will be a pre-audit next for the School Board and then an update for the week of July 31, 2023.

A discipline report for May was in the agenda packet. At Hudson Memorial School, the number of instances of reported bullying had decreased as well as the number of in school suspensions. There were increases in detentions and out of school suspensions. At Alvirne, the number of detentions had decreased, and in-school suspensions had slightly decreased, while out of school suspensions and incidences of reported and determined bullying had slightly increased. Moving forward, knowing driving factors will be helpful.

An account of Alvirne History was shared by the family of Richard and Ruth Clark relative to Hudson school reports and the Nashua Telegraph, stating that Alvirne School did not end with summer session.

N. Board of Selectmen - Liaison Comments - N/A [2:10:26]

The Board of Selectmen Liaison was absent tonight.

O. Student Representative Comments [2:10:32]

Victoria Tilley thanked the School Board for welcoming her to her newly elected position.

P. Board Member Comments [2:10:46]

Mr. Campbell congratulated everyone for the end of the year and noted that he attended class day today for eighth graders. He thanked the PTO for a wonderful event, and the t-shirts they distributed.

Mr. Gasdia welcomed Ms. Tilley and congratulated all students, staff, and families. Work will continue over summer.

Mr. Beals welcomed Ms. Tilley and congratulated the students and staff.

Maureen Dionne mentioned the success of the Rogers Memorial Library summer reading kickoff. She attended the fifth-grade celebration at Nottingham West and class day today. She thanked the teachers and staff.

Ms. Whiting welcomed Ms. Tilley. She attended class day today and she congratulated all students and thanked teachers. She thanked Mr. Beals for organizing Trivia Night and feels people will want to do it again in the future.

Q. Non-Public Session per RSA 91-A:3 II a [2:16:08]

At 8:46 pm, Ethan Beals made a motion to enter into a non-public session per RSA 91-A:3 II a and k. Mike Campbell seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0. Roll call vote.

Student matter discussed
Personnel matter discussed

R. Leave Non-Public Session and Adjourn

At 9:41pm, Ethan Beals made a motion to adjourn. Maureen Dionne seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0. Roll call vote.

Submitted by
Susan DeFelice
Non-public by Dan Moulis