



Hudson School Board

18 Library Street Hudson, NH

6:30 pm Regular Meeting

6:00 pm and following Non-Public Session

Meeting Minutes – May 22, 2023

In Attendance

Board Members

Gretchen Whiting, Chairman
Maureen Dionne, Vice Chair
Ethan Beals
Mike Campbell
Gary Gasdia (absent)

SAU Staff

Dan Moulis, Superintendent of Schools
Kimberly Organeck, Assistant Superintendent
of Curriculum & Instruction
Rachel Borge, Director Special Services
Jen Burk, Business Administrator

Emily Dozois, Student Representative

A. Non-Public Meeting

Nomination of Hills Garrison Principal approved.

B. Call to Order [0:00:15]

1. Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Gretchen Whiting called the meeting to order at 6:30pm. Emily Dozois led the Pledge of Allegiance.

C. Public Input [0:00:50]

Laurie Jasper of 83 Old Derry Road commended the FFA students and advisors who represent Alvirne, the partnership between Alvirne vet technology students and the GFWC Women's Club.

She is concerned that Alvirne High School doesn't appear on the letterhead, logo, website, etc. and that the Wilbur H. Palmer Career and Technical Education Center is listed on the website as a separate entity. Alvirne trustees oversee money from the estate, and they would like it to continue to present as one school.

D. Presentation to the School Board [0:08:52]**1. Nottingham West Elementary School Students**

Nottingham West students shared the NWES Core Values and their work on social media. The students shared:

- The process to be on the fifth-grade student leadership team that supports teachers, staff and students and helped the community (e.g., the food drive)
- Participation in projects such as Preschool Dismissal Buddies
- Teaching young students about PAWS (Pause in gratitude, Act responsibly, Work and play safely, and Show respect)
- Participation in a social media workshop
- An upcoming student vs. staff basketball game
- Tours given to incoming second graders at step-up day

E. New Business [0:22:32]**1. English Department Request (Decision)**

Alvirne High School Department Heads Lauren Denis, Alex Whetmore and Joyce Wise requested naming a portion of the Alvirne High School Media Center after “well read,” retiring Dean of Academics Susan Bureau, for her dedication and impact at Alvirne and in the district.

Policy FF: Naming, Memorializing, Recognitions and Dedication of School District Facilities was referenced.

There was discussion about ensuring the retirement will occur before approval or not (e.g., if she came back to substitute). Mr. Beals suggested these types of discussions should be addressed in a non-public session.

Ethan Beals made a motion to approve the request to name the Alvirne High School Media Center after retiree Susan Bureau as presented. Mike Campbell seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

2. Facilities Bid Results (Decision)

Director of Facilities John Pratte presented the following facilities bid results:

SAU Parking Lot Paving

There were three vendors and one bid: GMI Asphalt, LLC.

Ethan Beals made a motion to award a contract to GMI Asphalt, LLC for the SAU parking lot paving per the bid specifications in the amount of \$138,180 in accordance with policy DJE. Maureen Dionne seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

LSS Roof Replacement

There were four vendors and three bids: Triumph Roofing, Inc. (\$384,000), LGR1, Inc. (\$386,000) and Corolla Contracting, Inc. (\$589,900 or \$499,800 insulation alternate.)

Ethan Beals made a motion to award a contract to LGR1, Inc. for the FY24 LSS roof replacement at Library Street School per the bid specifications in the base bid amount of \$376,000 in accordance with policy DJE. Mike Campbell seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

HMS Science Labs

Prior labs were done with Hertz furniture. The district receives government pricing.

Ethan Beals made a motion to award a contract to Hertz Furniture for the HMS Science Lab furniture per the proposal specifications in the amount of \$130,000 in accordance with policy DJE. Mike Campbell seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

Districtwide Air Conditioning

There were two vendors, ENE Systems of NH and Blouin Service HVAC. for air conditioning at the HMS nurses' office, Nottingham West modular units and Hills Garrison modular units.

Ethan Beals made a motion to award a contract for the nurse's office A/C replacement in FY24 to ENE Systems of NH for the districtwide air conditioning per the bid specifications in the amount of \$10,850 in accordance with policy DJE. Mike Campbell seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

Districtwide Landscaping

Bids were submitted by Knott's Land Care, LLC and Morin's Landscaping, Inc.

There was discussion about doing landscaping in-house; the guarantee, consistency, and cost-effectiveness of using an outside vendor, the timing in switching to a new vendor and longer contracts. There will be a review of how the first year goes with the vendor as well as a cost comparison to do the work in-house.

Mike Campbell made a motion to award a contract to Morin's Landscaping, Inc. for the districtwide landscaping per the bid specifications in the annual amounts listed above in accordance with policy DJE (Year 1: \$75,800; Year 2: \$77,695; Year 3: \$79,637; Option Year 4: \$81,628; Option Year 5: \$83,669). Maureen Dionne seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-1.

HO Smith Playground Phase 2

There was discussion about the possibility of adding an extra piece of equipment. Mr. Pratte will inquire about the purchase and lead time.

Mike Campbell 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 \$16,245.70 in accordance with policy DJE. Maureen Dionne seconded the motion.

Motion passed 4-0.

3. Special Education Transportation Bid Results (Decision)

Ms. Borge and Ms. Burk presented the results of the recent Special Education transportation bids from Durham School Services, First Student and EverDriven Technologies. First Student did not provide a bid for Out of District Transportation. The recommendation was to award the bid from Durham School Services.

***Ethan Beals made a motion to move this during non-public session for further discussion after tonight's regular meeting. Mike Campbell seconded the motion.
Motion passed 4-0.***

4. District Determination Rubric (Discussion)

Ms. Borge shared an overview of state benchmarks for school district data and steps for improvement. There is a new rubric by which districts in the state are monitored by the Department of Education. Four parts of the rubric are results, assessment, participation and compliance.

Hudson fell in the area of "needs intervention," largely due to not hitting the targets for graduation, dropout rates for students with disabilities and for assessment participation.

Part of the plan is for district leadership to participate in a Zoom meeting with the NH Department of Education in June to learn more about the expectations relative to root cause analysis and their format to address needs. Plans will be developed for improvement.

Hudson's participation in statewide assessment in reading:

Grade 4: 93% for students with disabilities

Grade 8: 90%

Grade 11: 70.45%.

Participation in the statewide assessment for math:

Grade 4: 89.6%

Grade 8: 88.37%

Grade 11: 70.45%.

In grade 11, the state assessment is the SAT, which is not always needed for college, military, etc. About half the districts in New Hampshire are at the "needs intervention" or "needs substantial intervention" levels. Two areas to work on are encouraging students to participate, and to encourage students to pursue a traditional 24-credit diploma. The School Board expressed frustration that participation on the SAT is a metric when many colleges are no longer using it for admissions and some schools even discourage students from taking it.

Ethan Beals made a motion to add Sarah Compagna to the agenda. Mike Campbell seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

Sarah Compagna thanked the School Board for allowing her students to go to ICDC in Florida.

She brought a NH DECA pin and an Alvirne DECA sponsor shirt. It was a valuable experience for students.

5. Superintendent Hiring Authorization (Decision)

Superintendent Moulis requested permission from the School Board for hiring authorization between meetings this summer.

Ethan Beals made a motion to permit Superintendent Moulis to hire between meetings this summer. Mike Campbell seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

F. Policies: First Reading and Review [1:41:07]

- Policy BBBF Student Members of the School Board
The NHSBA version was proposed with reference to RSA 194:23-F. A high school shall elect one or more non-voting member/s of the School Board in the district, to serve for a one-year term, the beginning of which should be decided by the School Board. A student who graduates during the term's duration is no longer eligible. The high school will establish a procedure for a vacancy during transition. It was recommended to have applications in by the second week of May and newly elected student School Board members would attend meetings starting in May/June, but excused absences would be allowed. Having a senior and a junior representative was also discussed, and this would provide an alternate member. There was a suggestion about inviting rising sophomores, juniors and seniors to apply. This policy should go back to the Policy Committee, student government advisors, and Principal Beals. Emily Dozois was recognized by School Board members for her work as a student School Board representative and was given a cord for graduation and two certificates of appreciation.
- Policy BIE Board Member Indemnification
Current Policy with proposed revisions including the third paragraph revision based upon RSA changes.
- Policy DFA Investments
The current policy was slated for annual review. There are no changes. No action is needed but it will be noted as reviewed by the School Board as of this date.
- Policy EEA Student Transportation Services
The NHSBA version will be used with proposed changes including the September 2021 revision regarding restructuring transportation policies and procedures and reducing redundancies and conflicting provisions.

- Policy EEAE Student Conduct on School Buses
The recommendation for this policy is withdrawal as it was withdrawn by the NHSBA in 2021 and incorporated into policy JICC.
- Policy JICC Student Conduct on School Buses
The NHSBA version will be used as it replaces the current policy.
- Policy JLCC Head Lice/Pediculosis
The NHSBA version will be used including updates from 2020 with the assistance of the NH School Nurses Association reflecting the most current advice on minimal health risk and detrimental effects of exclusion.

G. Old Business [2:03:01]

1. Review of Memorandum of Agreement - Tango Flight - NH Aviation Museum and Hudson School District

There was discussion about the details of the Tango Flight project. The Aviation Museum of New Hampshire sent a letter dated May 19, 2023, and informed the district that participation in the student plane building project plan was canceled for the 2023-24 school year at the Palmer Center. The decision was based on recent discussions regarding the School Board's support of the program. It was a collaborative discussion within the district. The New Hampshire Aviation Museum and Hudson School Board agreed on cancelation of the project.

2. Alvirne Trustees Proposals (Decision)

Superintendent Moulis shared the commitment memo from the Alvirne Trustees. Principal priorities total \$145,790. Mr. Beals clarified that the total is \$147,040. Additional proposals for the farm total \$91,000. The Hills Family Scholarship totals \$44,000. The Trustees were thanked for their generosity. The activity van totals \$20,000 under principal priorities and they will consult with Patty Langlais on this. Ms. Borge noted that there are some concerns about using the activity van for student transportation. State standards for students with disabilities require that transportation by the district be provided on a school bus by a licensed driver who carries the school bus endorsement. The Bronco Bus is considered a school bus, so it is not an issue, yet it requires additional certification for a driver.

Ethan Beals made a motion to approve the Alvirne Trustees financial commitment for the 2023 - 24 school year. Mike Campbell seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

H. Recommended Action [2:15:17]

1. Manifests

2. Minutes - May 8, 2023

In the section regarding the motion on the substitute rate, it should also include the increase in lunch monitor pay effective the next pay period for this school year.

Ethan Beals made a motion to approve the minutes of May 8, 2023, as amended. Mike Campbell seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

I. Reports to the Board (Information) [2:16:59]

1. Superintendent Report

Superintendent Moulis reported:

- The administrative workshop was held last week to review goals/priorities for next year.
- On May 9, the Air Force JROTC Awards Ceremony was held at Alvirne High School.
- He attended the Alvirne FFA Chapter banquet. He recognized advisors Ms. Bliss, Ms. Beaudry, Ms. Hill, and Mr. Marshall.
- The grand opening of the Dr. H.O. Smith playground occurred on May 12. He thanked all involved.
- The Wilbur H. Palmer Center received a donation of a CPR kit valued at \$750 from Dartmouth Health and the American Heart Association for high school students to use for training.
- The Strategic Planning Committee met last week and discussed the purpose and direction of the Hudson School District as part of a new 5-year plan process. There will be ongoing discussions regarding the committee composition.
- There were meetings with Hills Garrison principal candidates who were interviewed, and a nomination was brought to the School Board tonight. The interview committee was thanked for their participation.
- Various interviews are being held for vacancies in the district.

J. Committee Reports - see Item M

K. Correspondence (Information) [2:20:53]

1. FY23 Financial Update (Information)

2. Discipline Report (Information)

The discipline report included comparisons between January, February, and March of 2022 and 2023. A suggestion was a visual representation of the discipline per school over the course of each school year to see spikes in discipline, etc.

L. Board of Selectmen - Liaison Comments [2:23:29]

There is no liaison selected yet from the Board of Selectmen.

M. Student Representative Comments - [2:23:38]

Ms. Dozois thanked the School Board members and the class of 2023 for electing her as their student representative to the School Board. She congratulated the class of 2023.

Mr. Beals reported that the Strategic Planning Committee met last week. There was a legislative update that cursive is mandatory to be taught in school. He expressed concern about setting time in the already tight school workday for this. He congratulated the new Hills Garrison Principal Theo Tufts.

Ms. Dionne said that the Wellness Committee met with School Board members to review policy and would meet again in September. She mentioned there were various school activities at all grade levels. At Nottingham West, Arts Night and the fifth-grade chorus will be on June 5, and on June 6, there will be a multi-cultural night held there.

Ms. Whiting noted that the School Board workshop will be on May 30 from 3 to 8pm at the Hudson Memorial School library. She congratulated the Class of 2023 who will have Awards Night on Thursday.

N. Board Member Comments [2:24:15]

Mr. Campbell noted that on Saturday, he attended Open Farm Day at Alvirne which was a success. He also attended the class act performance of *Beauty and the Beast*. He congratulated the Class of 2023. He thanked Ms. Dozois for being the Student School Board Member and congratulated her on her graduation.

O. Non-Public Session per RSA 91-A:3 II b, c, and k [2:32:44]

At 9:07 pm, Maureen Dionne made a motion to enter into non-public session per RSA 91-A:3 II b and c. Mike Campbell seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0. Roll call vote.

Nominations approved
Leave of absence approved
Resignation accepted
Student tuition waiver discussed and approved
Bus transportation follow up discussion

P. Adjournment

At 11:13 pm, Ethan Beals made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mike Campbell seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0. Roll call vote.

Submitted by
Susan DeFelice
Non-public by Dan Moulis and Kim Organek