

Hudson School District
Hudson School Board Meeting
Draft Minutes

Present:

Dr. Darcy Orellana, Board Chairman
Mr. Gary Gasdia, Board Vice-Chairman
Ms. Diana LaMothe
Mr. Ethan Beals
Ms. Kara Roy, Vice-Chairman, Board of Selectmen
Mr. Larry Russell, Superintendent
Ms. Kim Organek, Assistant Superintendent
Ms. Susan Hickey, Business Administrator
Ms. Rachel Borge, Director of Special Services

- A. Call to Order:** Board Chair Dr. Orellana called the meeting to order. Due to the Governor's stay-at-home order, the board meeting is being held remotely via Zoom. She read a prepared statement regarding our electronic meeting which included how the Town of Hudson could participate/watch this meeting. Roll call attendance was taken. Dr. Orellana, present; Mr. Gasdia, present; Ms. LaMothe, present; Mr. Beals, present; Ms. Roy, present; Mr. Russell, present; Ms. Organek, present; Ms. Hickey, present; Ms. Borge, present. Also present in the meeting is Ms. Wolf, Community Engagement Coordinator.
- B. Public Input:** An online form was created for the public to fill out and to submit questions or concerns to the board. There was no public input this evening.
- C. Old Business:**
- Budget Committee Update:** Mr. Russell wanted to clarify on giving the Budget Committee everything they are requesting. There will be a presentation on August 5th to the Budget Committee. A letter was received wanting to know how the district is impacted by COVID 19. Mr. Russell asked the Board for their input on how they would like to see this information presented and what specifically should be presented to the Budget Committee. There was discussion around breaking it down to worst case scenario (full year of remote learning), best case scenario (in school buildings) and somewhere in the middle. They are looking for what the projected expenditures would be, and what the expected revenue changes would be for the FY21 budget. The presentation should include how has it affected the budget so far and how can it affect it in the future. Also, the CARES Act will be the majority of the presentation and what is covered under that. It may be too soon to know what impact this has had on the revenue. The Budget Committee is looking to understand the impact or effect COVID 19 has had or will have on the school budget. The Budget Committee has requested the same information from the town.
 - Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Committee Discussion:** Dr. Orellana pointed out that this is in our Strategic Plan and how they were already prepared to have this discussion by having it put into the Strategic Plan. The plan states that we should have core beliefs, strong and respectful relationships, and embrace the diversity in our schools and community. This is something that should be reviewed each year. A DEI Committee

needs to have a mission and definitions, a framework and structure, along with defined rules and responsibilities. We are looking to create an environment where everyone is safe and included, an environment where everyone can succeed.

3. Policies: Ms. Organek presented the 2nd reading of the following policies which some had small changes to and policies IMDA and IMGGA were outdated and updated using the NHSBA samples.
 - a) GCO Teacher Performance and Evaluation System
 - b) GBEC/ADB Drug-free Workplace & Drug-free Schools
 - c) GBED/ADC/JICG Prohibitions Regarding Use and Possession of Tobacco Products. E-cigarette, and E-Liquids in and on School Facilities and Grounds
 - d) IGD Curriculum Adoption
 - e) IMDA Patriotic Exercises
 - f) IMG Animals in the Schools
 - g) IMGGA Service Animals in the Schools

GCO policy is required by law and had a minor change on some of the wording. There was further discussion regarding this policy with the board members.

GBEC/ABD shows a transposition of letters at the bottom of the page.

IGD policy states the Board is aware before the public, but in the past, the public became aware of a class change before the Board did. Therefore, the policy is now stated the way it currently is because of what happened this past school year.

IMGGA policy under general conditions refer to paragraph B2 but paragraph B2 is redlined. This policy will go back for further review. The Board is advised not to approve policy IMGGA this evening.

Mr. Beals made a motion to approve the policies A-F as listed above, excluding policy G-IMGGA and with the minor transposition of letters resolved in GBEC/ABD, second by Ms. LaMothe. Dr. Orellana, aye, Mr. Gasdia, aye, Ms. LaMothe, aye, Mr. Beals, aye. Motion passes 4-0.

D. New Business:

1. Alvirne Renovations: Ms. LaMothe went over the numbers from the recount regarding the AHS renovations vote. 59.8% voted yes, 49.2% voted no, which left a shortfall of 6 votes. 163 people who voted that day did not vote either way on the AHS renovation warrant article. It appears that the majority has voted yes for the past 3 years. The vote requires 60% for this to pass. Is it possible to start a discussion on specific things that are still needed for the school? The discussion continued recapping what was talked about this time last year; this was the third try to get the renovations passed and may have been the last. While they can have the conversation, we don't even know if we are going back to school in the fall and there is the teacher contract on the ballot as well. Could there have been two warrant articles instead of one? For example, the safety of the students and parking lot could be separate. The Board discussed reviewing the safety aspects of the drawings already in their possession. Mr. Russell would be happy to bring those drawings to the Board for them to review and further the conversation.
2. Policies: Ms. Organek presented the 1st reading of the following policies with minor changes as noted.

- a) JBAA Sexual Harassment/Students – reviewed by Policy Committee
 - b) JCA Change of School or Assignment – replacing outdated policy w/NHSBA sample w/tracked changes
 - c) JEA Compulsory Attendance Age – new, NHSBA sample verbatim
 - d) JEG Age of Entrance – grade 1 – reviewed by Policy Committee
 - e) JEBK Age of Entrance – Kindergarten – reviewed by Policy Committee
 - f) JF Enrollment – new, NHSBA sample w/tracked changes
 - g) JFA Residency – new, NHSBA sample w/tracked changes
 - h) JFAA Admission of Resident Students – new, NHSBA policy verbatim
 - i) JFAB Admission and Tuition and Non-Resident Students – minor tracked changes
3. Financial Report: Ms. Hickey presented the preliminary June financial statement. As of July 2nd, the General Fund is projected to have a balance of \$1,701,557 for fiscal year 2020, which is \$595,182 higher than the previous report. Revenue is expected to be \$113,085 higher than planned and \$54,137 higher than the previous report. Of the anticipated fund balance of \$1,701,557, \$600,000 will be transferred to the voter-approved Retained Fund Balance in accordance with RSA 32:11.
4. End-of-Year Spending: Ms. Hickey reviewed the projects that could be completed using the balance of funds. There are 3 projects that are facilities based and we have received bids on those projects. The Board thought this decision had to be made by June 30th but since we have the bids in house, these can be done with the funds stated above. The discussion continued around what to do with the higher revenue in the General Fund, give more back to the tax payers or work on the projects?
5. Extracurricular Nominations: Mr. Russell presented the following nominations for fall sports at Alvirne High School:

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|----------------------------------|---------------------|---------|
| Girls Varsity Soccer | Gerald Ruigrok | \$3,500 |
| Girls Junior Varsity Soccer | Jaimee Cava | \$2,450 |
| Boys Varsity Soccer | Marcos Vieira Filho | \$3,500 |
| Girls Cross Country | Colleen Currier | \$3,500 |
| Girls Assistant Cross Country | Sue Sawyer | \$2,450 |
| Boys Cross Country | Tom Daigle | \$3,500 |
| Varsity Golf | Sy Tebbetts | \$3,150 |
| Junior Varsity Golf | Scott Rush | \$2,205 |
| Head Football Coach | Tarek Rothe | \$6,200 |
| Assistant Football Coach | Andrew Conrad | \$4,100 |
| Assistant Football Coach | Paul Masotta | \$2,000 |
| Assistant Football Coach | Russell Farrar | \$3,500 |
| Assistant Football Coach | Chris Goldsack | \$3,500 |
| Varsity Volleyball | Kevin Cole | \$3,500 |
| Junior Varsity Volleyball | Justin Scott | \$2,450 |
| Freshmen Volleyball | Melanie Packard | \$2,275 |
| Varsity Fall Cheerleading | Shyla Francoeur | \$2,900 |
| Junior Varsity Fall Cheerleading | Colleen Gillis | \$2,030 |
| Unified Soccer | Steve Beals | \$500 |

There was discussion, like in the Spring, what if the practices start but then school doesn't start as planned and the season doesn't continue? By nominating these coaches, this will allow the coaches to at least start the season. The coaches will receive a letter stating they are the coach for this particular season and sport.

Mr. Beals made a motion to approve the coaches as listed above, second by Ms. LaMothe. Dr. Orellana, aye, Mr. Gasdia, aye, Ms. LaMothe, aye, Mr. Beals, aye. Motion passes 4-0.

E. Recommended Action:

1. Manifests – Recommended action: Make necessary corrections and sign. Everything in the finance department is being completed remotely. The School Board is sent the manifests weekly and they are signed electronically. This is working out quite well.
2. Minutes – Recommended action: Review the following draft minutes and approve:
 - a) 06/17/2020 Draft Minutes: Review and approve. There was a correction to the wording in letter F in the roof replacement. This correction was sent to Mr. Russell who forwarded it the recording secretary and the minutes were updated. Also, the E in the DEI Committee should be 'Equity' and not education. Strike the sentence that states, "There is currently no issue." These items were also updated in the minutes.

Ms. LaMothe made a motion to approve the 06/17/2020 minutes as amended, second by Mr. Beals. Dr. Orellana, aye, Mr. Gasdia, aye, Ms. LaMothe, aye, Mr. Beals, aye. Motion passes 4-0.

F. Reports to the Board:

1. Superintendent Report: Mr. Russell read from his notes. He spoke about the Senate committee combining several bills into one bill. This was for the CTE renovations at Alvirne High School. This hasn't been signed yet, but they are optimistic that this will pass the Senate. He also spoke about the full-day Kindergarten funding that hasn't been voted on yet. The task force is still meeting twice a week. A survey was sent out to parents the last week in June for feedback. The parents want the students back in school, but in a safe way. The taskforce is working on a remote-only option for the parents who would like to opt in. They are looking at logistics of space if we allow students back into the building, transportation, and local childcare providers are weighing in on this. They are also reviewing academics district-wide and how to move between in-person learning and remote instruction if that is necessary. They want to be well prepared if we need to go to remote learning in a moment's notice. They are also waiting to see what the State's taskforce guidelines are, even though it will be a local decision. They are looking at what surrounding districts are doing as well, as our teachers live in these communities and may need to find childcare to care for their own child if we do something different. Mr. Russell will be having a Zoom chat next week. We cannot do this without the support of the community and the staff. Mr. Russell will bring the decision to the Board on August 3rd.
2. Assistant Superintendent Report: Ms. Organek reported that we did receive approval for the ESSER grant but are still waiting to hear on the allocations for our Title grants. Starting this week, we have 30 participants that are taking a 3-week course offered by

Harvard Graduate School of Education. The course is titled "Teaching students to ask their own questions."

3. Business Administrator Report: Ms. Hickey reported earlier on the year-end-spending. Our independent audit will begin the first week of August.
4. Director of Special Services Report: Ms. Borge reported that ESY is starting Tuesday of this week. She explained what ESY is. The ESY teachers have been working on setting up remote learning for the summer months for those students. Ms. Borge has been invited to be a part of some of those learning sessions.

G. Legislative Updates:

1. Legislative Summary: See above in the Superintendent's report.

H. Board Member Comments:

Gary Gasdia: To Kim and Susan, great job tonight. Looking forward to working with both of you, you didn't miss a beat. We had some really good discussion tonight. It is great that we don't always agree, but the conversation was good. He appreciates everyone being so open.

Diana LaMothe: She hopes everyone enjoyed the long weekend and Independence Day. She hopes everyone continues safe and healthy practices throughout the summer, so we don't see an uptick in COVID 19 numbers. Always be kind to each other.

Ethan Beals: Welcome to Kim and Sue. Looking forward to many more meetings to come.

Kara Roy: The EOC has moved on to a monitoring schedule. They keep it open, as it keeps the grant money open as well. She hears nothing but good things from Chief Buxton regarding the reopening plans. She looks forward to hearing what the plan is.

Darcy Orellana: Thank you all. There is no rest for us, the administration, and teachers, I appreciate them keeping moving forward. She appreciates Kimberly and Susan's contributions this evening.

I. Upcoming Meetings:

School Board Meeting, 07/20/2020 6:30 pm, Remote
School Board Meeting, 08/02/2020 6:30 pm, TBD

J. Non-Public Session:

Ms. LaMothe made a motion to enter non-public session according to RSA 91-A:3(b) at 8:30 pm, second by Mr. Beals. Roll call vote, Dr. Orellana, aye, Mr. Gasdia, aye, Ms. LaMothe, aye, Mr. Beals, aye. Motion passes 4-0.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Piper (public)