

**Hudson School District
Hudson School Board Meeting
Approved Minutes**

Present:

Dr. Darcy Orellana, Board Chairman
Mr. Gary Gasdia, Board Vice-Chair
Ms. Diana LaMothe
Mr. Ethan Beals
Ms. Fabiana Fickett
Mr. Larry Russell, Superintendent of Schools
Ms. Kim Organek, Assistant Superintendent
Ms. Rachel Borge, Director of Special Services
Ms. Jennifer Burk, Business Administrator

- A. **Call to Order:** Dr. Orellana called the meeting to order. Pledge of Allegiance.
- B. **Review Public Comment Regarding Preschool thru Grade 5 Plan:** Dr. Orellana opened it up to public input.
1. Megan Smith, 1st grade teacher at H.O Smith: Ms. Smith went over the results from a climate survey that was given out at the schools. She states that the majority of the staff felt that it is not safe to return to school on January 4th after the holiday break. Ms. Smith went over some challenges that they are already facing at the schools and stressed that this would not be a long-term thing as they do wish to return to their students but when it's safe to do so.

Dr. Orellana went over the emails that were received. Dr. Orellana stated out of all the emails they received, 106 wanted to stay in school, 15 would like to go remote, and 12 were neutral.

C. **Discussion:**

Ms. Fickett was thankful for the surveys the teachers did and stated that this was very important because the numbers are rising in Hudson. Mr. Russell went over what is happening in the EOC.

Ms. Borge brought up preschool regarding executive order 64. Ms. Borge said they must stay in school as much as they possibly can. The second part of the order is that they cannot eliminate the option of in-person learning. She went over the situations they must consider with going forward with making these tough decisions.

Dr. Orellana asked how the district was doing regarding cleaning in the buildings. Mr. Russell said there was a notion that there was not cleaning happening at night. However, he assured that this

was not the case and that they hired a cleaning business to come in and he has checked on this several times to be certain that cleaning is happening.

Mr. Gasdia asked if anything has changed since the meeting. Mr. Russell said the numbers in the district are representing what is happening around us. He said right now they have had 5 adult-to-adult transmissions; there have been no adult-to-student or student-to-adult transmissions.

Dr. Orellana wanted to let the public know that this meeting was to just to go over the emails that were received and to let the public know that the board reads them and hears you. The Board stressed that any information that you would like the Board to know, to please get that to them by Monday night's meeting as they will be making a decision regarding what is going to happen after break with all the information that is presented.

Ms. Fickett stressed to the other Board members that a decision should be made tonight because if they decided next meeting, the district would only have one day to plan. Ms. LaMothe mentioned she would like to see how the cases would be within the next week, whether they would be increasing or declining in numbers, but is willing to discuss the consideration of making a decision tonight.

Ms. Fickett made a motion for the whole district to go remote from January 3rd to the 8th and return on January 11th, second by Ms. LaMothe.

Discussion: Ms. LaMothe asked how long the teachers would need to prepare to go remote for a full week. Mr. Russell said it would be a challenge as it is one day to prepare but he thinks it could all work if they were given that one day to prepare. Some teachers gave their opinion on this matter and said one day is not enough time to prepare as this would take much longer to get everything ready.

Ms. Fickett, aye, Mr. Beals, nay, Ms. LaMothe, aye, Mr. Gasdia, nay, Dr. Orellana, nay. Motion fails 2-3.

The Board will revisit this next meeting, but the motion still stands to have Elementary School return to in-person learning from December 14th -22nd and High School and Middle School will be in remote learning, and everyone will return to in person on January 4th.

D. Presentation to The Board:

1. Swim Coach Nominations

Ms. Bonney nominated the following:

Head Swim Coach	Colleen Vurgaropulos	\$3150
Assistant Swim Coach	Jeremie Fortier	\$1400
Assistant Swim Coach	Xenophon Vurgaropulos	\$1400
Dive Coach	Derek Peabody	\$1,000

Mr. Beals made a motion to approve the nominations, second by Ms. LaMothe. Motion passes 5-0.

E. Non-Public:
None.

F. Upcoming Meetings:

Meeting	Date	Time	Location	Purpose
School Board	12/21/2020	6:30 pm	Community Center	Regular Meeting
School Board	1/4/2021	6:30 pm	Community Center	Regular Meeting

G. Adjourn:

Ms. LaMothe moved to adjourn, second by Mr. Gasdia. Motion passes 5-0.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Amanda Gage (public)