

**HUDSON SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**Hudson School Board Meeting**  
**March 31, 2014**  
**Approved Minutes**

Present

Mrs. Laura Bisson, Chair  
Mrs. Patty Langlais  
Mr. Michael Truesdell  
Ms. Stacy Milbouer  
Mrs. Meagan Pollack  
Mr. Bryan Lane, Superintendent  
Dr. Phyllis Schlichter, Assistant Superintendent  
Ms. Jeanne Saunders, Director of Special Services  
Ms. Karen Burnell, Business Administrator  
Mr. Connor Sakati, AHS Student Rep.

- A. **Call to Order:** Mrs. Laura Bisson, Board Chairman, called the meeting to order and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance at 6:30 pm. School Principals and the Director of School Counseling are here to discuss staffing.

B. **2014-2015 Staffing Discussion**

Superintendent Lane addressed all present. This workshop is to discuss staffing for the upcoming school year. The board will receive a nomination list at next week's meeting. There are a few new resignations that have come into his office that have not yet come to the board. Prior to restructuring, class sizes in grades 4 and 5 at NWS were 28-29 compared to HOS at 16-17. Other school and grades ranged from 22-24. After restructuring, all class sizes in all schools are under 25. NWS is expecting to have 21 less second graders in the fall. This will leave the school with an extra second grade teacher; would like to utilize this teacher position as an Interventionist position for push-in/pull-out services. (We already have a candidate.) Currently, we have 2 Interventionists funded by Federal Funds. This has shown to be very effective but the district is unsure if we will receive these funds again - may have hit a benchmark but won't know until May. It has already shown the "gap" closing. It will provide individualized instruction to students in need. The district is worried about students who are not making progress; we could utilize staff and resources to help students succeed and not fail. This is not a new position just a teacher reassignment. The district is using STAR assessment to assess if progress is being made and the gap is closing.

The Interventionist will be placed at the school that has the greatest need. Mrs. Martellini and Mr. Baker both stated that they would like to have access to this Interventionist for their students as well. It would help a lot of students. Mrs. Martellini requested the opportunity to observe the current Interventionist at work. Both felt that the use of Title I funds does not reach all students.

Vacancy list will come to the board at next week's meeting.

ESOL once had a large number of students enrolled, now only has 35. Will now have one teacher and will utilize paraeducators to help deliver services. (Many district paras hold degrees.)

Currently the district has 250 students signed up for first grade plus there is an expected maternity leave for the fall. May need an extra teacher, but will wait until May to make a decision.

Mr. Bowen addressed the group regarding schedules. Trying to find time for teacher collaboration so we can meet the needs of students better. Will come before the board next week with a pilot program request regarding schedules. They have found a model that combines Focused Monitoring and SWIFT which may be a plan for the future. HMS upcoming staffing needs: Social Studies Dept. Head, Assistant Principal, job-share Reading Specialist for one year, maternity leaves.

#### AHS

The process for course selection begins in the fall. In February, we head into the classrooms and talk to students about programming, graduation requirements and discuss student's interests for electives. Next comes face-to-face meetings with every student for individualized course selection. Input data. Currently working on course selection for incoming freshmen. This is a time-consuming process but worth it. The next step is to see how many students signed up for each section/class and see what we have for staff and what are the additional supports needed; always keeping in mind that some classes (like writing) are best if the numbers are low so there is time for student/teacher collaboration.

Discussed whether students should be mandated to take six classes. Feel that there should be flexibility for upper classman. Staff is waiting to be able to teach "Fun" classes, like Multi-Media III which will be available in the fall. Teachers should be polled to see if there is any talent available which could be used to teach new/fun classes. We should think outside the box—poll students see what gets them excited, what are their interests.

VLACS is also an option for students. Can take high school classes and for \$100 students can get college credit.

Currently students are required to have 20 ½ credits to graduate. If students are going to be required to take more classes, then perhaps the graduation requirements should be raised also. Differentiated diplomas (3 levels) are

currently being discussed. Also need to look at how students schedules are affected by our block days; some students have many studies.

Discussed perhaps adding a senior project or mandatory community service to Alvirne.

There will be 1014 students at Alvirne this fall. Always working on adding new courses that students are interested in. This year Digital Photography was added but not every new class that is added is a hit.

Currently there are 140 students taking 5 or 5 ½ credits as a junior or senior; 83% of graduating seniors had more than 20 ½ credits.

Discussed job internships so students could potentially find a job right out of high school. The Business Advisory Council might be able to help with this.

Mr. Lane reminded the board that the nomination list will come before the board next week; but will continue to evolve based on student needs. Want to have a spot for all students in their preferred classes.

Superintendent's hiring goal is to be completed by June 15.

**C. Non-Public Session:**

*Mrs. Langlais moved to enter Non-Public session at 8:05 pm under RSA 91-A:3 II (ABC) second by Mr. Truesdell.*

*Chairman called for a roll call vote.*

**Mrs. Langlais-yes Mr. Truesdell-yes, Ms. Milbouer-yes, Mrs. Pollack-yes  
Mrs. Bisson-yes.**

**Motion passes 5-0 .**

**Enter Non-Public at 8:05**

Staff issues were discussed. No action taken.

**D. Adjourn:**

*Mrs. Langlais moved to exit non-public and adjourn, second by Mr. Truesdell.  
Motion passes 5-0.*

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Dotty Murray