

HUDSON SCHOOL DISTRICT

Hudson School Board Meeting September 9, 2013 Approved Minutes

Present

Mrs. Laura Bisson, Chair
Mr. Lee Lavoie, Vice Chairman
Mrs. Patty Langlais
Dr. Amy Sousa
Mr. Michael Truesdell
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.

B. **Public Input**

Peggy Huot, David Drive (bus 16)

Peggy felt transportation last week was unacceptable. Her child had an hour and forty-five minute bus ride. Child was not getting to school until 9am when school begins at 8:45. Questioned if the Board still feels they should uphold their restructuring vote and what was going to happen with the bus issues now.

The Board and Superintendent acknowledged there are busing issues. Continuing to move forward, everyday is getting better; and issues gone by Friday. Goal is a 30-minute bus ride for all students.

Nancy Jacques, Kienia Road (bus 16)

Questioned the purpose of combining bus routes –financial?

Superintendent stated the combined routes were a logistical change.

Currently her child is not getting on the afternoon bus until 3:40.

Superintendent stated they are currently working on getting the middle and high school buses to leave on time so they will be able to get the elementary students on time. Solutions by Friday; Superintendent is driving the routes and working with the bus company to resolve these issues.

Sheri Milas (bus 4)

Asked why NWS gets released at 3:05 and the buses are at LSS/HOS first when they don't get released until 3:15. Due to this the buses do not arrive at NWS

until 3:40. This was done for logistics; buses only have to go through the traffic once to get to the other side of town.

The Superintendent stated he is working on solutions for elementary and middle school bus routes.

Wendy Eagan (bus 16)

Has been constantly worried where her child is; does not know the route that the child's bus is taking. Last week the child returned home at 4:15; today (Monday) child was home at 3:45 – getting better.

The Superintendent stated when the bus route changes are complete, they will publish them again in the local paper.

C. Requests of the Board

Hudson Kiwanis Pumpkinfest Request

Mike Falzone addressed the board.

This year's event is scheduled for October 18, 19, 20. This is a non-profit event, money goes to scholarships and other non-profit groups (ex: Key Club of Hudson and Litchfield).

Mr. Lavoie moved to approve the Pumpkinfest request for Oct. 18-20 and will work the groups doing the Haunted Hayride (which is going on at the same time), will also be sure that the Scouts have a safe area for camping, second by Mrs. Langlais. Motion passes 5-0.

D. Presentations to the Board

None.

E. Reports to the Board

Superintendent's Report

Transportation is my #1 focus. I respond to every email; progress is being made. Currently working on bus routes; all other bus-related issues are going to Karen Burnell – this is a joint effort. The board discussed the reasoning for the buses beginning at the schools that are released at 3:15 rather than 3:05 schools – due to traffic concerns, only have to go through the traffic once this way. Also discuss whether or not the bus company is responsible for these issues (contract). All routes are created by software that is used by the bus company. Getting data from the bus company as well as from school principals daily. Will debrief the Board when this is all worked out.

Pleased with opening day; read a Dr. Seuss book to the staff (about standardized testing).

Currently reviewing confidentiality and social media policies.

It was exciting to see teachers set up their rooms, have checked in with all teachers who have relocated.

All summer projects are complete. Visited every school on opening day.

Will attend South Central meeting on Friday.

Assistant Superintendent's Report

Dr. Schlichter addressed the board.

Professional development during opening days. Paras at the elementary level were presented with an overview of the STAR assessment.

NWS/HGS – professional development on differentiated instruction.

HMS – professional development on STAR assessment, leveled readers and social studies content.

AHS – professional development on Pre-algebra; already seeing a shift.

NWS is a Focus School. Received federal funds so we can close the gap, and work on intervention. Will be hiring a part-time person for one year at NWS for Focus School related work.

Need to create a plan and have it approved; will then get the funding.

Director of Special Services' Report

Ms. Saunders addressed the board.

Have already started working on the FY15 budget, have completed the FY14 IDEA grant, have submitted the Action Plan (26 pages) and working on amending IEPs to state “no extended time” for some students regarding the STAR assessment (case-by-case).

Reviewing special education transportation routes, related service providers and tutors.

We have had an influx of students with IEPs at the high school as well as homeless students.

Business Administrator

Karen Burnell addressed the board.

Busy time, main focus on transportation; responding to all calls, emails.

Moving toward work on FY15 budget.

F. Committee Reports

None.

G. Correspondence

Opening day attendance

1373 students, with 30-40 absent on day 1, preschool begins soon.

class size - averages

AM Kindergarten – 18

PM Kindergarten – 13

grade 1- 17

grade 2 Hills – 20 NWS- 19

grade 3 Hills – 22 NWS – 24 (bubble)

grade 4 Hills – 20 NWS – 22

grade 5 Hills and NWS - 22

Intent to Retire

Sue Nadeau

Mr. Lavoie moved to accept the intent to retire from Sue Nadeau at the end of the school year with thanks for years of service, second by Mrs. Langlais.

Motion passes 5-0.

Mr. Lavoie moved to change Keith Bowen's title from Assistant Principal to Associate Principal, second by Mrs. Langlais.

Board discussion – more structure needed before this change is made.

Motion was tabled, will come back to the board at the next meeting.

NEACAC Letter of Appreciation

Letter of Thanks for allowing Bill Huguen attend this conference.

School District (Financial) profile

Information only. \$10,271 per student – up 3.3% (elementary is down, MS/HS is the same).

Financial Report

FY13 audit complete.

\$461,000 fund balance to offset the tax rate

Quarterly Budget Transfer Report

Salaries \$131,000; utilities savings (went towards salaries and equipment).

IDEA Grant Funds

Information only.

This shows where the funds went.

SWIFT Presentations (PBIS)

Sue Nadeau and Keith Bowen addressed the board.

“All Means All”

There are five domains under SWIFT, each with core features.

Each staff member will choose a team. All students and staff members will benefit from this.

This will change the school culture and create healthy, positive relationships as well as school pride. HMS is one of three schools in NH chosen to get this grant. It also recognizes students for doing the right thing. HMS will utilize a merit system from 3 core values, using a rubric, students will be rewarded with a golden horseshoe for exemplar behavior. Staff will model (teachable moments) for the students to create a positive environment and staff and also recognize other staff members.

These golden horseshoes can be turned in for items at the school store. Once a horseshoe has been given, it cannot be taken away from a student for any reason.

Be Responsible

Be Respectful

Work Hard

Will have a student reporter do an article on this (Devan or Connor). This item will be put up on the website.

NH Principal Evaluation Frameworks

Mr. Lane addressed the board.

This is an 8 page document and will be used as a pilot program this school year. Meeting will be held within the next two weeks.

H. Recommended Action

1. Manifests- Recommended Action:

Manifests are available to be signed. Make necessary corrections.

I. Old Business

Plasma Cutters

Karen Worthern and Don addressed the board.

This unit is for the welding classes. This unit will replace acetylene torches; and will accommodate 16 students at a time. Dave Anger is also working on an arrangement with a local business which will have Alvirne students doing work for them. This is a NH-made product. In the future they would like to see the addition of 8 MIG machines for the welding program. They decided against the Plasma Cams because only one student can utilize this at a time.

Mr. Lavoie moved to accept the purchase of the plasma cutters as proposed, second by Mrs. Langlais. Motion passes 5-0.

J. New Business

Budget Transfer SB#2 (1st reading)

Karen Burnell addressed the board
\$122,914 for Special Education

Contracted Service Agreements

Ms. Saunders addressed the board

- 15 hours Occupational Therapy per week not to exceed \$17,100 (possible reimbursement).
- 12 hours per month Mental Health Counselor at HMS and AHS (possible reimbursement)
- Reading instruction program – 10 students at AHS \$9,750 beginning in November.

Mrs. Langlais moved to accept the contracted service agreements as presented and waive the second reading, second by Mr. Truesdell. Motion passes 5-0.

2013-2014 tuition rate

\$10,800 per student

Mrs. Langlais moved to set the 2013/2014 tuition rate at \$10,800 per student second by Dr. Amy Sousa. Motion passes 5-0.

Extracurricular Nominations

Mrs. Langlais moved to approve the HMS extracurricular nomination as presented, second by Mr. Truesdell. Motion passes 5-0.

Mrs. Langlais moved to approve the AHS extracurricular nominations as presented, second by Dr. Amy Sousa. Motion passes 5-0.

K. Board Member Comments:

Connor- Welcome Spanish exchange students.
Welcome back to school.

Mr. Truesdell – Football game was very competitive last Friday.
Special Olympics – soccer, bowling and floor hockey.

Dr. Sousa – Glad to hear about the cross-country explosion.

Mrs. Langlais – Welcome back – parents, we hear your concerns; please be patient.
There will be FUN at AHS 1pm tomorrow.

Mr. Lavoie – Freshmen Night – fun.

Connor great runner, loved the kindergarteners; great time tailgating after the football game on Friday.

Mrs. Bisson – First day of school was amazing – fun to see students and staff, class management was stellar. Thanks to the administration.
The bus issues will get better.
Promise the Associate Principal piece will be back to the board with the needed structure.

M. Adjourn:

*Mr. Lavoie moved to adjourn second by Dr. Amy Sousa. Motion passes 5-0.
Meeting adjourned at 9:07 p.m.*

Respectfully submitted,

Dotty Murray