

HUDSON SCHOOL DISTRICT

Hudson School Board Meeting

February 16, 2015

Approved Minutes

Present

Mrs. Laura Bisson, Chair
Mrs. Patty Langlais, Vice Chair
Mr. Michael Truesdell
Ms. Stacy Milbouer
Mrs. Meagan Pollack
Mr. Bryan Lane, Superintendent
Dr. Phyllis Schlichter, Assistant Superintendent
Ms. Karen Burnell, Business Administrator

- A. Call to Order:** Mrs. Laura Bisson, Board Chairman, called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

Non-Public Session

A student matter was discussed, no action taken.

Public session resumed at 6:30 pm.

Pledge of Allegiance

Student Rep Frank Cunniff is at an athletic event.

- B. Public Input**

There was no public input.

- C. Presentations to the Board**

Dance Marathon Benefit

Presented my Health Science Students

Jana El-Sayed, HOSA President and Vanessa Cardenas, HOSA VP addressed the board. HOSA is holding a Dance Marathon fundraiser on March 21 from 6 to midnight to benefit The Children's Miracle Network/Boston Children's Hospital. Each hour will hold a different event. Alvirne is the first high school to hold this event. Currently looking for donations and dancers, either groups or individuals. Adults need to raise \$100 and students 18 and under need to raise \$50. The group will present to the Alvirne staff and students on Friday; and will also present to the middle school and elementary schools. The event will be advertised on WMUR and on social media to get the word out. Please consider donating.

Achievement Overview

Presented by Dr. Phyllis Schlichter

Student Growth Percentile (SGP) measures a student's growth to that of their peers across the nation; matching achievement level, grade level, and time of the year. Set student benchmarks; measure student growth against all others in the nation. Want the SGP to be at a minimum of 50; our numbers are high which shows that our teachers and students are working hard, but there is still work to do.

Reviewed data on the growth proficiency chart. Data shows "summer slide" is real, especially in the lower grades; this shows it is very important to read during the summer.

Possible Root Causes

Elementary Language Arts anthology is not aligned with Common Core; this is teacher-driven not student-centered. Must review reading skills every fall.

Math is aligned with Common Core.

Would like to hear from parents; please call or email if you believe your student needs additional help.

Parent Partners – Grade 1: Goal is 100 parents; already have 57 signed up. The district will provide you with all the materials you will need, based on student's reading level. Parent commits to reading ten minutes a day/four times per week.

Changes have been made in November/December regarding reading in grade 1. The goal is to levelize reading for all students, focus on instruction lessons – spelling, sight words, comprehension, and writing. Students are excited about the change and data shows a significant rise in performance.

The board questioned what the next step will be? Focus on the Early Learning Center. A change in instruction materials so they will be ready for grade transitions.

It will be more difficult at the middle and high school levels. Want to see students utilize Academic Assistance at each school. There are many services available. The Math Support Center is showing student participation on the rise.

The district will be using Smarter Balanced for the first time this year instead of NECAP (except for science). The first year scores are expected to be on the low side for all districts. NECAP proficiency scores rise every year so it never shows student proficiency. At a recent South Central Meeting, Mr. Lane stated that the state is asking for one year before data is compared state-wide. NECAP and Smarter Balanced cannot be compared.

2015-2016 School District Calendar

Mrs. Langlais and Beth Lavoie addressed the board.

This calendar had come to the board three times.

The committee had decided that the use of Blizzard Bags is not what they are looking for. The committee recommended school starting on August 31 and being held entire week, including September 4 (Friday before Labor Day). This needed a union vote to happen as contract states they don't work the Friday before Labor Day. If approved, they would have reduced the number of required professional development days by one (7 instead of 8).

The vote on the Memorandum of Understanding for these two items in relations to the 2015-2016 calendar was no; it did not pass.

Now the official first day of school is September 1 with a three-day week the first week. The tentative last day of school with five snow days is June 21 and the 8th PD day will be added to this draft calendar.

The current union contract does not specify holidays so it is possible for the district to do a professional development day on Columbus Day, October 12, 2015.

Mrs. Langlais moved to add October 12, Columbus Day, as a Teacher Inservice day with no school for students; the last day of school will be June 21 which includes five snow days with June 22 as the last day of school for teachers, second by Mr. Truesdell. Motion passes 5-0.

Mr. Lane stated that because the Governor declared a state of emergency for the first major snow storm, the district can request a waiver for that school day and it would not need to be made up. A final decision on this will be made later in the school year.

D. Requests of the Board

Athletic Leadership Conference

Karen Bonney had requested 8-12 high school juniors attend a two-day leadership conference. Cost is \$125 per student and would be paid from the Athletics budget.

Mrs. Langlais moved to approve the two-day Athletic Conference for 8-12 juniors, second by Ms. Milbouer. Motion passes 5-0.

Please send conference information to the board and have the students come to the board after the conference to report back.

E. Reports to the Board

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Lane addressed the board.

Dealing with snow for the last few weeks.

Working on clearing walkways, vents and roof tops; parking lots are still an issue.

Thanks to the road crews for doing a great job; Mr. Lane will be preparing his annual thank you lunch next week.

Currently working on removing snow drifts from roof tops and windows. There is still more snow predicted for this week.

South Central Title I – Managing Grants – Using Social Media in Schools. Working with the Communication Committee on Social Media. Would like to join Twitter and have it link back to the district website.

Mr. Truesdell moved to allow Mr. Lane to use Twitter #HudsonSuper, second by Mrs. Pollack. Motion passes 5-0.

Discussed the process of cancelling school.

Must have a confident forecast of 4-5 inches of snow; contact road agent and if all in agreement, can cancel the evening before.

However, if forecast is undecided, Mr. Lane will get up at 4:15 am review the national weather forecast, contact road agent at 4:30 am and then determine whether there will be school, no school or delay, confirm findings with the bus company at 4:45 am. Snow day called if all are in agreement. Student safety is always Mr. Lane's number one concern.

Similar steps are taken when snow begins while students are already at school. In order for a school day to count (toward number required by law), lunch must be provided.

Assistant Superintendent's Report

Dr. Schlichter addressed the board.

Nothing more to report.

Business Administrator's Report

Ms. Burnell addressed the board.

Focus has been on snow removal.

Thank you to all of our custodians for their hard work on snow removal.

F. Committee Reports

Communication Committee

Ms. Milbouer and Mary Joy Gasdia addressed the board.

The Communication Committee met recently. Working on how to get the word out to parents; Social Media makes for better communication. The committee would like to have an official Hudson School District Facebook account. This would utilize a very specific process for every post and no comments would be allowed.

All official information would first go to the website and would then go to social media and could be reposted/shared but not commented on. Could also use social media to post positive information regarding athletics, band/music, etc.

Ms. Milbouer moved to approve the Hudson School District Facebook page and allow no comments; which would be administered by the SAU. Comments would only be permitted through the district website, second by Mr. Truesdell. Motion passes 5-0.

G. Correspondence

Autism Information

Deferred from 01.26.15. Information only.

01-02-15 Professional Development

Deferred from 01.26.15. Information only.

Quarterly Budget Transfer Report

Deferred from 01.26.15. This report reflects all transfers from the first half of the school year.

At-Risk Coordinator Report

Deferred from 01.26.15. Information only.

Technology Integration Specialist Report

Deferred from 01.26.15. Information only.

Intent to Retire Letters

Diane Hampoian and Gloria McDougall
Information only, no vote needed.

Winter 2015 Adult Education

Information only.

Audit Findings (corrected)

Now collateralized (backed 100%). This proves our money is safe and not using any long- term investments.

Student Enrollment

K-5 down 2 students

6-8 down 9 students

9-12 down 35 students (this includes January graduates)

Discussed possibility of having another demographics study conducted, possibly by Russ Thibeault who did our last; if the budget passes, there is money for this study.

Financial Report

Mrs.Burnell addressed the board.

Revenue \$50,000 shortfall

\$112,678 General Fund

Savings to salaries and benefits line items; budget is not frozen. Doing monthly reports showing encumbrances; will have a solid number by April.

H. Recommended Action

Manifests- Recommended Action:

Manifests are available to be signed. Make necessary corrections.

I. Old Business

Candidates Night

To be held on March 2, 2015 at 7 pm. The School Board will hold their meeting at 5 pm so members can attend. There are three people running for one school board seat: Cheryl Cummings, Peggy Huard, and Ben Nadeau.

J. New Business

Mrs. Langlais addressed the board.

Regarding Mrs. Huard; she is not a district rep and can't speak for the school district. All the information she has is public information. Laura will send Mrs. Huard an email regarding this.

K. Board Member Comments:

Mrs. Pollack – Thanks to the Hudson Highway Department for snow removal.

Thanks to AHS-CTE (article in HLN), all our programs have a college link which equals student success; Karen Worthen is our CTE Director.

Thanks to the HOSA girls, Phyllis for our data-driven instruction and the Math Support Center; these things are making a difference.

Ms. Milbouer – CTE Programs are the wave of the future and we have them now.

VLACS (Virtual Learning Academy Charter School) – son just finished his first class – great.

Jazz band at Souhegan for Jazz Night. Thanks to Phyllis and road crews.

Mrs. Langlais – Thanks to our Early Learning Center teachers. Thanks to our teachers at AHS for hanging in there during mid-terms/finals when we had all that snow.

Mr. Truesdell – Thanks to district staff and town for all the snow removal. Please be patient regarding snow day procedures. Reminder to students to use our academic help programs; they are there to help students be successful. Parents, urge your student to use these programs.

Mrs. Bisson – Thanks for all the snow removal (town and district) both inside and outside our schools. Phyllis, thanks for the data, we are moving in the right direction; Great job all K-12. Thanks to the Communication Committee. To Michelle Roarke, thanks for your efforts.

Thanks to Karen Worthen, Beth Lavoie, and Mary Joy.

Reminder that all your votes count.

The next School Board Meeting has been rescheduled to 5pm on March 2 so all can attend the Candidates' Night.

L. Non-Public Session:

Mrs. Langlais moved to enter Non-Public session at 8:45 pm under RSA 91-A:3 II (A,B) second by Mrs. Pollack. 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.

The board entered non-public at 8:45 pm.

The board and Mr. Lane discussed the Superintendent's contract.

At 9:17 pm, Mr. Lane exited the meeting. Discussion around contract continued.

Motion made by Mr. Truesdell to offer Bryan Lane a 2-year contract to begin on July 1, 2015 with a 2.5% salary increase the first year and a 2.5% salary increase the second year. Seconded by Mrs. Pollack. Motion passes 3-2.

Motion to exit non-public made by Mrs. Langlais, second by Mr. Truesdell. Motion passes 5-0.

M. Adjourn:

Motion to adjourn made by Mrs. Langlais, second by Mr. Truesdell. Motion passes 5-0.

Meeting adjourned at 9:51 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Dotty Murray (public)
Laura Bisson (non-public)