

HUDSON SCHOOL DISTRICT

Hudson School Board Meeting

November 17, 2014

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. Jeanne Saunders, Director of Special Services
Ms. Karen Burnell, Business Administrator

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**

None.

C. **Requests of the Board**

None.

D. **Presentations to the Board**

Athletic Injuries

Karen Bonney, Athletic Director and Chris Driscoll, Athletic Trainer, addressed the board.

There are approximately 800 student athletes per year.

Students take an impact test during their freshman and junior years as a baseline.

This test is computerized and takes approximately 15 to 20 minutes to complete.

We are also now testing at Hudson Memorial. Prior to taking this test, parental permission must be obtained. Parents receive a concussion fact sheet outlining signs and symptoms of concussions.

If a student gets a concussion, they must be seen by the Athletic Trainer, who attends all home games. The trainer will evaluate student and determine if they should be pulled from the game. Parents are called and student must be seen by their primary care physician.

After concussion diagnosis, student must check in with the Athletic Trainer on a daily basis regarding symptoms. Doctor must sign off on athlete once he/she is free of symptoms. However, to return to play, student must be able to pass the impact test and get through the day symptom-free.

Return to Play Protocol: must be able to do aerobic activities and high-impact activities with no symptoms, then move into non-contact activities, full-contact

practice and finally full, unrestricted activity. Trainer will be watching for relapse.

The board reviewed district data on concussions; data is consistent year-to-year; there were six athletes with concussions during the 2013-2014 school year.

Coaches must take an online class on concussions. The district purchases safe equipment, however no helmet is concussion-proof. Air pads within a helmet are checked to be sure it is at the correct level. Parents are allowed to purchase their own helmets but must be the correct color. All helmets, including helmets purchased by parents, are sent out after each season to be reconditioned and inspected.

The level of contact allowed on the field during the week at practice has been lowered, which seems to be helping with injuries. Girls' soccer is the number two sport for concussions due to lack of size, skill and core strength.

Karen Bonney stated that currently Alvirne is in Division 1, although she felt we didn't belong in this division. Our students don't necessarily size up as well as others in this division. We are trying to be proactive and get the athletes into the weight room so they can compete better.

Chris stated that the quickest way to get back on the playing field is to be honest about your symptoms.

E. Reports to the Board

Superintendent's Report

The budget has been finalized and turned over to the Budget Committee.

Working on negotiations.

The Turkey Raffle went well.

Met with the technology assistants.

Field Study Committee for AHS track and field will be coming to the board on Dec. 1.

Met with the HMS PTO and discussed budget.

Met last week with the state 911 support regarding phones and where a 911 call is coming from. Stickers will be placed on all district phones with instructions on how to call 911.

Budget Committee will be meeting Thursday, November 20 at 7pm.

Will attend a workshop on Tuesday, November 18 in Natick, MA entitled "Surviving and Thriving as a Leader" and will be back in time for negotiations in the afternoon.

Assistant Superintendent's Report

Dr. Schlichter addressed the board.

Smarter Balance: We now have a tentative schedule; testing will begin March through June. Supporting all levels and all schools.

SWIFT: Team meeting is scheduled for December 1. Completing assessments, research-based. We move on all input that SWIFT gives us. Great environment at HMS.

Director of Special Services' Report

Ms. Saunders addressed the board.

Attended two workshops – Section 504. Looking into Acuity Software for 504 Plans, which would help us write 504 plans.

Also attended a workshop on Dynamic Learning Maps. This is a computer or iPad-based assessment which is more realistic and engaging for the student. It has five levels; each “testlet” assessment takes 5-7 minutes to complete. There will be staff training in December on use of the software. Staff will still have to administer science assessments the old way (videotaping).

Distributed organizational chart by building to each board member. (If you have any questions, please forward them to Jeanne.)

Business Administrator's Report

Ms. Burnell addressed the board.

Continuing work on budget, negotiations, and the Field Study Committee.

Proposed budget was originally up 4.58%. The School Board made budget cuts, bringing increase to 3%, a one-dollar tax impact.

Health insurance rate shows substantial savings in comparison to the proposed budget.

F. Committee Reports

Dropout Task Force: Mrs. Bisson – No meeting this week.

Field Study Committee : Mr. Truesdell – This is a big and interesting project; the track and field are in bad shape.

Ms. Milbouer – Still having trouble with the website. Could not find college information/visits on the website. Suggested that college visits begin during junior year. It is important that parents can find information on college on the website because students don't always give parents the information.

G. Correspondence

VFW Letter of Appreciation to JROTC

Letter of thanks from Rob Everett to JROTC for leaf raking on Oct. 25.

At-Risk Coordinator Report

Monthly update: Currently she has found 89 new agency resources for the district. She is working as part of a team to get information to help students and families in the district.

Technology Integration Specialist Report

Monthly Update: Providing direct help to classes/teachers and providing teacher professional development after school.

Financial Report

Karen Burnell addressed the board.

General Fund Balance \$94,053; that is a decrease in the amount of \$275,997 from last month. Additional tuition costs for out-of-district students of \$60,000.

Additional professional services needed for Special Education in the amount of \$25,000.

Ms. Saunders addressed the board regarding Special Education expenses.

Speech and Language in negative by \$74,000 due to a medical leave.

Contracted service providers (for Speech and Language and LPN) cost much more. We were unable to hire anyone due to district pay scale. Special Education tuition is changing week to week; some move in, some move out, some are court-placed.

The district will try posting these contracted positions again. Discussed trying to do some recruiting at local colleges.

H. Recommended Action

1. Manifests- Recommended Action:

Manifests are available to be signed. Make necessary corrections.

I. Old Business

Community Use of School Facilities Policy (proposed revision, 2nd reading)

Discussed this policy.

Protocols are tough to keep track of.

Mrs. Bisson stated that Old Home Days has been having alcohol for many years with no issues.

Ms. Milbouer discussed the carnival trailers that are still at the Hills House. They have been told to move the cars.

Mrs. Langlais moved to not allow alcohol on Hills House Property, second by Ms. Milbouer. Motion has a 2-2-1 vote, therefore no action taken. Current policy remains in place. (Mrs. Bisson abstained; Mr. Truesdell, no; Mrs. Pollack, no.)

Warrant Article Discussion

Currently there are two proposed warrants: Increasing the fund balance to the Special Education Trust Fund by up to \$100,000 and Increasing the Fund Balance of the Capital Reserve Building Fund by up to \$100,000.

The Budget Committee will take a straw poll on warrants at their first meeting.

Discussed the need for a new boiler at Dr. H.O. Smith with an approximate cost of \$100,000. Discussed a potential warrant for boiler, but if it is voted down, no means no and we would not be able to do the boiler. This boiler must be replaced. The district needs to find a way to secure this money by June. Mr.

Lane recommended using end-of-year spending and/or tightening our expense belt to save the money.

Mr. Truesdell motioned to move ahead with the two warrant articles as presented, second by Mrs. Pollack. Motion passes 5-0.

J. New Business

Default Budget

The board reviewed the default budget. If our budget fails on voting day we go right to a default budget.

2014-2015 approved operating budget	\$48,911,194
total deductions	\$43,540,756
total additions	\$43,806,910
total default budget	\$49,177,348

Mrs. Langlais moved to approve the default budget as presented, second by Mrs. Pollack. Motion passes 5-0.

Budget Transfer SB #3 (1st reading)

Ms. Saunders addressed the board.

\$196,124.28 to cover negative balances in Special Education tuition, speech contracted services, professional services and charter school tuition.

Mrs. Langlais moved to approve Budget Transfer SB#3 as presented and waive second reading, second by Ms. Milbouer. Motion passes 5-0.

K. Board Member Comments:

Mrs. Pollack: Have a wonderful Thanksgiving and safe travels.

Mr. Truesdell: Two thumbs up to Goodwill. They have hired some of our Special Education students and have placed others on a waitlist. They could be an asset to the district. They have hired people for 75 positions so far. Congrats to the WATS Club, Turkey Raffle was fun and congrats to Catie's Closet and to Laura.

Ms. Milbouer: Congrats to all the same people previously mentioned.

Mrs. Langlais- There is a play this weekend in the new theatre room at AHS – Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

Mrs. Bisson: Yes, we have a big budget but please remember that the Hudson School District is the second largest employer in Hudson. Project needs and technology needs that have gone unattended are starting to catch up to us. We have cut staff due to lower enrollment. Despite this, our students are doing better. If you have a concern or question, please come to a meeting and talk to us; we can answer your questions. Happy Thanksgiving.

L. Non-Public Session:

Mrs. Langlais moved to enter Non-Public session at 8:15 pm under RSA 91-A:3 II (A), 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 session at 8:15 pm.

Negotiations were discussed. No action taken.

A student issue was discussed. No action taken.

Mrs. Langlais motioned to approve Finance Director contract, second by Ms. Milbouer. Motion passes 5-0.

Administrators exited meeting at 8:30 pm; board remained.

Motion made by Mrs. Pollack to offer Bryan Lane a contract for July 1, 2015. Evaluation and goal-setting will be part of the discussion when a contract is created. Attorney Elwell will be asked to create a new contract. Motion seconded by Mr. Truesdell. Motion passes 4-1.

Mrs. Langlais moved to exit non-public at 8:55 pm, second by Mrs. Pollack. Motion passes 5-0.

M. Adjourn:

Mrs. Langlais moved to adjourn, second by Ms. Milbouer. Meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Dotty Murray (public)
Bryan Lane and Laura Bisson (non-public)