

**HUDSON SCHOOL DISTRICT
Hudson School Board Meeting
February 1, 2016
Approved Minutes**

Present

Mr. Michael Truesdell, Board Chair
Mrs. Patty Langlais, Board Vice Chair
Ms. Stacy Milbouer
Mr. Ben Nadeau
Mr. Bryan Lane, Superintendent
Dr. Phyllis Schlichter, Assistant Superintendent
Mr. Larry Russell, Director of Special Services
Ms. Karen Burnell, Business Administrator
Mr. Shane Coughlin, AHS Student Rep.

- A. Call to Order:** Mr. Truesdell Board Chairman, called the meeting to order and Mr. Nadeau led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance at 6:30 pm.

B. Public Input

Lee Lavoie, 58 Windham Rd., Hudson

Found the Budget Committee Member's "Thumbs" comments both offensive and untrue regarding (Lee's) wife Sherri.

Regarding the new policy, School access for School Board Members: Why 24-hour notice instead of two-hour notice?

Mr. Truesdell stated that it is professional to provide 24-hour notice so there will be resources there to help you. Not trying to limit access; being done out of courtesy and respect. Still have access as a parent.

Sherri is a fine employee and has earned her position in the district.

C. Presentations to the Board

K-8 STEM Activities

Dan Pooler addressed the board.

STEM (Science Technology Engineering Mathematics)

Updated the board on classroom activities.

6th-grade field trip to the Museum of Science to see the Science "Behind Pixar" in October.

5th grade activity: Symbiotic Parasitic Mutualistic Relationships.

Group activity: Constellations – built their own constellations.

Owl Pellets

Photosynthesis lab

4th grade activity: Buoyancy lab – peeled and unpeeled oranges

Glubber – three recipes and predict / compared results, then recommend one recipe.

3rd grade activity: Weather and Pluto
Pumpkin inquiry lab – How many seeds inside (predict/observe).

2nd grade activity: Polar bears and penguins

1st grade activity: Light and waves (upcoming)

Kindergarten activity: Push and Pull activities (upcoming)

Met with all PLCs

5th and 6th-grade transition in science and math

Elementary workshop (upcoming) Shift to Inquiry

Project Lead-the-Way – will be getting matching funds (\$15,000 total); will be used to purchase computers and furniture.

Great job Dan, great collaboration in schools.

Would like to put constellation activity on Facebook page.

Hands-on activities are great; students helping students.

Feedback on new Alvirne midterm schedule

Alvirne Students (Student Council addressed the board)

Midterms took place Jan. 19-25

Senior President: Information based on peer feedback. During midterms, each class was scheduled to have one class period and one assessment period. Many teachers split their assessment over the two days and others used the class time as a study period. Teachers were concerned about grading time. Some students skipped class time (without being dismissed by a parent).

Junior President: Information based on peer feedback. Concern: lack of study time, lack of sleep (up late studying).

Prefer traditional exams over nontraditional assessments.

Tough schedule especially if involved in sports or clubs (long days) which leaves little time for studying.

Overall, mostly negative responses from both students and teachers.

Wish the student petition was taken more seriously by all. Would like to go back to the old midterm schedule; if that is not possible, consider doing 45-minute class time blocks and 90-minute assessment blocks.

Junior – Information based on feedback. Many teachers switched class periods around; so some students had four exams in one day. Some students skipped classes at the beginning and end of the day (open campus). Long day if there was practice or club activities after school.

Class time was supposed to be instructional time but many teachers used it to split up assessment. Overall, mostly negative responses to this schedule.

Freshmen – Information based on feedback. Liked having open campus (ability to come and go during lunch and study).

Liked projects and nontraditional assessments.

Class time was given as study time. Athletes and clubs after school made it difficult to study. Very few were not bothered by this schedule in some way.

Mrs. Langlais: Remember to talk to students in all grades/levels. Liked how you came up with compromises for the schedule.

Ms. Milbouer: Get cross-section of students (above average/average students/struggling students).

Shane: Class recommendations were also done during class time that week.

Mike: Great presentation, well thought out. We want success, not failure.

Mr. Lane will forward notes to the high school.

D. Requests of the Board

None.

E. Reports to the Board

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Lane addressed the board.

Attended NH School Board Association Meeting. Demographic study (by NHSBA) would cost \$1,000. For future planning and would allow focus on enrollment projections for the next ten years.

Consensus – yes (cost in the budget), go ahead with study.

Prep for Deliberative Session; well-attended, thanks to all who attended.

South Central Meeting – discussion community colleges. NCC has more post high school learners and MCC has more adult learners. Programs are always expanding.

Today: Concord for legislative update

Bills that are upcoming; will send School Board members the links.

(Examples: dropout age back to 16, testing language, charter schools and funding, transportation for charter schools, retirement system, eliminate the DOE, wellness and safety, constitutional amendment).

Tuesday – Tennis Committee in Concord (Superintendent chairs this committee).

Regarding: coaching.

Assistant Superintendent's Report

Dr. Schlichter addressed the board.

Met with Sue Bureau last Friday at SERESC; SAT process, test will be given on March 2; AHS met the special education deadline for accommodations. Accommodations nullify the scores for college.

Director of Special Services' Report

Mr. Russell addressed the board.

Related Services – surveyed five area districts regarding their process for attaining related service providers. All said they do not use the bid process for related service providers but do use it for transportation.

South Central Meeting: Discussed related services and the difficulty in hiring staff.

Parent group met; looking forward to working with this group.

Second Speech Leadership Summit met, discussed best practices, make-up sessions.

Will get together again in March during professional development day.

Business Administrator's Report

Ms. Burnell addressed the board.
Deliberative Session went well.
First Student contract/negotiations.
Heart goes out to Jen Riel's Family.

F. Committee Reports

None.

G. Correspondence

Technology Integration Specialist report
For your information.

Revised AMAO Letter 2014-2015

Letter from Department of Education (English Language Learners)
We are part of a cooperative group. Hudson did hit expectation, however not all in this group met proficiency goal. Whole group must make proficient in order to be acknowledged.

H. Recommended Action

1. Manifests- Recommended Action:

Manifests are available to be signed. Make necessary corrections.

I. Old Business

Presence of School Board Members in the Hudson School

District Schools Policy (2nd reading)

Discussed policy.

Mrs. Langlais: We don't want to disrupt students' day by being in school and taking up staff time unexpectedly. However, if there is an emergency, advance notification will not be needed.

Mr. Nadeau stated that being in the building shows you care; builds relationships with staff. This policy limits a school board member's ability to do their job; however, agree it is necessary to sign into buildings.

Mrs. Langlais stated she has worked with custodians in the past by asking to attend a future meeting and working on issues. This definitely made a difference.

Can always attend back-to-school breakfast and take this time to get to know teachers/staff. Still have school access as a parent.

Ms. Milbouer: Should always set up an appointment to meet with school staff. Not legal to act on our own without school board authorization. We have limited powers; don't want to make students uncomfortable if they don't know who we are. No harm in doing things the right way.

Mr. Truesdell: This policy aligns with our legal rights as school board members. Must always act in a professional way. This policy was initiated by Mr. Truesdell, not by the Superintendent.

Beth Lavoie: School board members must know what they can do legally (negotiate, set policy, etc.) and should not micromanage.

Superintendent: Escort is provided to ensure school board member gets to the correct place.

Mrs. Langlais moved to adopt Presence of School Board Members in the Hudson School Policy and amend the 24-hour notice to 4-hour notice, second by Ms. Milbouer. Motion passes 3-1. (Mr. Nadeau voted no.)

School Calendar Policy (revision, 2nd reading)

This policy allows school to begin as early as possible.

Mrs. Langlais moved to adopt School Calendar Policy as presented, second by Ms. Milbouer. Motion passes 4-0.

Special Education/ Behavior Specialist at Dr. H.O. Smith School

Mrs. Langlais moved to hire Special Education/Behavior Specialis, second by Ms. Milbouer. Motion passes 4-0.

Will evaluate her over the next few months and if she does well will bring her name forward to return.

J. New Business

Continuation of First Student Transportation Contract

Current contract expires June 2015 (regular education students).

Negotiated this proposal:

11.75% increase; \$275.56 daily rate by FY17.

Costs: \$340.81 year 5.

1.6% higher than what has been budgeted.

It is difficult to switch transportation companies; transition affects students and Hudson bus drivers (lose seniority). Hudson drivers will do Kindergarten and all charter/trip runs for the district.

We have a good relationship with First Student. Reviewed costs that other districts are paying and our rates are good. If we decide to go out to bid, rates will definitely be higher than this. Reviewed list of driver concerns and addressed what we could. Currently have 25 buses, if we go down a bus will have to renegotiate contract; have approximately 50-52 students per bus.

Mr. Nadeau mentioned how gas rates affect the cost we are paying; with the low cost of gas, why isn't the price lower? Karen will address this with First Student and report back.

Ms. Milbouer moved to continue with the First Student Contract as presented and waive the bid process, second by Mrs. Langlais. Motion passes 4-0.

K. Board Member Comments:

Shane: Semester two has just begun. Have signed up for SATs; district is paying for writing portion. Created mock Deliberative Session last week for Studio 19. Attended the Deliberative Session on Saturday. Will be doing a segment for HCTV regarding the Alvirne Track.

Mr. Nadeau: No comments.

Ms. Milbouer: Can't write defamatory statements in the newspaper, must fact-check; disappointed in the HLN. Good turnout at Deliberative Session. Now need to get out and vote in March. College students, get an absentee ballot. Congrats to Dan Pooler for his STEM presentation. Great student presentation on midterms. Congrats to ELL teachers.

Mrs. Langlais: Mock Deliberative was amusing, Shane. Thanks to students for midterm schedule feedback (student perspective). Thrilled with Deliberative Session; great to see students attend town politics.

Mr. Truesdell: Shout-out to Ashley Dumais and family. Great recovery and already back at school. Ashley will be at next meeting. Great turnout for the Deliberative. Shane, you are a great role model for your peers; work hard and don't give up. Dan, I would love to sit in on STEM activities some time. Beth Lavoie, great speech at Deliberative. Thanks for your leadership.

L. Non-Public Session:

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

Chairman called for a roll call vote.

Mrs. Langlais-yes, Ms. Milbouer-yes, Mr. Nadeau – yes. Mr. Truesdell-yes

Motion passes 4-0.

Enter Non-Public at 8:45pm.

M. Adjourn:

Meeting adjourned at ____ pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Dotty Murray (public)