

Hudson School District
Hudson School Board Meeting
Approved Minutes

Present:

Mr. Malcolm Price, Board Chair
Dr. Darcy Orellana, Board Vice Chair
Mr. Gary Gasdia
Ms. Diana LaMothe
Ms. Kara Roy
Mr. Lawrence Russell, Superintendent
Ms. Mary Wilson, Assistant Superintendent
Ms. Karen Burnell, Business Administrator
Mr. Jack Gasdia, Student Representative

- A. **Call to Order:** Chairman Malcolm Price called the meeting to order.
- Mr. Russell led the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- B. **Public Input:** There was no public input.
- C. **Presentations to the Board:** There were no presentations to the board.
- D. **Requests of the Board:** There were no requests of the board.
- E. **Old Business**
1. Policies (2nd readings)
 - a) DBJ Transfer of Appropriations
 - b) DFA Investment
 - c) DIE Audits
 - d) DIH Fraud Prevention and Fiscal Management
 - e) DJC Petty Cash Accounts
 - f) DKA Payroll Procedures
 - g) DKC Expense Reimbursements
 - h) DM Cash in School Buildings
 - i) DN Equipment and Supplies Sales

Ms. Burnell presented the policies and asked if there were any questions. There were no questions. Ms. Burnell stated that the auditors were pleased that we are updating these policies.

Ms. LaMothe moved to approve the revised policies. Second by Mr. Gasdia. Motion passed 4-0.

- F. **New Business**
1. Budget Transfer SB #1:
Ms. Burnell presented the transfer to the school board for the Special Services Department, as it relates to our summer program. Summer school needed speech and language and OT/PT services from an outside vendor. Mr. Russell explained why the transfer was necessary.

Dr. Orellana moved to approve Budget Transfer SB #1. Second by Ms. LaMothe. Motion passed 4-0.

2. Letter of Resignation: Ms. Wilson presented the resignation letter of Melissa Tse. Interviews already in progress for her position at the high school. Mr. Gasdia asked in what context she's leaving? She accepted a position in another district for more money. Mr. Price dislikes when the resignations come in August. Can we have repercussions when they leave after they signed a contract? HFT – this can be discussed when they go to negotiations. Mr. Gasdia voiced his concerns as well, every meeting we have, this continues to happen all summer long. Dr. Orellana stated the letter was received July 25th. We need to revisit these late summer resignations. The board would like to see language in the next contract to discourage people from just walking out on a contract. Dr. Orellana would like to be revisit this topic.
There was no motion.

G. Recommended Action

1. Manifests – Recommended action: Make necessary corrections and sign.
2. Minutes – Recommended action: Review and approve.
 - a) 07.22.19 Draft Minutes (LR): Attachment # 4 -Mr. Russell handed out a corrected format. Data Retention policy was removed. Consequences should be at J. Second reading will have all the supporting document and the IT director will attend. The board will get the second reading ahead of time along with all the supporting documents. Data security could be added to 'Non-public session. The agenda will be altered for the next meeting.
 - b) 07.26.19 Draft Minutes (LR): Attachment # 5 – Ms. LaMothe asked if there was going to be a vote on the Strategic Plan revisions. Approving the Strategic Plan will require a vote. Dr. Orellana stated that on Letter M during the non-public session – Dr. Orellana actually voted YES on both of them. Mr. Price voted no. The distribution stayed the same.

Ms. LaMothe moved to approve the amended minutes. Second by Mr. Gasdia. Motion passed 4-0.

Dr. Orellana moved to approve the minutes from the School Board retreat on July 26, 2019. Second by Ms. LaMothe. Motion passed 4-0.

H. Legislative Updates: - Nothing on the docket right now.

I. Committee Reports

1. Parking Lot Concept: Ms. LaMothe explained the concept of a parking lot – you have an agenda for the meeting, but other people have ideas that may not be relevant for the current meeting, but for the future. These ideas would be put off to the side of the agenda – create a place to document these ideas for future agenda items or for future brainstorming. We could name it something besides 'Parking Lot'. It would be open to the public for viewing. Ms. LaMothe presented a PowerPoint she put together for the board to see her ideas on this and how it would work. Mr. Russell will look to see if this is something we can implement. Dr. Orellana likes the idea but asked how long does something stay in the 'parking lot' before it's talked about? Ms. Roy suggested it be kept a live document; review it periodically. Mr. Gasdia stated 'parking lot' is when you are having the conversation and it's similar so you 'park' it. They can get large and someone would need to manage it. Ms. Burnell asked if this is something that would be discussed at every meeting? Is it something that would require a vote from the board at each meeting? Mr. Russell will look into this.

J. Correspondence: There is no correspondence from the selectmen. Dr. Orellana went to the last selectmen's meeting and they welcomed the collaboration of the board. Ms. Roy will send out some dates and see what works best for everyone.

K. Board Member Comments

Jack Gasdia: We are now into August. School will be starting soon. Students are getting back into school mode. Students are doing different school activities. Saw summer Shakespeare. Production at the HS. Band camp is next week. Students are finishing up their summer work but they are concerned about what school supplies they are going to need on the first day of school. Would like to know ahead of time instead of waiting to hear from the teachers and have to go shopping that evening.

Ms. LaMothe: The CTE groundbreaking celebration is this Wednesday, August 7th at 6pm. There will be refreshments. It will be a great occasion to celebrate all the work that's gone into the planning and making this happen. It will be held rain or shine.

Mr. Gasdia: Parents are in back-to-school mode as well. They are asking a ton of questions and if we can get any information out to them, the sooner the better. Open houses overlap. High school and middle school are on the same evening at the same time. Mentioned a parent was going to buy his 7th grader a laptop, unaware that the 7th graders would be receiving laptops. The websites still show last year's information.

Dr. Orellana: Not able to attend the groundbreaking. Social/emotional learning is critical, especially with what's been on TV these past few days. She thanked the district for the education they provide on this. Safety should be on the front burner of our thinking, always.

Mr. Price: Prayers and regrets to the families and the people who were hurt in Ohio and Texas. Thanked the school administration for sticking by that and including everyone. School liaison was in DC; heard he may be there quite often in a year or so or maybe become some sort of senator.

M. Non-Public Session

Ms. LaMothe moved to enter non-public session. Second by Mr. Gasdia. Roll-call vote: Ms. LaMothe, aye; Mr. Gasdia, aye; Dr. Orellana, aye; Mr. Price, aye. Motion passes 4-0.

The board entered non-public at 7:15 pm.

Dr. Orellana moved to accept a student on a tuition basis until guardianship with resident is obtained, second by Mr. Gasdia. Motion passes 4-0.

Dr. Orellana moved to approve the following new hires, second by Mr. Gasdia. Motion passes 4-0.
Kerri Denommee, Special Education Teacher, \$51,250
Megan Murray, English/Language Arts Teacher, \$38,000

Mr. Gasdia moved to exit non-public, second by Dr. Orellana. Motion passes 4-0.

N. Adjourn

Mr. Gasdia moved to adjourn, second by Dr. Orellana. Motion passes 4-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Piper (public)

Mary Wilson (non-public)