

Hudson School District  
Hudson School Board Meeting  
Approved Minutes

Present:

Dr. Darcy Orellana, Board Chairman  
Mr. Gary Gasdia, Board Vice-Chair  
Ms. Diana LaMothe  
Ms. Patty Langlais  
Mr. Ethan Beals  
Ms. Kara Roy, Vice-Chairman, Board of Selectmen  
Mr. Larry Russell, Superintendent  
Ms. Mary Wilson, Assistant Superintendent  
Ms. Karen Burnell, Business Administrator  
Mr. Jack Gasdia, Student Representative

- A. Call to Order:** Superintendent Russell called the meeting to order. Ms. Wilson led the pledge of allegiance.

Mr. Russell opened the meeting with a few words about what is currently going on and how there is nothing normal about it. Mr. Russell welcomed Ethan Beals and Patty Langlais to the School Board. He did receive a notice less than an hour before the meeting from the NHSBA that stated you can have an electronic school board meeting. It can be held with the superintendent and the board chair. Look at the possibility to keeping this meeting to a minimum, with the interest in social distancing.

**B. Board Reorganization:**

1. Oath of Office for Newly Elected Board Members: Moderator Paul Inderbitzen administered the oath to Ms. Patty Langlais and Mr. Ethan Beals. They were sworn in as new board members of the Hudson School District.
2. Election of Board Chair: Superintendent Russell presided over electing a new Chairman of the Hudson School Board.  
***Ms. Langlais made a motion to nominate Dr. Orellana as school board chair, second by Mr. Gasdia. Roll call vote, Dr. Orellana, aye, Mr. Gasdia, aye, Ms. LaMothe, aye, Mr. Beals, aye, Ms. Langlais, aye.***
3. Election of Board Vice-Chair: Board Chair Dr. Orellana presided over electing a new Board Vice-chair.  
***Ms. Langlais made a motion to nominate Mr. Gasdia as School Board Vice-Chair, second by Ms. LaMothe. Roll call vote, Ms. Langlais, aye, Mr. Beals, aye, Ms. LaMothe, aye, Mr. Gasdia, aye, Dr. Orellana, aye.***
4. 2019-2020 Meeting Schedule: Dr. Orellana presented the meeting schedule for the months April 2020 – March 2021 as detailed in attachment # 1.
5. Committee Assignments: Dr. Orellana presented the 2020-2021 Hudson School Board Assignments as detailed in attachments # 2 and 3. Dr. Orellana asked for board members to look over the assignments and put some thought into what you would be interested in and make choices next meeting. The capital improvement committee (which is the same as the facilities committee) was missing and will be added to the list of opportunities. Feel free to reach out to prior members for more information. This will be pending until next meeting.
6. Role of a School Board Member: Dr. Orellana presented the Role of a School Board Member as stated from the NH School Boards Association (NHSBA). This is shown in detail in attachment # 4. She encouraged all board members to read and review the attachment.

7. NHSBA Information: Dr. Orellana presented School Board Service information from NHSBA. This is shown in detail in attachment # 5. They have currently been canceled but won't be canceled forever.

- C. Public Input:** Mr. Tom Alciere, 28 Mobile Drive, Hudson. Thinks mobile learning is a wonderful idea and we should continue mobile learning after this crisis has passed. He believes it will eliminate the discipline problems, eliminate peer pressure, and the bullying. He thinks the focus should be on not duplicating the effort of creating assignments and individual districts create the assignments and then it would be available to other cities and states to use.

Paul Inderbitzen, 2 Timothy Lane, Hudson, School District Moderator. 21.9% town voters turned out to vote. He will get all the statistics together and send them out. The recount is happening this Thursday evening. There will be 6 teams of 2 people each. There will be official observers as well. There will be a training session at 6:00 pm. This is the first recount he's ever done that is for a warrant article. It's an open meeting to the public and anyone can go watch. The recount will begin at 6:30 pm.

Ms. Wilson passed around email public input for the board members to read through. Ms. Wolf replied to each of the emails and made sure the replies were included in the handouts. Those emails will be added to the minutes. All communications are listed on the landing page of the website to read. All communications being sent out for parents and town people to read are there as well. As of right now, there is no plan to change April vacation, but that can change at any moment.

**D. Presentations to the Board:**

1. Champions Summer Program: Tabled for this evening. A question was asked if this was an option and opened to other programs. It has not been offered to anyone else. Other summer programs could approach the board if they were interested. This is shown in attachment # 6.

**E. Requests of the Board:**

1. Soccer Trip Request: Tabled for this evening.
2. Marine Corps Educator Workshop Program Attendance Request: Mr. Russell was going to present the 6<sup>th</sup> Marine Corps District Educator Workshop for Ms. Mary Carper to attend the workshop from April 21<sup>st</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup>. This is an interactive week-long event which provides a look into what it takes to become a U.S. Marine. It is an all-expense paid workshop that involves Ms. Carper to travel to South Carolina for this experience. This is shown in detail in attachment # 8. ***This trip has been canceled.***

**F. Old Business:**

1. Policies: Ms. Wilson presented the second reading of the following policies. These are shown in detail in attachment # 9.
  - a) FA Facilities Development Goals/Priorities Objectives
  - b) FBB Enrollment Projections
  - c) FE Facilities Construction
  - d) FEA Educational Specifications
  - e) FEB Selection of a Design Professional
  - f) FEE Site Acquisition Procedure
  - g) FEH Supervision of Construction (Clerk of the Works)
  - h) GA Personnel Policies Goals
  - i) GADA Employment References and Verifications (Prohibiting Aiding and Abetting Sexual Abuse)

j) GBB Employee Involvement in Decision-Making

GADA-there is a typo in # 2-should read; probable cause.

***Ms. LaMothe made a motion to approve the policies in attachment # 9 with the typo fixed, second by Ms. Langlais. Motion passes 5-0.***

**G. New Business:**

1. Extracurricular Nominations: Mr. Russell presented the following extracurricular nominations for spring athletics at Hudson Memorial School. This is shown in attachment # 10.

Boys Track and Field – Neil Schmidt \$1,850

Baseball – Jason Lewis \$2,000

No firm date has been set for spring sports to start yet.

***Ms. Langlais made a motion to accept the extracurricular nominations for Hudson Memorial School when the spring season starts, second by Mr. Gasdia. Motion passes 5-0.***

2. Curriculum Development & Adoption Policies: Ms. Wilson presented attachment # 11 for the Board's consideration. She wanted to know how deep into the development of curriculum the Board wants to be involved. These are sample policies and can be changed to meet our needs. Review both policies; mark them up and provide feedback at the next board meeting.
3. GCAA Highly Qualified Teachers: Ms. Wilson presented attachment # 12. We need to strike this entire policy. It is no longer valid in the State of New Hampshire. The state doesn't use this title for certification in NH.

***Ms. Langlais made a motion to strike policy GCAA, second by Ms. LaMothe. Motion passes 5-0.***

4. Policies: Ms. Wilson presented the first reading of the following polies. These are shown in detail in attachment # 13.
  - a) DKC Travel Expense Reimbursements
  - b) GBCD Background Investigation and Criminal Records
  - c) GBD Board-Employee Communications
  - d) GBEA Staff Ethics
  - e) BGEAA & JRB Confidential Student Information
  - f) GBEAB Mandatory Code of Conduct Reporting – All Employees
  - g) GBEB Staff Conduct
  - h) GBEB Employee Gifts and Solicitations
  - i) GBEB Employment of Relatives or Persons with Romantic Personal Involvement
  - j) GBG Employee Protection

Mr. Russell explained that we were given recommendations to review all policies and we are taking it to heart in improving the way this district does business.

**H. Recommended Action:**

1. Manifests – Recommended action: Make necessary corrections and sign.

2. The minutes from the March 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting are not included because the audio didn't work during that meeting. They are being reviewed before being sent to the Board.

**I. Reports to the Board:**

1. Superintendent Report: There is a lot going on right now. We received guidance from the Governor and the Commissioner on Sunday afternoon. Mr. Russell spoke with the administrators at that time to come up with a plan. We were going to have full staff today and train them on remote learning, but once the Governor spoke, that changed. We are working this week to get remote learning up and running. Mr. Russell couldn't be prouder of the entire staff and appreciates this town and how they come together to get things done.
2. Assistant Superintendent Report: Ms. Wilson spoke about the information on our SharePoint site. Our online resources are in one location. Staff will be coming in for training in the next 2 days. We will utilize the computer labs for that training. Sanitizing will take place in-between the training sessions. Teachers will be using Google Classroom as their teaching model. They will be uploading the assignments to their Google Classroom. ESOL and Title I will be sharing their classrooms as well. Ms. Wilson is proud of everyone who is pitching in, working together, and getting the work completed. There was a conference call with the union representatives. Mr. Russell and Ms. Wolf have done a great job communicating with the staff and the public. There are suggestions for office hours for students and parents to reach out to their teachers to ask questions. There will be modified curriculum for students with disabilities. The special education teachers have been asked to reach out directly to their students. We are getting advice from the state as well regarding our most vulnerable students. There will be some teachers who are more competent with video, skyping, zoom, etc. and others not as confident, so it's up to the teachers to decide how to get in touch with them. Students can reach out to their teachers through Google classroom or email to answer student questions. During the training tomorrow, teachers will be asked if any "office hours" might be available during the evening so parents can also reach out to the teachers themselves. Ms. Wilson will also ask the teachers if they might be available for other students to reach out to them for help as well. We are establishing a 'student technology help desk' that will be manned by 3 staff members. All teacher email addresses are on the websites. Mr. Russell spoke about getting everything in place to record who is doing the work. Google classroom is timestamped and you can see who is present.
3. Business Administrator Report: Things are evolving every day. Ms. Burnell spoke about the current staff that are being paid by federal funds and she received notification that those staff members will continue to be paid by those federal funds. Grab 'n Go bags will be available at Dr. H.O. Smith School starting on Wednesday from 10:30 am – 12:00 pm. Thank you to Carla Anger and staff. They will be hands-on every day. Any family/student can come by and pick up a lunch bag. How do we know that all families are getting this information about lunch and the online education? We do have a few families without email and Mr. Russell did a robocall and asked anyone who doesn't receive his emails, to call the SAU. He has received a few calls about these issues. The food service director can reach out to the families who do qualify for free and reduced lunch to make sure those students are being fed. Our Outreach Coordinator is reaching out to our most struggling families. Be a good neighbor and check in with each other.

- J. Legislative Updates:** Mr. Russell presented the latest NHSBA Legislative update, a handout for the board members to review. This is detailed in attachments # 14 and 15. It is his understanding that the Legislator has shut down. One concern is that moving the funding for the CTE project may be delayed.

**K. Committee Reports:**

1. Strategic Plan: What we are currently going through has put a dent in the Strategic Plan. We are currently focused on remote learning. Professional Development committees are represented in each building, career fair, are on hold right now.

**L. Correspondence:**

1. Official Hudson School District Ballot Results: Mr. Russell presented the results from voting day on March 10<sup>th</sup>. There was a total of 4,160 ballots cast. All warrant article passes for the Hudson School District. This is shown in detail in attachment # 16.
2. Technology Integration Specialist Report: Ms. Wilson presented the status report of the Technology Integration Specialist to the board. For the Board to review. This is shown in attachment # 17.
3. Outreach Coordinator Report: Ms. Wilson presented the activities of the Outreach Coordinator to the board. For the Board to review. This is shown in attachment # 18
4. Discipline Report: Mr. Russell presented the discipline reports from January and February. He expects a decrease in discipline in March. This is shown in detail in attachment # 19. Ms. Wilson spoke about Performance Matters and how data will transform the way we see our data. It will show in graph form and you will be able to see trends.
5. Letter of Resignation: Mr. Russell presented a letter of resignation from Mr. Tyler Beaudoin, Project Lead the Way teacher from HMS. This is shown in attachment # 20.

***No motion was made.***

**M. Board Member Comments:**

Mr. Jack Gasdia: There are no AHS or HMS events coming up. He's happy on how the school district has handled all this, thus far. It's unprecedented and changing every minute. Excited to see how the remote learning plays out. Encourage all students to embrace it. Stay safe. Wash your hands. Keep your distance.

Ms. Patty Langlais: Giving a shout out to the childcare providers in our area. They are open and not practicing social distancing. They are still picking up and hugging your children. We will still change your child's diaper without fear. We are taking precautions. We clean our facilities all the time. Please have patience, they are doing the best they can. If you need childcare, please reach out to any of your local child care centers and ask if they can take your child on a temporary basis.

Mr. Ethan Beals: In terms of big picture events, all sports, HMS DC trip, high school graduation, etc. Have those been spoken about? March and April are off the books for everything. Applaud everyone at the SAU and every effort of the teachers. Please reach out to any us if we can be of assistance, please let us know.

Ms. Diana LaMothe: Echo Ethan. What you are all going through all weekend, the teachers, unbelievable. I have no doubt you will all come through with flying colors. The community outreach has been phenomenal. It's great to be in such a nice town. A positive, the federal reserve has dropped interest rates now to zero. Happy to assist where she can.

Mr. Gary Gasdia: Thanks for the vote of confidence putting him in the co-chair. Amazing work. The communication impact has kept things calm. The partnership between the Town and the school district, it's great to see. There are no barriers, there are no walls, everyone is working together. Thank you all for everything you've done.

Hudson School Board  
March 16, 2020

Hills Memorial Library  
Public Session 6:30

Ms. Kara Roy: Library is closed to the public. They are doing a curbside service. If you need a book or any item from them, contact them and they will arrange a time for you to pick it up. Senior center is closed as of Wednesday. All rec center activities have been suspended. The Town, later this week will have Red alert up and running. This is a method of communication, which is similar to a reverse 911. There will be an emergency Board of Selectman meeting on Wednesday, March 18<sup>th</sup> at 4pm. Everyone is invited. Please get your information from a reliable source. 211 is now open. Town website. School website. CDC website.

Dr. Darcy Orellana: Thank you all and welcome. Nice to see Patty back again. Happy to have Ethan on board as well. Thank the facility staff, the police, the fire, the Board of select people out there who are out there doing this work and maintaining this communication. We should become a stronger, wiser district and Town after all this.

**N. Non-Public Session:**

***O. Ms. Langlais made a motion to enter non-public session according to RSA 91-A:3(c) at 8:18 pm, second by Ms. LaMothe. Roll call vote, Dr. Orellana, aye, Ms. Langlais, aye, Mr. Gasdia, aye, Ms. LaMothe, aye, Mr. Beals, aye.***

Respectfully submitted,  
Susan Piper (public)