

Approved

**Hudson School Committee
Open Session Minutes**

Meeting Date: April 9, 2013

Location: Administration Building
155 Apsley Street

Members present: Susan Dunnell, Lynn Valcourt, Tammy Ducey, George Calnan,
Jennifer O'Brien and Brian Davis

Members absent: Lorraine Nelson

Student Representative: Alex Schley

Others present: Dr. Kevin M. Lyons, Superintendent
Julia M. Pisegna, Recording Secretary

I. Call the Meeting to Order – 7:07 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by Committee Chair Susan Dunnell.

II. Approval of Minutes

1. Regular Meeting – April 9, 2013: A motion to approve the minutes was made by Mr. Calnan and seconded by Mrs. O'Brien. On a vote of 3-0-2, with Mrs. Ducey and Ms. Valcourt abstaining, the motion passed.

III. Superintendent's Report – Dr. Kevin Lyons

Budget Update: Dr. Lyons updated the Committee on the status of the FY14 school budget. The opening of the new Quinn Middle School, transition costs of moving and preparation for full-day kindergarten, expenses of moving the JFK modular to Mulready Elementary School and other transition-related costs, as well as the new high school schedule will have a significant impact on the FY14 budget. Special education costs are also up \$700K for FY14. Dr. Lyons continues to monitor the status of Chapter 70 funding and reiterated the importance of these funds to close the gap of \$1.749 M. Dr. Lyons will keep the Committee updated on any new developments.

Vision and Values Statements: Committee members received the revised Vision and Value Statements and a report on the results of the staff and community survey on the initial draft. Dr. Lyons noted that the Strategic Goals Subcommittee has incorporated revisions into these statements and asked that Committee members review these revisions and noted that the item will be tabled for approval at the next School Committee meeting scheduled for April 23rd.

Full-Day Kindergarten Deposits Due April 12: Dr. Lyons reminded the families chosen in the kindergarten lottery that the last day for deposits to secure a spot for full-day kindergarten is April 12th. Dr. Lyons will be able to provide the Committee with a sense of demand for the sections of full-day kindergarten and half-day kindergarten needed in each elementary school at the next School Committee meeting scheduled for April 23rd.

Town Road Construction on Manning Street: Dr. Lyons noted that there will be major town road construction affecting Manning Street from the Berlin line to Main Street from now through September which will disrupt traffic flow, bus routes and walkers. We continue to work with the Hudson DPW and the bus company to address these issues.

2013 MIAA Community Service Award to Hudson High School Boys Basketball Team: Dr. Lyons announced that the Hudson High School Boys Basketball team has been selected for the 2013 MIAA Community Service Award in the “team” category. Dr. Lyons shared some of the highlights of the team’s effort and their commitment to community service.

Dr. Lyons and Committee members congratulated and thanked Coach Michael Mercuri and his players for their accomplishment.

4th and 5th Grade Parent Information Nights: The second 4th and 5th Grade Parent Information Night was held at Farley School on April 2nd and Forest Avenue School on April 4th. Brian Daniels and staff met with parents to discuss the transition for students to Quinn Middle School and to answer their questions. The meeting was very well attended. Dr. Lyons thanked Mr. Daniels and his staff for their efforts, guidance and reassurance to parents and students.

Mr. Davis entered the meeting at 7:25 p.m.

Performing Arts Program: Dr. Lyons noted that there has been some concern regarding the Performing Arts Program that the District will be offering next year and confirmed that while there will be minor changes, the District will continue to offer a Performing Arts Program very similar to the current program. Some of the Performing Arts Program highlights include:

- Full day kindergarten will receive both art and music
- Half-Day kindergarten will also receive music for half the year and art for half the year
- K-4 will continue to have a general music program
- No change to the middle school Performing Arts Program
- 4th grade will get instrumental and band lessons after school

- 5th grade will not have a general music program, but will receive the same program that 6th and 7th graders now receive

Committee Chair Susan Dunnell thanked Dr. Lyons and reiterated the District's commitment to providing music to all grades.

District Network Upgrade: Dr. Lyons also noted that during the week of April 15-22, April school vacation week, the District's network will be upgraded. There may be disruption to network service during this time, including interruption of email service.

Spelling Bee: Dr. Lyons announced the return of the Hudson Education Foundation Spelling Bee which will be held on May 16th at 7:00 p.m. in the High School Auditorium. This is a CAP project that will benefit the Hudson Education Foundation and students are recruiting local businesses for tables. If anyone is interested, please see the Hudson Education Foundation website for more information and forms.

IV. **Special Reports and Presentations:**

Special Education Update –

Julianna Bahosh, Director of Pupil Services and Dr. Jodi Fortuna, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment, presented a report on special education, including student statistics by grade, the results of surveys offered to parents after IEP meetings, work with the SEPAC, and focus areas for improvement, including student achievement and growth, and high school graduation rates.

Committee members thanked Ms. Bahosh and Dr. Fortuna for their presentation and for their continued dedication to the special education needs of the District.

V. **Community Comments**

Jessica Hennisey shared her past experience as a special education parent in Hudson.

Committee members thanked her for attendance at the meeting and for sharing her personal experience.

VI. **Old Business**

Approval of the 2013-2014 School Calendar: Dr. Lyons recommended approval of the 2013-2014 School Calendar. A motion to approve the 2013-2014 School Calendar, as presented, was made by Ms. Valcourt and seconded by Mrs. Ducey. On a vote of 5-1-0, with Mr. Davis opposing, the motion passed.

VII. **New Business**

1. Approval of School Start Time Changes for 2013-2014:

- Mulready Elementary School – 8:30 a.m. to 2:50 p.m.
- Quinn Middle School – 7:46 a.m. to 2:25 p.m.

Dr. Lyons recommended approval of the new school start time changes for 2013-2014 to Mulready Elementary School - 8:30 a.m. to 2:50 p.m. and Quinn Middle School – 7:46 a.m. to 2:25 p.m. A motion to approve the school start time changes for 2013-2014 for Mulready Elementary School – 8:30 a.m. to 2:50 p.m. and Quinn Middle School – 7:46 a.m. to 2:25 p.m. was made by Mrs. Ducey and seconded by Mr. Calnan. On a vote of 6-0, the motion passed.

2. Approval of Revision to 2012-2013 School Calendar: Move the June 6th Release Day to June 13th: Dr. Lyons recommended approval for the revision of the 2012-2013 school calendar to move the June 6th Release Day to June 13th. A motion to approve the revision to the 2013-2014 school calendar to move the June 6th Release Day to June 13th was made by Ms. Valcourt and seconded by Mrs. Ducey. On a vote of 6-0, the motion passed.

3. Approval of Revision to School Committee Policy AC – Non-Discrimination Policy and Grievance Procedure and School Committee Policy KHC –Distribution and Posting of Written Materials for Students in Schools: Dr. Lyons recommended approval for the revision of School Committee Policy – AC – *Non-Discrimination Policy and Grievance Procedure* and School Committee Policy KHC –*Distribution and Posting of Written Materials for Students in Schools*. A motion to approve the revision of School Committee Policy – AC – *Non-Discrimination Policy and Grievance Procedure* and School Committee Policy KHC –*Distribution and Posting of Written Materials for Students in Schools* was made by Mr. Calnan and seconded by Mrs. Ducey. On a vote of 5-1-0, with Ms. Valcourt opposing, the motion passed.

4. First Reading of Proposed School Committee Policy JL – *Student Welfare*: Mr. Calnan highlighted the following proposed School Committee Policy JL – *Student Welfare* into the record:

- Supervision of Students
- Reporting to Authorities – Suspected Child Abuse or Neglect
- Student Safety
- Safety on the Playground and Playing Field
- Multi-Hazard Evacuation Plan
- Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs)

Dr. Lyons noted that the policy is on the District Website and will be circulated to staff.

5. First Reading of Proposed School Committee Policy ECABA – *Staff and Others Identification*: Mr. Calnan highlighted the following proposed School Committee Policy ECABA – *Staff and Others Identification* into the record:

- General Policy
- ID Card
- Employee Requirement
- Safety Situations
- Visitors and Contractor Requirement
- Town Personnel
- Temporary Identification
- Staff Responsibility
- Administrator Responsibility
- Loss of an ID Card
- Return of ID Cards

Dr. Lyons noted that the policy is on the District Website and will be circulated to staff.

VIII. Reclassifications

A motion to approve the reclassification of funds, as presented, was made by Ms. Valcourt and seconded by Mrs. Ducey. On a vote of 6-0, the motion passed.

IX. Subcommittee and Building Committee Liaison Reports

Mrs. Ducey noted that the Buildings and Grounds Subcommittee needed to schedule a meeting for the naming of the Farley Library.

Not Approved

Ms. Valcourt noted that the Strategic Goals Planning Subcommittee continues to meet and discuss Vision and Values survey results and the planned Strategic Planning survey.

Ms. Valcourt also noted that the MASC Conference, Charting the Course, will be held on April 27, 2013.

X. Executive Session/Adjournment

Committee Chair Susan Dunnell noted that there was no need for Executive Session. At 9:08 p.m., a motion to adjourn was made by Mrs. Ducey and seconded by Ms. Valcourt. On a vote of 6-0, the motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Valcourt, Secretary
Hudson School Committee

List of Documents Source and Location

DOC NAME	SOURCE	LOCATION
School Committee Minutes of April 9, 2013	School Committee	Superintendent's Office
Superintendent's Report	Superintendent	Superintendent's Office
District Goals and Vision Statement dated April 2013	Superintendent	Superintendent's Office
District Goals and Vision Statement dated June 2012	Superintendent	Superintendent's Office
Vision, Values and Involvement Survey	Superintendent	Superintendent's Office
Correspondence dated March 27, 2013 re: MIAA 2013 Community Service Award to Hudson High School Boys Basketball Team	Peter Smith, Assistant Director of MIAA	Superintendent's Office
Special Education Presentation – In Partnership with Families and the Community	Julianna Bahosh and Dr. Jodi Fortuna	Superintendent's Office
2012-2013 School Calendar	Superintendent	Superintendent's Office
School Committee Policy AC – <i>Non-Discrimination Policy and Grievance Procedure</i>	School Committee	Superintendent's Office
School Committee Policy KHC – <i>Distribution and Positing of Written Materials for Students in Schools</i>	School Committee	Superintendent's Office
Proposed School Committee Policy JL – <i>Student Welfare</i>	School Committee	Superintendent's Office
Proposed School Committee Policy ECABA – <i>Staff and Other Identification</i>	School Committee	Superintendent's Office
Reclassifications (5)	Finance Department	Superintendent's Office