

Approved

**Hudson School Committee
Open Session Minutes**

Meeting Date: March 11, 2014

Location: Administration Building
155 Apsley Street

Members present: Susan Dunnell, Lynn Valcourt, Jennifer O'Brien, George Luoto and Benjamin Hoell

Members absent: Brian Davis
Alex Schley, Student Representative

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

I. Call the Meeting to Order – 7:05 p.m.

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

II. Approval of Minutes

1. Regular Meeting –February 25, 2014: A motion to approve the minutes was made by Ms. Valcourt and seconded by Mrs. Dunnell. On a vote of 5-0, the motion passed.

III. Superintendent's Report – Kevin Lyons

Budget Update: Finance Director Patty Lange shared a PowerPoint presentation highlighting the FY15 projected revenue, the FY15 School Committee Approved Preliminary Budget and the FY14 Budget Projection as of March 11, 2014.

Discussion ensued.

Dr. Lyons will continue to keep Committee members updated on any new developments regarding the budget.

Quinn Principal Selection Forum: Dr. Lyons reported on the forum which was held on March 10th. The forum was open to all parents, teachers, students, community members and Screening Committee members. Hudson High School Principal Brian Reagan chaired the Search and Selection Committee to identify the most important talents and characteristics of the next principal and to find the most highly qualified match for this important position. The Screening Committee will next meet on March 12th. Dr. Lyons will continue to update the Committee on the search process.

Athletic Director Search: On Thursday, March 6th, the Athletic Director Screening Committee completed its work and three finalists have been selected from a field of over 100 candidates.

Dr. Lyons thanked Dan McAnespie, Chair of the Screening Committee, and members Mary Beth Ryan, Tim Reinhardt, Carolyn Weed, Rick Karlson, Shelli Francolini, Jennifer O'Brein, students Patrick Cadden and Elizabeth Hydro, Deb Campbell and Steven Santos.

Committee Member Jennifer O'Brien thanked the committee and the students for their good insight and participation and noted that it was a good process.

4th Annual Hudson Cook-Off: The 4th Annual Hudson Cook-Off was a great success and had the largest attendance in its four-year history. The theme, Mac and Cheese, was a big hit with fierce competition between Mulready Elementary, Forest Avenue Elementary, Farley Elementary and Quinn Middle School. Forest Avenue was the big winner sweeping all three categories.

Dr. Lyons thanked the following sponsors: Hannaford's, Harvest Café, Whitsons Culinary Group, Smyles Frozen Yogurt, Boost Fitness, The Rail Trail, Robinsons Hardware, Elite Hair Studio, Victor's 50 Diner, and River's Edge Arts Alliance, as well as Jenny Gormley and Dr. Sam Wong for leading the Cook Off again this year, and judges Detective Chad Crogan, Assistant Superintendent Dr. Jodi Fortuna, Town Executive Tom Moses, Selectman Chris Yates, and Director to Pupil Services, Cathy Kilcoyne.

District Review Team Visit: The District Review Team has been busy in the District on Monday and Tuesday reviewing documents, visiting schools and interviewing staff and will continue with their review until Thursday. Dr. Lyons will continue to keep the Committee updated on their visit.

Elementary Literacy Leadership Council: The Elementary Literacy Leadership Council met on February 26th to plan for next year's professional development and literacy collaboration among teachers. These teacher leaders demonstrate great team effort, open dialogue and collaboration, and are exemplary of teacher instructional leadership. Dr. Lyons congratulated the Elementary Literacy Leadership Council for another great year of service to their colleagues and the elementary students at Hudson.

Hudson Youth Substance Prevention Coalition Meeting: The Hudson Youth Substance Prevention Coalition meeting was held on Thursday, February 27th. The group continues to work on prevention of substance abuse among Hudson's youth. The guest speaker, Heidi DiRoberto, of Community Health Link will meet with a number of the District's mental health people to inform them of the options available locally.

Project Lead the Way: Dr. Lyons reported that representative Terry Adams from WPI held the Project Lead the Way certification site visit today and met with Principal Brian Reagan, Ellen Schuck, Ryan Dailey, Rebekah Whitesel. The initial reports on the findings were positive.

Discussion ensued.

Dr. Lyons will continue to update the Committee on any new developments.

Home and School Officers Meeting: The Home and School Officers met on Wednesday, February 26th. Dr. Lyons noted that the participation this year was the best he has ever seen. Dr. Jodi Fortuna made a presentation to the group on PARCC which generated great conversation. The group Officer's asked Dr. Fortuna to take this presentation on the road this spring to each of the school.

Family Engagement Survey Reminder: The Family Engagement Survey will close on March 21st. Dr. Lyons reminded Hudson families that the survey is a wonderful opportunity to provide feedback which will be very helpful to the District to better engage parents.

Hudson High School Drama - The Producers: Dr. Lyons made a public reminder that the Hudson High School Drama production of *The Producers* will be performed on March 13-15 at 7:00 p.m. with a 2:00 p.m. matinee and invited all to attend.

Family Literacy Night: The Family Literacy Night will be held at Mulready Elementary on Thursday, March 13th at 6:00 p.m. and will feature David Polansky, award winning singer and songwriter. It is always a wonderful family event and Dr. Lyons invited all to attend.

IV. **Special Reports and Presentations**

Hudson High School Teacher Peter Vacchina and students Hannah Carroll and Dan Kallin shared some highlights of their trip to Portugal for the UNESCO Conference. Mr. Vacchina thanked the following sponsors for their donations: Country Bank for Savings, Avidia Bank, Chaves Electric Company, Hudson Fire Department and the Hudson Portuguese Club.

Committee Chair Susan Dunnell noted that the agenda would be taking out of order.

Pre-approval of Hudson High School Overnight Field Trip to the UNESCO Conference in Portugal in 2015: Dr. Lyons recommended pre-approval of the Hudson High School overnight field trip to the UNESCO Conference in Portugal in 2015. A motion to pre-approve the Hudson High School overnight field trip to the UNESCO Conference in Portugal in 2015 was made by Ms. Valcourt and seconded by Mr. Luoto. On a vote of 5-0, the motion passed.

Dr. Lyons and Committee members thanked Mr. Peter Vacchina for his organization and commitment in putting this trip together for the students and recognized the important value that such a trip has.

V. **Community Comments**

None.

VI. **Old Business**

1. Approval of School Calendar for 2014-2015: Dr. Lyons recommended approval of the 2014-2015 School Calendar and thanked the HEA for their approval.

Discussion ensued.

A motion to approve the 2014-2015 School Calendar was made by Mr. Luoto and seconded by Mrs. O'Brien. On a vote of 4-1-0, with Ms. Valcourt opposing, the motion passed.

VII. **New Business**

1. Approval of Contract with Teachers for Teachers in the Amount of \$17,400 for Literacy Professional Development: Dr. Jodi Fortuna shared with the Committee some highlights of the literacy work going on in the District.

Dr. Lyons recommended approval of the contract with Teachers for Teachers in the amount of \$17,400 for Literacy Professional Development.

A motion to approve the contract with Teachers for Teachers in the amount of \$17,400 for Literacy Professional Development was made by Ms. Valcourt and seconded by Mrs. O'Brien. On a vote of 5-0, the motion passed.

Committee members thanked Dr. Fortuna for the wonderful work being done and noted the importance of continued literacy in K-5 instruction.

2. Approval of Contract with Tyler Technologies in the Amount of \$22,461.62 for the Annual License and Maintenance: Dr. Lyons recommended approval of the contract with Tyler Technologies in the amount of \$22,461.62 for the annual license and maintenance.

A motion to approve the contract with Tyler Technologies in the amount of \$22,461.62 for the annual license and maintenance was made by Ms. Valcourt and seconded by Mr. Luoto. On a vote of 5-0, the motion passed.

3. First Reading of Proposed Policy IJNDC Social Media: Employees

Committee member Jennifer O'Brien thanked the Social Media Policy Committee for their hard work in putting this policy together.

Dr. Lyons informed the Committee that the full policy will be posted on the District website for review, and that this will be an item on the agenda for vote at the next regularly scheduled School Committee meeting on March 25, 2014.

4. First Reading of Proposed Policy JRA Student Records and Addendum JRA-R Student Records:

Dr. Lyons informed the Committee that the full policy will be posted on the District website for review, and that this will be an item on the agenda for vote at the next regularly scheduled School Committee meeting on March 25, 2014

VIII. **Reclassifications**

A motion to approve the reclassifications was made by Ms. Valcourt and seconded by Mr. Luoto. On a vote of 5-0, the motion passed.

IX. **Subcommittee and Building Committee Liaison Reports**

Dr. Lyons shared that the JFK Building Committee had met and continues to work through the list of open items. Ceramics tiles will be replaced, and the carpets will be replaced during the summer with a carpet made of heavier fiber for appearance and better wear.

The boilers and heating continue to be a major issue and they are working on a plan for that. A third party engineering firm was retained to identify the issue.

Ms. Valcourt noted the resignation of Mrs. Nelson from the Committee and asked if we would meet the deadline to go to election.

Mrs. Dunnell informed the Committee that it was too late for the vacancy to be put on the May ballot and that it would be a joint appointment of the School Committee and the Board of Selectmen after the election.

Discussion ensued.

X. **Executive Session/Adjournment**

At 8:25 p.m., Mrs. Dunnell noted that there was a need for Executive Session to discuss the strategy with respect to pending litigation, and to discuss negotiation with non-union personnel and to discuss strategy with respect to contract negotiation with non-union.

A motion to enter Executive Session was made by Ms. Valcourt and seconded by Mr. Luoto. On a vote of 5-0, the motion passed.

Dr. Lyons called the roll:

Mrs. Dunnell: Yes
Ms. Valcourt: Yes
Mrs. O'Brien: Yes
Mr. Luoto: Yes
Mr. Hoell: Yes

Mrs. Dunnell announced that the Committee would enter Executive Session and not return to public session.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Valcourt, Secretary
Hudson School Committee

List of Documents Source and Location

DOC NAME	SOURCE	LOCATION
School Committee Minutes of March 11, 2014	School Committee	Superintendent's Office
Superintendent's Report	Superintendent	Superintendent's Office
FY14 Budget Projection March 11 2014	Patty Lange	Superintendent's Office
FY15 Projected Revenue March 11, 2014	Patty Lange	Superintendent's Office
FY15 Superintendent's Recommended Budget March 11, 2014	Patty Lange	Superintendent's Office
4 th Annual Hudson Cook-Off Program	Jenny Gormley	Superintendent's Office
Literacy Leadership Council Names	Superintendent	Superintendent's Office
Hudson Youth Substance Prevention Coalition Minutes of February 27, 2014	Hudson Youth Substance Prevention Coalition	Superintendent's Office
Family Literacy Night Flyer	Mary McCarthy	Superintendent's Office
Email Correspondence dated March 11, 2014 re: Project Lead the Way Site Visit	Ellen Schuck	Superintendent's Office
Memorandum and Trip Information re: Hudson High School Trip to UNESCO Conference in Portugal in 2015	Brian K. Reagan	Superintendent's Office
2014-2015 School Calendar	Superintendent	Superintendent's Office
State Legal Holidays	DESE	Superintendent's Office
Listening Post Activity re: Calendar	Superintendent	Superintendent's Office
Contract with Teachers for Teachers	Dr. Jodi Fortuna	Superintendent's Office
Contract with Tyler Technology	Ellen Schuck	Superintendent's Office
Proposed School Committee Policy IJNDC Social Media: Employees	Superintendent	Superintendent's Office
Proposed School Committee Policy JRA Student Records and Addendum JRA-R Student Records	Superintendent	Superintendent's Office
School Committee Policy JRA Cumulative Records	Superintendent	Superintendent's Office
Reclassifications (2)	Finance Department	Superintendent's Office