

*Approved*

**Hudson School Committee  
Open Session Minutes**

**Meeting Date:** February 11, 2014

**Location:** Administration Building  
155 Apsley Street

Members present: Lynn Valcourt, Jennifer O'Brien, Brian Davis, and George Luoto

Members absent: Susan Dunnell, Lorraine Nelson and Benjamin Hoell

Others present: Dr. Kevin M. Lyons, Superintendent  
Julia M. Pisegna, Recording Secretary  
Alex Schley, Student Representative

**I. Call the Meeting to Order – 7:03 p.m.**

The meeting was called to order by Committee Secretary Lynn Valcourt.

**II. Approval of Minutes**

Regular Meeting –January 23, 2014: A motion to approve the minutes was made by Mrs. O'Brien, and seconded by Ms. Valcourt. On a vote of 2-0-2, with Mr. Davis and Mr. Luoto abstaining, the motion failed.

Budget Hearing Meeting –January 23, 2014: A motion to approve the minutes was made by Mrs. O'Brien, and seconded by Ms. Valcourt. On a vote of 2-0-2, with Mr. Davis and Mr. Luoto abstaining, the motion failed.

The Minutes of the Regular Meeting and Budget Hearing of January 23, 2014 were rescheduled for a vote at the next regularly scheduled School Committee meeting set for February 25, 2014.

Committee Secretary Lynn Valcourt announced there would be a moment of silence in memory of Mary O'Malley and Dennis Frias, both longtime employees of Hudson Public Schools.

Mr. Luoto thanked Dr. Lyons and Committee Chair Susan Dunnell for their informative budget presentation to the Board of Selectmen on February 10<sup>th</sup> and encouraged the public to view the meeting.

### **III. Superintendent's Report**

Dr. Lyons announced that Principal Brian Daniels will be leaving Hudson to become Principal of the Monomoy Middle School effective July 1, 2014. Dr. Lyons thanked Mr. Daniels for his sixteen years of dedicated service to the District.

Dr. Lyons appointed Principal Brian Reagan to chair the selection committee for the next Principal of Quinn Middle School and invited any School Committee member interested in participating to submit their interest to the Chair.

#### Budget Update:

The Budget Forum for the community was held on January 28<sup>th</sup>. Approximately 125 parents and community members attended the meeting, along with School Committee members, Selectmen, Finance Committee members and Representative Kate Hogan.

Dr. Lyons presented a slide show outlining the serious deficit that the schools face for the next school year, the reasons for the deficit, and the potential impacts that may include program and personnel reductions.

Parents and residents offered suggestions to increase revenues and cut expenses. All budget ideas will be catalogued for future use by the School Committee.

Dr. Lyons also announced that the District homepage now has a dedicated FY15 School Budget section which includes a copy of the FY15 Preliminary Budget Book for review.

Dr. Lyons will continue to update Committee members and the community on new developments regarding the budget.

#### Snow Day February 5, 2014:

The snow day on February 5<sup>th</sup> was the third snow day this winter, making the last day of school Friday, June 20<sup>th</sup>. Several concerns with sidewalks and sidewalks not being cleared were received by phone the following day. Dr. Lyons reminded the community that the best way to make concerns known is to use the bus concern form found on the District webpage.

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Boston Globe Scholastic Art and Writing Awards:

Dr. Lyons congratulated the winners of the Boston Globe Scholastic Art and Writing Awards Competition:

Emily Barry	Jacx Cannistraro	Emily Ducey	Alex Schley
Brandyn Greeno	Michelle Perry	Christina Ficaro	Brenton Sullivan
Mike Sodano	Colin Dean	Rachel Holmes	
Adam Chaves	Samantha Cirillo	Madison Peck	
Emily Collins	Eric Davis	Brittany Phillios	

HHS Musicians in State-Wide Festival:

Dr. Lyons also congratulated the Hudson High School student musicians who auditioned for the 2014 Massachusetts All-State Music Festival at Shrewsbury High School on February 1<sup>st</sup>:

Buren Andrews	Grade 10	Tenor	All State Festival Chorus
Edward Andrews	Grade 11	Bass	All State Festival Chorus
Taylor Benson	Grade 11	Bass	All State Festival Chorus
Brooke Mega	Grade 12	Alto	All State Festival Chorus
Andrew Nugent	Grade 12	Tenor	All State Festival Chorus
Andrew Dohery Munro	Grade 11	Clarinet	All State Festival Concert Band
Katie Benson	Grade 11	Percussion	

Family Engagement Survey Now Open:

The Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Family Engagement Survey has opened for the families of all of our students. This on-line survey asks about connections with schools and judgments about how well our schools are doing in reaching out to and supporting families. Parents of students with disabilities branch to an additional section about special education services.

The survey was administered for the first time in 2012. The District will now have the opportunity to review comparative data. Dr. Lyons asked that every parent and guardian of Hudson students complete this survey which is open until March 21<sup>st</sup>.

Enhanced Lockdown Guidelines:

School staff training by administrators and the Hudson Police on the enhanced lockdown guidelines will be held February 12<sup>th</sup> – March 26<sup>th</sup>.

HHS and QMS Climate Surveys:

Students at Hudson High School and Quinn Middle School will be asked to complete an on-line survey on school climate. Students will be asked questions regarding the challenge of classes, support they receive at school and at home, and many other questions about student-life. This will be the first time this survey has been done in Hudson schools.

Kindergarten/Preschool Registration Dates:

Dr. Lyons announced the following registration dates:

<b>Farley</b>	<b>Forest Avenue</b>	<b>Mulready</b>
Wednesday, February 26 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday, March 4 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday, March 11 <sup>th</sup>
Thursday, February 27 <sup>th</sup>	Thursday, March 6 <sup>th</sup>	Wednesday, March 12 <sup>th</sup>
Friday, February 28 <sup>th</sup>		

4<sup>th</sup> Annual Wellness Cook-Off:

The 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Cook-Off will be held on Thursday, March 6<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. in the Hudson High School cafeteria. The competition for this year is Mac ‘N Cheese.

Dr. Lyons invited the community to attend this event.

**IV. Special Reports and Presentations**

EWIS and Beyond at Hudson High School:

Hudson High School Assistant Principal Josh Olin presented the Hudson High School Academic Warning System (AWS), a system developed to improve the efforts to intervene with struggling students and shared with the Committee how counselors, special education teachers, ELL teachers, and administrators use the system to identify students for intervention, monitor their progress, and gauge the efficacy of specific intervention.

The administrative team uses the system to produce analytics to inform decision-making on a school-wide level.

Committee members thanked Mr. Otlin for his presentation and work in creating such a wonderful tool for students and staff.

**V. Community Comments**

None.

**VI. Old Business**

Committee member Brian Davis addressed the Committee regarding the Athletic Director's vacancy and recommended the possibility of hiring a retired Athletic Director at a reduced rate should be explored.

Discussion ensued.

**VII. New Business**

1. Approval of May 2014 Town Warrant:

Dr. Lyons recommended approval of the May 2014 Town Warrant which includes two items. The first item is an annual warrant to establish a revolving fund for professional development that is grant-funded with the intention to bridge the gap between the Town fiscal year and the federal grant year. The second item would allow the District to enter a contract beyond three years with a transportation provider, if fiscally advantageous.

A motion to approve the May 2014 Town Warrant was made by Mr. Luoto and seconded by Mrs. O'Brien. On a vote of 4-0, the motion passed.

2. Approval of Participation in School Choice for 2014-2015:

Dr. Lyons recommended approval of participation in School Choice for 2014-2015 with an undeclared number of seats open at Hudson High School and eight seats to be filled at each grade level, five through seven, at Quinn Middle School.

A motion to approve participation in School Choice for 2014-2015 with an undeclared number of seats open at Hudson High School and eight seats to be filled at each grade level, five through seven, at Quinn Middle School was made by Mr. Luoto and seconded by Mrs. O'Brien. On a vote of 3-1, with Mr. Davis opposing, the motion passed.

3. Approval of Preliminary School Calendar for 2014-2015:

Committee Secretary Lynn Valcourt announced that the approval of the preliminary school calendar for 2014-2015 will be tabled for discussion at the next regularly scheduled School Committee meeting on February 25, 2014.

4. Approval of School Committee Meeting Calendar for 2014-2015:

Dr. Lyons recommended approval of the School Committee Meeting Calendar for 2014-2015.

A motion to approve the School Committee Calendar for 2014-2015 was made by Mrs. O'Brien and seconded by Mr. Davis. On a vote of 4-0, the motion passed.

5. Appointment of School Committee Members to Subcommittee/Liaison Roles:

Committee Secretary Lynn Valcourt announced the appointment of member Benjamin Hoell to the Custodian Negotiations Subcommittee.

Discussion ensued.

6. First Reading of Proposed Policy DDA Supplement Not Supplant (Title 1):

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 February 25, 2014.

7. First Reading of Proposed Policy KB Parental Involvement (Title 1):

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 February 25, 2014.

8. First Reading of Proposed Revision to Policy JICFB Anti-Bullying:

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 February 25, 2014.

X. **Reclassifications**

A motion to approve the reclassifications of funds, as presented, was made by Mr. Luoto and seconded by Mr. Davis. On a vote of 4-0, the motion passed.

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

Student representative, Alex Schley, shared with the Committee that students at Hudson High School were working with students at Nashoba Regional High School and now receive a text each morning with their daily class schedule. Students are enjoying this information very much.

Mrs. O'Brien thanked the team of the Social Media Policy Committee for their hard work and effort in producing a draft Social Media policy that will be considered by the Policy Subcommittee at its next meeting.

XII. **Executive Session/Adjournment**

At 8:38 p.m., Ms. Valcourt noted there was a need for Executive Session to discuss strategy in preparation for negotiations in regard to an individual contract, because an open session may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the Committee.

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Luoto and seconded by Mrs. O'Brien. On a vote of 4-0, the motion passed.

Dr. Lyons called the roll:

Ms. Valcourt: Yes  
Mrs. O'Brien: Yes  
Mr. Davis: Yes  
Mr. Luoto: Yes

Committee Secretary Ms. Valcourt 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

<b>DOC NAME</b>	<b>SOURCE</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>
School Committee Minutes of January 23, 2014	School Committee	Superintendent's Office
Budget Hearing Minutes of January 23, 2014	School Committee	Superintendent's Office
Superintendent's Report	Superintendent	Superintendent's Office
Professional Hiring Policy GCF	School Committee	Superintendent's Office
FY15 School Budget Overview	Superintendent	Superintendent's Office
FY15 Budget Sheet	Superintendent	Superintendent's Office
Boston Globe Scholastic Art Award Winners 2014	Superintendent	Superintendent's Office
Enhanced Lockdown Guidelines	Superintendent	Superintendent's Office
Kindergarten Registration 2014-2015	Dr. Jodi Fortuna	Superintendent's Office
4 <sup>th</sup> Annual Wellness Cook-Off	Jenny Gormley	Superintendent's Office
May 2014 Town Warrant	Finance Director Patty Lange	Superintendent's Office
Preliminary School Calendar 2014-2015	Superintendent	Superintendent's Office
Statewide Legal Holidays	DESE	Superintendent's Office
School Committee Meeting Calendar 2014-2015	Superintendent	Superintendent's Office
Proposed School Committee Policy DDA Supplement Not Supplant (Title 1)	Superintendent	Superintendent's Office
Proposed School Committee Policy KB Parental Involvement (Title 1)	Superintendent	Superintendent's Office
Proposed Revision to Policy JICFB Anti-Bullying	Superintendent	Superintendent's Office
Reclassifications (2)	Finance Department	Superintendent's Office