

Approved

**Hudson School Committee
Open Session Minutes**

Meeting Date: January 23, 2014

Location: Administration Building
155 Apsley Street

Members present: Susan Dunnell, Lynn Valcourt, Lorraine Nelson, and Benjamin Hoell

Members absent: Jennifer O'Brien, Brian Davis and George Luoto
Alex Schley, Student Representative

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

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

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

II. Approval of Minutes

Regular Meeting – January 7, 2014: A motion to approve the minutes was made by Ms. Valcourt, and seconded by Mrs. Nelson. On a vote of 4-0, the motion passed.

III. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Lyons and Committee Chair Susan Dunnell presented a brief update on the budget and noted that a meeting was held with Chair of the Board of Selectmen, Joseph Durant, Chair of the Finance Committee, John Parent, Town Executive Assistant, Tom Moses, and Town Accountant, Chris Sandini. The Governor's budget was announced and it was not good news. A Budget Hearing, held later in the meeting, further outlined the FY15 budget.

Discussion ensued.

Transportation Update: The new transportation company, NRT, continues to run smoothly. Dr. Lyons thanked Karen Rundlett, school secretaries and the administrators for their continued efforts working together to make this transition so successful.

State Police and Hudson Police Joint Training at Farley Elementary School on January 19th: The School Committee approved the use of Farley Elementary School for two joint trainings on school situation intervention, conducted by the Massachusetts State Police and the Hudson Police Department. The second training was held on Sunday, January 19th. The building and grounds were closed to non-police personnel. The police force is highly committed to keeping our schools, students, and staff safe and the District was happy to offer the facility for training purposes.

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 21st.

Forest Avenue 1st Graders Will Be Taught Personal Safety Strategies: Over the next several weeks, Forest Avenue first graders will participate in a personal safety learning program that is part of our anti-bullying efforts. The program is divided into three units: Personal Safety, Touching Safety and Assertiveness and Support.

Literacy Coaches Presenting at Massachusetts Reading Association State Conference: Literacy Coaches Kathy Provost and Heather Fisher will present their work and the work of Hudson teachers at the MRA State Conference in April. Their presentation is titled *Reading Like a Writer: Using Mentor Text in the Writer's Workshop*.

Dr. Lyons congratulated Ms. Provost and Ms. Fisher for the fantastic job they do for the students and staff here and noted that it is a true honor that their presentation was selected from a very competitive field of submissions, and that Hudson Public Schools elementary literacy efforts continue to be showcased at both the national and state conferences.

Hudson Administrators to Present at Boston University Conference: Dr. Mary McCarthy and Mr. Todd Wallingford were selected as keynote speakers for the Boston University Center for Character and Social Responsibility Conference on *How to Integrate Service Learning into the Common Core Curriculum* scheduled for January 24th. Dr. Lyons noted that it is an honor for the Hudson Public Schools and a credit to Mary and Todd's leadership in-district and state-wide.

IV. **Special Reports and Presentations**

Superintendent's Award for Academic Excellence – Dr. Lyons announced that the recipient of the 2013-2014 Superintendent's Award for Academic Excellence is Matthew Snow. The award is sponsored by the Massachusetts Superintendent's Association. Dr. Lyons, Principal Brian Reagan and Mr. Snow attended a luncheon at Assumption College on January 9th where he was honored. Matt's accomplishments are as follows:

- Recipient of the A.P. Scholar Award in 2013
- President's Volunteer Award – President Obama
- President of the Hudson High School Community Council 9-12
- Vice President of the National Honor Society
- Selected Ambassador to MA HOBY Leadership Seminar

- Successfully completed seven advanced placement courses during his Hudson High School career
- Three-year participant in varsity sports
- Extensive Community Service including a Special Education Program Aide for autistic youngsters
- Accomplished guitarist and band member
- Interested in politics and has focused his college applications in the Washington, D.C. area

Matt and his parents were in attendance to receive this award.

Dr. Lyons also congratulated nominees Christina Ficaro, John Petrovick, Marcela Lima and Kevin Ducey.

Committee Chair, Susan Dunnell, congratulated Matt for his amazing accomplishments and wished him well in college.

V. **Budget Hearing**

Committee Chair, Susan Dunnell, then suspended the meeting at 7:17 p.m. in order to conduct a hearing on the FY14 school budget.

VI. **Return to Regular Meeting**

Committee Chair, Susan Dunnell, reconvened the meeting at 7:50 p.m. following the public hearing on the school budget.

VII. **Community Comments**

None.

VIII. **Old Business**

None.

XI. **New Business**

1. Approval of Re-Submission of the Statement of Interest to the MSBA for the Replacement of the Mulready Elementary School Roof:

Dr. Lyons recommended approval for the re-submission of the Statement of Interest to the MSBA for replacement of the Mulready Elementary School roof.

A motion to approve the re-submission of the Statement of Interest to the MSBA for the replacement of the Mulready roof was made by Mr. Hoell and seconded by Ms. Valcourt. On a vote of 4-0, the motion passed.

Committee Chair Susan Dunnell read a Resolution into the record:

“ Resolved: Having convened in an open meeting on February 23, 2014, the School Committee of Hudson, Massachusetts, in accordance with its charter, by-laws, and ordinances, has voted to authorize the Superintendent to submit to the Massachusetts School Building Authority the Statement of Interest Form dated February 14, 2014 for the J. L. Mulready Elementary School located at 306 Cox Street which describes and explains the following deficiencies and the priority category(s) for which an application may be submitted to the Massachusetts School Building Authority in the future in accordance with MSBA’s priorities as *Priority #5, project to replace the failed EPDM roof system to improve the integrity and energy performance of the existing roof package.*

The Mulready School, servicing the educational needs of the District since 1965, has a failed roofing system. Hudson Public School District is seeking MSBA assistance under Priority #5 to replace this roof. The roof at this location is a 1988 EPDM installation over original 4 ply built up roofing. This roof has been in a “failed” condition in reports dating back to 1999 and has been diligently repaired by in-house staff annually. This SOI seeks MSBA assistance to replace the failed roof system; and hereby further specifically acknowledges that by submitting this Statement of Interest Form, the Massachusetts School Building Authority in no way guarantees the acceptance or the approval of an application, the awarding of a grant or any other funding commitment from the Massachusetts School Building Authority, or commits the City/Town/Regional School District to filing an application for funding with the Massachusetts School Building Authority.”

A motion to approve the Resolution as pertaining to the re-submission of the Statement of Interest with MSBA for the replacement of the Mulready roof was made by Ms. Valcourt and seconded by Mr. Hoell. On a vote of 4-0, the motion passed.

2. Approval of Overnight Field Trip - Hudson High School Business Professionals of America State Leadership Conference: Dr. Lyons recommended approval of the Hudson High School overnight field trip of Business Professionals of America on March 1-3, 2014.

A motion to approve the Hudson High School overnight field trip of Business Professionals of America on March 1-3, 2014 was made by Ms. Valcourt and seconded by Mrs. Nelson. On a vote of 4-0, the motion passed.

3. Kindergarten Tuition for 2014-2015 – Approval for Online Payment Adjustment:

Dr. Lyons recommended approval for online payment options for kindergarten tuition for 2014-2015. Additional costs for payment transactions will be applied to the tuition rate for all.

Dr. Fortuna presented to the Committee the advantages of adding the online payment option to include kindergarten tuition for 2014-2015 and noted that many parents have requested this service.

A motion to approve the online payment option for kindergarten tuition for 2014-2015 was made by Mrs. Dunnell and seconded by Mrs. Nelson. On a vote of 3-0-1, with Mr. Hoell abstaining, the motion passed.

X. **Reclassifications**

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

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

None.

XII. **Executive Session/Adjournment**

Committee Chair Susan Dunnell noted that there was no need for Executive Session. At 8:10 p.m., a motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Valcourt and seconded by Mrs. Nelson. On a vote of 4-0, the motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Valcourt, Secretary
Hudson School Committee

Approved

List of Documents Source and Location

DOC NAME	SOURCE	LOCATION
School Committee Minutes of January 23, 2014	School Committee	Superintendent's Office
Superintendent's Report	Superintendent	Superintendent's Office
Memorandum to Staff dated January 14, 2014 re: Budget	Superintendent	Superintendent's Office
FY15 School Budget Overview PowerPoint Presentation	Finance Director Patty Lange	Superintendent's Office
School Committee Vote FY15 Budget Sheet	School Committee	Superintendent's Office
Family Engagement Survey Flyer	DESE	Superintendent's Office
Forest Ave. School Correspondence re: Talking About Touching: A Personal Safety Curriculum	Carla Royak Volturo, School Psychologist	Superintendent's Office
Correspondence dated January 9, 2014 re: The 45 th Annual Conference	Massachusetts Reading Association	Superintendent's Office
Conference Information re: How to Integrate Service-Learning into the Common Core Curriculum	Superintendent	Superintendent's Office
Program from the Annual Scholar's Luncheon, January 9, 2014	Worcester County Superintendent's Association	Superintendent's Office
Information sheets (3) re: Matthew Snow	Superintendent	Superintendent's Office
Resolution re: Mulready Roof	Facilities Director Len Belli	Superintendent's Office
Memorandum and Information re: Business Professionals of America Club Overnight Field Trip	Brian K. Reagan	Superintendent's Office
Reclassifications (2)	Finance Department	Superintendent's Office