

Approved

Hudson School Committee Open Session Minutes

Meeting Date: November 26, 2013

Location: Administration Building
155 Apsley Street

Members present: Susan Dunnell, Lynn Valcourt, Jennifer O'Brien,
and Lorraine Nelson

Members Absent: Brian Davis

Others present: Dr. Kevin M. Lyons, Superintendent
Alex Schley, Student Representative

I. Call the Meeting to Order – 8:05 p.m.

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

II. Approval of Minutes

1. Regular Meeting – November 12, 2013: 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.
2. Joint Meeting with the Board of Selectmen – September 23, 2013: A motion to approve the minutes was made by Mrs. Nelson and seconded by Mrs. Dunnell. On a vote of 4-0, the motion passed.

III. Superintendent's Report – Dr. Kevin Lyons

Budget Update: Dr. Lyons and Finance Director Patty Lange met with Chris Sandini on November 21st to review the Town's financial projections. At that meeting, Mr. Sandini projected a 2.25 percent increase in Town funding based upon the assumption that state and federal aid will be flat and on the Town projected expenses and revenues.

Budget Subcommittee meetings were held on November 14th, 19th and 21st to review budget need presentations of Principals and Directors. The Subcommittee will continue to meet to begin the process of prioritization and contingency plans should the projected deficit for FY15 require significant school budget reductions that would impact instruction and personnel.

Finance Director Patty Lange and the Finance Department continue working on the current projections of a below-level funded budget and a maintenance-of-effort budget.

Dr. Lyons will continue to update the Committee on budget issues.

Hudson High School Student Music Awards: Dr. Lyons congratulated the following Hudson High Students who participated in the 57th Annual Massachusetts Central District Music Festival:

Edward Andrews	Grade 11	Bass Voice
Buren Andrews	Grade 10	Tenor Voice
Kathryn Benson	Grade 11	Percussion
Taylor Benson	Grade 11	Bass Voice and Concert Piano
Vinicius Bulhoes	Grade 12	Tenor Voice
Andrew Doherty Munro	Grade 11	Clarinet
Aneesh Kashalikar	Grade 9	Alto Saxophone
Brooke Leibowitz	Grade 11	Alto Voice
Therese McCumber	Grade 9	Jazz Piano
Emily McLaughlin	Grade 9	Tenor Saxophone
Nadia Medeiros	Grade 11	Soprano Voice
Brooke Mega	Grade 12	Alto Voice
Kathleen Meyer	Grade 11	Soprano Voice
Andrew Nugent	Grade 11	Tenor Voice
Matthew Snow	Grade 12	Jazz Guitar
Thaya Zalewski	Grade 9	Clarinet

Dr. Lyons congratulated students and teachers Jeannette McLellan and Jason Caron for all their hard work.

Town Meeting: Dr. Lyons reported that the Special Town Meeting scheduled for November 18th was cancelled due to lack of quorum and subsequently held on November 25th where Article 2, School Budget Adjustment, passed which increases the appropriation to schools by \$16,267, which accounts for monies previously factored into the FY14 budget.

MetroWest Careers Pathways Fair: The MetroWest Careers Pathways Fair, in partnership with Scott Darlington, Assabet R.V.T.H.S. and Quinsigamond Community College, was held at Hudson High School on November 14th. The event targeted students interested in working in the trades or attending 2-year institute or community college program related to the trades. The fair included a motivational speaker, 27 institutions and military representatives.

Mr. Darlington shared some highlights of the event with Committee members and the work being done at the High School with students and career paths.

School Council Training: School Council Training was held on November 13th at Hudson High School. Approximately 30 School Council members participated in the training provided by Glenn Koocher, Executive Director of MASC.

Conflict of Interest: Under Massachusetts law regarding Conflict of Interest, all municipal employees are required to participate in an on-line training and pass a certification test. This is the second cycle of the process which began in 2011.

Dr. Lyons noted that School Committee members are also required to do this Conflict of Interest training and provide certification of completion to the Town Clerk.

Fingerprinting of Employees and Others: Massachusetts has a new Fingerprinting Law which requires all school employees who may have unsupervised contact with minors be fingerprinted. School systems are then required to run a criminal check through the national criminal database. Fingerprints will be required to be completed during the current school year on all employees hired after July 1, 2013 and on early education employees. All current employees must be fingerprinted and checked within the next three years and will be scheduled concurrent with each employees CORI check date. The costs for fingerprinting for a licensed teacher will be \$55.00, substitutes \$35.00 if not licensed, and all other school roles and transportation providers and early educators \$35.00.

Superintendent's Listening Post: In an effort to increase two-way communication and to get community-wide input on concerns, suggestions, or any school-related matter, Dr. Lyons announced the initiative of the Superintendent's Listening Post, a new two-way communication tool in "My Voice" on the Distribute webpage which allows an individual to communicate with the Superintendent, by name or anonymously, in regard to questions, concerns or comments on-line and receive a response by the Superintendent or appropriate staff member. This Superintendent's Listening Post will be announced through list-serve and other venues.

State Releases Educator Evaluation: On November 21st, the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education released a summary of educator evaluation ratings by category, state-wide for those districts who participated. Committee members received the report and additional documentation on Hudson and further breakdown of job roles and communication released by the Commissioner's office.

IV. **Special Reports and Presentations:**

New Playground at Mulready Elementary School: Dr. Mary McCarthy, Sandra Mauri and Carolyn Giugliano shared snapshots of the groundbreaking work and the new playground at Mulready Elementary. Dr. McCarthy thanked the community and the work of Ms. Mairui and Ms. Giugliano to make the dream of a new playground a reality.

Ms. Giugliano presented Ms. Mairui with a card signed by the children thanking her for all her fundraising and hard work.

Ms. Mairui presented the playground to the School Committee.

Committee Chair Susan Dunnell and School Committee members thanked the community, Dr. McCarthy, Ms. Mairui and Ms. Giuliano for their efforts and their continued dedication to Hudson Public Schools.

V. **Old Business**

None.

VI. **Community Comments**

None.

VII. **New Business**

1. PARCC Field Testing and MCAS Testing Decision:

Dr. Jodi Fortuna updated the School Committee on PARCC, the proposed testing system that would replace MCAS next year. Her PowerPoint presentation highlighted the need for new assessments now, a description of PARCC, optional and required assessments, scores, PARCC priorities and expectations, a sampling of test questions and complexities for grades 3 and 7, as well as the schools participating in the field testing in 2014.

Dr. Fortuna will continue to update the Committee on new information received.

School Committee members thanked Dr. Fortuna for the very helpful information and look forward to hearing more about PARCC.

2. Superintendent's Goals:

Committee Chair Susan Dunnell suggested that this item be moved to a later date due to the fact that two additional Committee members will be in place soon and it would be beneficial to have them present to hear the Superintendent's Goals presentation.

Committee members agreed and the item was tabled for a future School Committee meeting.

3. Approval of Superintendent's Contract:

A motion to approve the Superintendent's contract was made by Mrs. Nelson and seconded by Ms. Valcourt. On a vote of 4-0, the motion passed.

4. Approval of Out-of-State Travel for Athletic Director:

Dr. Lyons recommended approval for Athletic Director, Luis Macedo, to attend the 44th National Athletic Director Conference in Anaheim, California December 13-17, 2013 where he will moderate the workshop *Molding Coaches into Leaders*.

A motion to approve the out-of-state travel for Athletic Director, Luis Macedo, to attend the 44th National Athletic Director Conference in Anaheim, California December 13-17, 2013 was made by Mrs. O'Brien and seconded by Mrs. Nelson. On a vote of 3-1, with Ms. Valcourt opposing, the motion passed.

5. Approval of Contract with CXtec for Network Switches:

Dr. Lyons recommended approval of the contract with CXtex in the amount of \$12,596.81 for network switches.

A motion to approve the contract with CXtex in the amount of \$12,596.81 for network switches was made by Ms. Valcourt and seconded by Mrs. Nelson. On a vote of 4-0, the motion passed.

6. Approval of Contract with Advanced Presentations for Classroom Projectors:

Dr. Lyons recommended approval of the contract with Advanced Presentations for Classroom Projectors in the amount of \$64,669.00 for classroom projectors.

A motion to approve the contract was made by Ms. Valcourt and seconded by Mrs. Nelson. On a vote of 4-0, the motion passed.

VIII. **Reclassification of Funds**

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

IX. **Subcommittee and Committee Liaison Reports**

Mrs. O'Brien reported that the Policy Subcommittee met and began the initial review of policies for the year, which includes social media, staff conduct, anti-bullying, fingerprinting, CORI, textbook adoption policy, finance and student activities.

Discussion ensued.

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Ms. Valcourt reported that the Budget Subcommittee received the first line of budget requests from team leaders and will be meeting again shortly.

Discussion ensued.

Committee Chair Susan Dunnell announced the appointment of Mrs. O'Brien to the Budget Subcommittee team.

X. **Communications**

None.

XI. **Executive Session/Adjournment**

At 9:45 p.m., Committee Chair Susan Dunnell noted that there was no need for Executive Session.

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 November 12, 2013	School Committee	Superintendent's Office
Superintendent's Report	Superintendent	Superintendent's Office
Two Email Correspondences from Jason Caron dated November 17 th and November 18 th , 2013	James Caron	Superintendent's Office
Effective School Councils in 2013 PowerPoint	Glenn Koocher, Executive Director, MASC	Superintendent's Office
Frequently Asked Questions Regarding Background Checks Law	Executive Office of Education	Superintendent's Office
Correspondence dated November 14, 2013 from Jeff Wulfson, Deputy Commissioner, DESE, Re: Implementation of Fingerprint-based State and National Criminal Record Checks (SAFIS)	Jeff Wulfson, Deputy Commissioner, DESE	Superintendent's Office
Memorandum re: Hudson Public Schools Introducing New Community Engagement Initiative – Superintendent's Listening Post	Superintendent	Superintendent's Office
Memorandum dated November 21, 2013 re: Most Teachers Get High Marks as State Releases Evaluations for Individual Schools	DESE	Superintendent's Office
Mulready Cougar Courier – December 2013	Dr. Mary McCarthy	Superintendent's Office
MCAS and PARCC PowerPoint Presentation	Dr. Jodi Fortuna	Superintendent's Office
Superintendent's Proposed Educator Goals 2013-2014	Superintendent	Superintendent's Office
Superintendent's Contract	School Committee	Superintendent's Office
Memorandum re: Out of State Travel Approval for Luis Macedo dated November 21, 2013	Brian K. Reagan	Superintendent's Office
Contract with CXtex	Ellen Schuck	Superintendent's Office
Contract with Advanced Presentations for Classroom Projectors	Ellen Schuck	Superintendent's Office
Reclasses (2)	Superintendent	Superintendent's Office