

Approved

**Hudson School Committee
Open Session Minutes**

Meeting Date: February 24, 2015

Location: Administration Building
155 Apsley Street

Members present: Jennifer O'Brien, Lynn Valcourt, Brian Davis, Michele Tousignant Dufour, Allyson Hay and Glenn Maston

Members absent: George Luoto
Alex Schley, Student Representative

Others present: Dr. Jodi Fortuna, Superintendent
Julia M. Pisegna, Recording Secretary

I. Call the Meeting to Order – 7:04 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by Committee Chair, Jennifer O'Brien.

II. Approval of Minutes:

Regular Meeting –February 10, 2015: A motion to approve the minutes was made by Mrs. Tousignant Dufour and seconded by Mr. Maston. On a vote of 5-0-1, with Mr. Davis abstaining, the motion passed.

III. Reports:

Student Representative Report

None.

Superintendent's Report – Dr. Jodi Fortuna

District Improvement Plan

Dr. Fortuna shared that, despite the snow, the leadership team continues to be on track to refine the objectives, action plan, and benchmarks of the District Improvement Plan, and that the School Committee will receive a first draft of the District Improvement Plan at the March 24th meeting.

Technology Department:

Dr. Fortuna reported that during February vacation, Ellen Shuck and the Technology Department completed the following upgrades to the District’s network infrastructure:

- Installed a new HP switch at HHS to allow faster communication between our internal equipment.
- Installed two new “host” servers and a 14 TB SAN (Storage area network). The SAN is now holding 21 district servers.
- Virtualized 21 district servers using VMware, an industry standard software program.
- Rebuilt the District Microsoft Exchange servers.
- Built two backup servers utilizing VEEAM, an industry standard software program. One server will be housed at HHS; the other at Quinn. On a nightly basis, the data will replicate between HHS and Quinn providing a full backup copy of all data.
- Upgraded the District’s domain infrastructure from Windows Server 2003 R2 to Windows server 2008 R2.

Dr. Fortuna thanked Ms. Schuck and her team for an outstanding job on the District upgrade.

Curriculum and Instruction Update

Snow

Dr. Fortuna reported that due to ongoing weather and the number of snow days used, the Department of Education has extended the MCAS test administration window by one week. The new schedule looks like:

Regular Testing Window	Extended Testing Window	
<i>Spring 2015 MCAS and MCAS Alternate Assessment</i>		
Grades 3–8 ELA Reading Comprehension Tests	March 23–April 6 (UPS pickup deadline: April 8)	March 23–April 13 (UPS pickup deadline: April 15)
Grades 3–8 Mathematics and STE Tests	May 4–19 (UPS pickup deadline: May 21)	May 4–26 (UPS pickup deadline: May 28)
MCAS–Alt	UPS pickup deadline: April 2	UPS pickup deadline: April 8

2. Alternate Schedules for MCAS Tests with Prescribed Dates
(The decision to use an alternate schedule must be submitted to the Department by Thursday, February 26.)

Approved

The Department will offer alternate schedules, including extensions to the make-up periods, for MCAS tests with **prescribed dates**, as shown in the table below.

	Regular Administrati on Date	Alternate Administrati on Date	Alternate UPS pickup deadline
ELA Composition (Grades 4, 7, and 10)	March 24	April 2	April 15
ELA Composition Make-Up (Grades 4, 7, and 10)	April 2	April 8	
Grade 10 ELA Reading Comprehension, Sessions 1 and 2	March 25	March 31	
Grade 10 ELA Reading Comprehension, Session 3	March 26	April 1	
Grade 10 Mathematics, Session 1	May 12	May 19	May 28
Grade 10 Mathematics, Session 2	May 13	May 20	
High School STE, Session 1	June 2	June 8	June 15
High School STE, Session 2	June 3	June 9	

The Grade 10 MCAS testing dates are fixed by the State. By taking advantage of the testing extension that the State has offered, Grade 10 students will now be taking Session 2 of the MCAS Mathematics test on May 20th. May 20th was a scheduled half day, and the District would be unable to test on that day.

Dr. Fortuna recommended that the Committee vote to approve a change in the 2014-2015 school calendar so that May 20th would be a full day of school and May 27th would be a half day for the purpose of professional development.

A motion to approve a change in the 2014-2015 school calendar so that May 20th would be a full day of school and May 27th would be a half day for the purpose of professional development was made by Ms. Valcourt and seconded by Mrs. Tousignant Dufour. On a vote of 6-0, the motion passed.

School Visits

Dr. Fortuna updated the Committee on her professional practice goals of spending one half day a week at each of the schools and this past week visited Quinn Middle School and Hudson High School where Dr. Fortuna had the honor of judging the Annual Hudson High School Shakespeare Competition, an annual event sponsored by the Hudson High School Home and School.

This year's winners were:

Scott Kall – First Prize
Teddy Waszazak – Second Prize
Alicia Sagastume – Third Prize

Dr. Fortuna thanked Ms. Susan Menanson and the Hudson High School Home and School for their continued dedication and support.

Enrollment

IV.

As of this date, enrollments numbers are unofficial. The Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education collects enrollment data in October, March and June.

Subcommittee Reports:

V.

None.

Matters for Discussion:

VI.

None.

Public Participation:

VII.

None.

Matters for Action:

VIII.

1. Approval of Participation in School Choice for 2015-2016:

Dr. Fortuna recommended approval of participation in School Choice for 2015-2016 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 2015-2016 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 Mrs. Hay and seconded by Mrs. Tousignant Dufour. On a vote of 6-0, the motion passed.

2. Approval of Preliminary School Calendar for 2015-2016:

Dr. Fortuna noted that the proposed School Calendar for 2015-2016 would remain posted on the District website and tabled for vote at the March 10th School Committee meeting.

Discussion ensued.

Approved

3. Approval of School Committee Meeting Calendar for 2015-2016:

Discussion ensued.

Dr. Fortuna recommended approval of the School Committee Meeting Calendar for 2015-2016, with the additional meetings scheduled for December 1 and December 15, 2015.

A motion to approve the School Committee Meeting Calendar for 2015-2016, as amended, was made by Ms. Valcourt and seconded by Mrs. Hay. On a vote of 6-0, the motion passed.

4. Second Read of Proposed School Committee Policy EFDA – *Meal Charge*

Dr. Fortuna noted that the proposed School Committee Policy EFDA – *Meal Charge* would remain posted on the District website and tabled for vote at the March 10th School Committee meeting.

IX. Reclassifications

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

X. Items of Interest

Mrs. Hay would like to begin the Superintendent's Evaluation process and volunteered to Chair the Subcommittee. Mr. Maston also volunteered to be part of the Subcommittee.

Discussion ensued.

XI. Executive Session/Adjournment

At 7:56 p.m., Committee Chair, Jennifer O'Brien, noted that there was need for an Executive Session to discuss strategy with respect to preparation for contract negotiations, because an open session may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position, or legal position, of the Committee.

A motion to enter into Executive Session was made by Ms. Valcourt and seconded by Mr. Maston.

Approved

Vote by roll call:

Mrs. O'Brien – yes

Ms. Valcourt - yes

Mr. Davis – yes

Mrs. Tousignant Dufour – yes

Mrs. Hay – yes

Mr. Maston - yes

Respectfully submitted,

Michele Tousignant Dufour, Secretary
Hudson School Committee