

Approved

**Hudson School Committee
Open Session Minutes**

Meeting Date: December 9, 2014

Location: Administration Building
155 Apsley Street

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

Members absent: Glenn Maston

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

I. Call the Meeting to Order – 7:02 p.m.

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

II. Approval of Minutes

Regular Meeting – November 18, 2014: A motion to approve the minutes was made by Mr. Luoto and seconded by Mrs. Hay. On a vote of 6-0, the motion passed.

Committee Chair, Jennifer O'Brien, announced that the Agenda would be taken out of order.

III. Matters for Discussion

Consideration for the Renaming of the Forest Avenue Elementary School the Mary J. O'Malley Elementary School

Mr. Bob O'Malley read a brief statement to Committee members and requested that consideration for the renaming of the Forest Avenue Elementary School the Mary J. O'Malley Elementary School be withdrawn and thanked Dr. Fortuna and Committee members for their consideration.

Dr. Fortuna announced that the Hudson Public Schools Child Development Center Program will be named the Mary J. O'Malley Child Development Program in honor of Mary's dedication and years of service to the children and families of Hudson.

IV. **Reports:**

Student Representative Report

Student representative, Alex Schley, reported to the Committee that recycle bins have been placed on all athletic fields. The Buddy Program will host a night out on Friday, December 12th. Ms. Schley will continue to update the Committee on future items.

Communications Subcommittee – Denise Reid

Communications Subcommittee member, Denise Reid, shared a PowerPoint presentation to the Committee highlighting the work of the subcommittee on the new logo, the value of branding reflecting the changing landscape of education, the greater competition, and the value of the brand. The new logo is a fresh look for Hudson Public Schools and the colors reflect the brightness and vitality of the work happening daily and focuses on families, the colorful book representing the broad educational base provided, the multicolored mortar board representing graduates that are college and career ready, and the sun reflects growth and how education offers new beginnings.

Discussion ensued.

Committee members and Dr. Fortuna thanked Ms. Reid for the great job and her hard work on the Committee.

Superintendent’s Report – Dr. Jodi Fortuna

Progress Towards Goals and Superintendent’s Professional Growth:

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 Mulready Elementary with focus on Kindergarten and Grade 1 literacy and Response to Intervention (RtI) time with all students actively engaged and the staff meeting their needs.

New Superintendent Induction Program

This session of the program focused on the development of entry reports, as well as further development of the “5 Whys” protocol as a way of conducting the root cause analysis of issues facing the District which will be used to identify the strategic goals and priorities for the District Improvement Plan.

Finance and Operations and Facilities:

Human Resources

Cindy Fensin, Director of Human Resources, has streamlined and semi-automated the District hiring process which capitalizes on automation and efficiency of SchoolSpring. All District hiring and postings will now be done exclusively through SchoolSpring.

Parent and Community Groups:

Marlborough – Chamber of Commerce

Dr. Fortuna was guest speaker at the December 4th School to Business Committee of the Marlborough Chamber of Commerce where she shared her experiences as the new Superintendent in Hudson.

Hudson Disaster Animal Response Team (Hudson DART)

Hudson Disaster Animal Response Team (Hudson DART) is a volunteer organization operating under the auspices of the Town of Hudson Board of Health and the Town of Hudson Medical Reserve Corps. and prepares and assists pet owners in case of emergencies and evacuation of their homes. Farley Elementary School gym was discussed as a possible location for an emergency situation.

Personnel and Celebrations:

Resignations:

Dr. Fortuna informed the Committee of the resignation of Jenny Gormley as Director of Health, Nursing and Safety. Ms. Gormley's last day will be Monday, February 9th. There will be discussions with the Committee regarding this position at a future date.

Outstanding Teaching:

Dr. Fortuna was in a building at the same time a student experienced an emotional outburst and observed the level of professionalism and empathy of the school psychologist as she calmly handled the situation. Dr. Fortuna thanked all the educators and staff in Hudson who look after the needs of the whole child every day.

Follow-up to School Committee Items of Interest:

School to Career Event

Scott Darlington will be at the January 13th School Committee meeting to provide an update on the School to Career Event.

School Zone Signage at QMS and HHS

In response to an inquiry by Committee member, Brian Davis, regarding the issue of identifying the schools zones for the Quinn Middle School and Hudson High School, the matter was brought to the attention of the Town and the Internal Traffic Committee, who then deferred it to Mr. Tony Marques, DPW Director for the Town of Hudson. Mr. Marques reported that all of the other school zones in the Town were installed and maintained by the School Department. The Facilities Department is examining the possibility of solar powered LED lights to help reduce the electrical costs and research any available grants for this project.

Enrollment

As of this date, enrollments numbers are unofficial. The official numbers from the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education will be out in October.

V. **Subcommittee Reports**

Ms. Valcourt reported that the next scheduled Budget Subcommittee is scheduled for Wednesday, December 17th.

VI. **Matters for Discussion (continued):**

Timeline for Curriculum:

Todd Wallingford, Curriculum Director for Secondary English Language Arts and Social Studies and Karen Martin, Director of Elementary Education shared with the Committee the work being done on the elementary curriculum, assessment maps and units and laid out the following timetable:

Grade 1-4 Literacy - June 2015
Kindergarten Literacy - January 2016
Grades K-4 Mathematics - June 2016
Grades K-4 Integrated Science, Social Studies and History - June 2016

Discussion ensued.

VII. **Public Participation:**

None.

VIII. **Matters for Action:**

1. Approval of Contract with Frank L. Rounds, Inc. for On-Call Boiler Repair in the Amount of \$131.00 Per Hour.

Dr. Fortuna recommended that the Committee approve the Contract with Frank L. Rounds, Inc. for on-call boiler repair in the amount of \$131.00 per hour.

A motion to approve the Contract with Frank L. Rounds, Inc. for on-call boiler repair in the amount of \$131.00 per hour was made by Ms. Valcourt and seconded by Mrs. Hay. On a vote of 6-0, the motion passed.

2. Approval of Proprietary Specification to Replace the Building Automation System at Farley Elementary School Pursuant to Warrant Article No. 3037 dated November 18, 2014.

Dr. Fortuna recommended that the Committee approve the Proprietary Specification to replace the building automation system at Farley Elementary School pursuant to Warrant Article No. 3037 dated November 18, 2014.

A motion to approve the Proprietary Specification to replace the building automation system at Farley Elementary School pursuant to Warrant Article No. 3037 dated November 18, 2014 was made by Mrs. Hay and seconded by Mrs. Tousignant Dufour. On a vote of 6-0, the motion passed.

3. Approval for Out-of-State Travel for Cameron Cieslick – Peruvian Amazon in April, 2015.

Dr. Fortuna recommended that the Committee approve the out-of-state travel for Cameron Cieslick to the Peruvian Amazon in April, 2015.

A motion to approve the out-of-state travel for Cameron Cieslick to the Peruvian Amazon in April, 2015 was made by Mr. Luoto and seconded by Ms. Valcourt. On a vote of 6-0, the motion passed.

4. Approval to Rescind School Committee Policy IKADA-Tutoring for Credit, approval to rescind School Committee Policy IHADA-Post Graduate Students, approval to rescind School Committee Policy JJIBA-Athletic Awards, approval to rescind School Committee Policy IKBB-Role of the Parent in Homework, approval to rescind School Committee Policy IKBA-Role of the Teacher in Homework, and approval to rescind School Committee Policy IKBA-Role of the Pupil in Homework was made by Mr. Luoto and seconded by Mrs. Tousignant Dufour. On a vote of 6-0, the motion passed.

Approved

5. First Read of Proposed School Committee Policy JIBAA – High School Student Governance:

Dr. Fortuna noted that the proposed School Committee Policy JIBAA – *High School Student Governance* would be distributed to staff and posted on the District website and will be tabled for vote at the January 13th School Committee meeting.

6. First Read of Proposed School Committee Policy JHBB - High School Course Attendance Requirements:

Dr. Fortuna noted that the proposed School Committee Policy JIBAA – *High School Course Attendance Requirements* would be distributed to staff and posted on the District website and will be tabled for vote at the January 13th School Committee meeting.

7. First Read of Proposed School Committee Policy IHCA - Summer School Policy:

Dr. Fortuna noted that the proposed School Committee Policy IHCA – *Summer School Policy* would be distributed to staff and posted on the District website and will be tabled for vote at the January 13th School Committee meeting.

Discussion ensued.

IX. **Reclassifications**

None.

X. **Executive Session/Adjournment**

At 8:38 p.m., Committee Chair Jennifer O'Brien noted that there was no need for Executive Session.

A motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Valcourt and seconded by Mrs. Hay. On a vote of 6-0, the motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Michele Tousignant Dufour, Secretary
Hudson School Committee