

*Approved*

**Hudson School Committee  
Open Session Minutes**

**Meeting Date:** November 4, 2014

**Location:** Administration Building  
155 Apsley Street

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

Members absent: None

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

**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 – October 21, 2014: 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. Luoto abstaining, the motion passed.

**III. Reports**

Student Representative Report:

Alex Schley shared with Committee members that the High School Student Council started a buddy system with the special education students where they have lunch together and are developing relationships.

Dr. Fortuna thanked Ms. Schley for the wonderful work she continues to do not only at the high school, but also in the Hudson community as she serves as a true example of the good students of Hudson High School.

**Superintendent's Report – Dr. Jodi Fortuna**

**Progress Toward 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 Forest Avenue and Mulready Elementary Schools grade 3 and observed the students Foundations lesson, the District's phonics/spelling program for K-3. Dr. Fortuna also observed math lessons where the students were actively engaged in the Module 2 of the EngageNY program.

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Dr. Fortuna continues to find this observation essential time with both Principals and educators.

*Presentation for Literacy for All Conference*

On Tuesday, November 4<sup>th</sup>, Dr. Fortuna, Tammy Mulligan and Claire Landergan, along with a team of colleagues from Newton and Franklin, presented at the Literacy for All Conference in Providence, RI. The title of the presentation, *Meeting the Needs of All Readers: Making Response to Intervention a Reality (Grades K-6)* was very well received and an honor to be part of this premier Northeast Region event.

**Finance and Operations and Facilities:**

*MSBA Conference Call*

Dr. Fortuna, Patty Lange and Len Belli participated in a conference call with the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) and RDA Design and discussed the Mulready roof replacement project, project timeline and pending Town meeting approval. The project is well positioned for presentation at the January 14, 2015 MSBA Board meeting.

*Facilities*

The Quinn Middle School contractor has been selected for the modifications to the casework to improve the performance of the heating system. This work will take place during the evening, completing one room a night.

*(Ms. Valcourt entered the meeting at 7:14 p.m.)*

**Parent and Community Groups:**

*Community Conversation: Raising Healthy Teens*

Dr. Fortuna thanked all that attended the Community Conversation: Raising Healthy Teen event held on Tuesday, October 28<sup>th</sup>. The event was very informative and well received. State Representative Kate Hogan, Town officials Sam Wong, Fred Lucy and Executive Assistant Tom Moses were in the audience.

Committee member, Allyson Hay, noted that it was a wonderful event and encouraged more parents and community members to attend future meetings.

Dr. Fortuna thanked local business who participated, The Horseshoe Pub, Harvest Café and Smyles Frozen Yogurt, for their continued support to the Hudson Public Schools community.

*Lions Club Sight and Hearing Screening*

*Approved*

Dr. Fortuna thanked the Stow Lions Club members who volunteered in the EyeMobile and conducted annual vision and hearing screenings for approximately 1,600 Hudson students. Their efforts allow for all students to be screened earlier in the year which results in earlier follow-up by school nurses when potential issues arise.

*Invitation to Superintendent's Parent Advisory Team*

Dr. Fortuna has invited 14 parents to join the Superintendent's Parent Advisory Team. This team will offer District parents an opportunity to discuss District-wide challenges facing students and families in the Hudson Public Schools and will provide a two-way communication between the Superintendent and families. The meetings will be held the third Tuesday of each month from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at the Administration Building.

*Boys and Girls Club Visit*

On Tuesday, October 28<sup>th</sup>, Dr. Fortuna did a "club walk" at the Boys and Girls Club with Chris Duane, Vice President of Development, Rosemary Corley, MetroWest Boys and Girls Club Board Member and Gary Violotte, Cellucci Clubhouse Director.

Dr. Fortuna thanked them for being such a wonderful community partner and for all they do for the Hudson Public Schools.

*Installation of UNESCO Mosaic on Rail Trail*

On Saturday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>, a UNESCO mosaic tile was installed at the Rail Trail. The mosaic was completed by Hudson Public School students attending the UNESCO conference in Portugal in January, 2015. The 3' x 5' broken tile mosaic "One World, Multiple Cultures" honors and celebrates the cultural diversity in the Town of Hudson as part of their project to be presented at the 17<sup>th</sup> International Meeting of Young Scientists of the UNESCO Associated Schools.

**Personnel and Celebrations**

Dr. Fortuna's weekly highlight of an excellent teaching practice was observed while on her school visit with the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade class at Forest and included the classroom teacher, the math specialist and a special educator and every student working on the same learning outcome.

*Project Lead the Way*

On Friday, October 17<sup>th</sup>, Ryan Dailey, Josh Otlin, Megan Dubay, Rebekah Whitesel, Eric Ahearn and Ellen Schuck attended the fall Massachusetts PLTW Conferences hosted by WPI.

Mr. Dailey's presentation on "Promoting Your PLTW Program Students, Parents and the Community and Ms. Schuck's presentation on "Building PLTW Partnership Teams – Bringing the Community into the Classroom" was very well received.

*Approved*

Dr. Fortuna thanked Ms. Schuck and her technology team for their continued efforts on the PLTW program.

*Visiting Teacher from Wellesley*

Dr. Fortuna received a thank you note from the reading specialist at the Hardy School in Wellesley. Principal Charlene Cook asked if her reading specialist could come to Hudson and observe how our staff conducted data meetings.

Dr. Fortuna noted that this is wonderful validation of the great work that our teachers do.

**Follow-up to School Committee Items of Interest:**

*Quinn Homework Club*

Mr. Webster conducted an evaluation of the after school homework club in the Quinn library and found that the after school homework help situation is manageable and will become more so after the ESL support services begin. It appears that those in need are accessing their teachers appropriately after school at this point.

*Family Math Nights*

The following dates have been announced for Family Math Nights to provide parents with practical strategies to help their students with math:

Wednesday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> at Forest Avenue from 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Thursday, February 5<sup>th</sup> at Mulready Elementary School from 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, April 15<sup>th</sup> at Farley Elementary School from 6:30-7:30 p.m.

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.

IV.

**Subcommittee Reports**

Mrs. O'Brien shared that the Community and Business Partnership Subcommittee met and continues to pick up traction, the next Public Relations Subcommittee meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 10, and the next Policy Subcommittee is scheduled for Monday, November 17<sup>th</sup>.

Ms. Valcourt noted that the Budget Subcommittee meetings are scheduled for the following dates: November 12<sup>th</sup>, November 19<sup>th</sup>, November 25<sup>th</sup> and December 10<sup>th</sup>.

*Approved*

A motion to take the Agenda out of order was made by Ms. Valcourt and seconded by Mrs. Tousignant Dufour. On a vote of 7-0, the motion passed.

**V. Matters for Action**

1. Pre-Approval of the Contract for Emergency Water Heater Replacement at Hudson High School:

Dr. Fortuna recommended that the Committee approve the Contract with Frank L. Rounds Co., Inc. for emergency water heater replacement at Hudson High School.

A motion to approve the maximum contract dollars and/or rate for materials, labor, permits, debris removal and start up not to exceed \$31,650.00 with Frank L. Rounds Co., Inc., for emergency water heater replacement at Hudson High School was made by Ms. Valcourt and seconded by Mrs. Hay. On a vote of 7-0, the motion passed.

**VI. Matters for Discussion**

Dr. Fortuna showed various video clips and a PowerPoint presentation highlighting the Common Core and what it actually is and is not.

Discussion ensued.

**VII. Public Participation**

Parent Karen Masse and Dr. Kevin O'Connor addressed to Committee on EngageNY questions, Common Core concerns and the timeline for the implementation of a curriculum.

Discussion ensued.

**VIII. Matters for Action (continued)**

Discussion of Massachusetts Association of School Committee Annual Meeting Resolutions:

Discussion took place relative to the proposed resolutions to be voted on at the MASC/MASS 2014 Conference and noted as follows:

Resolution 1 – Greater Transparency and Accountability for Out of District Placement Costs: Yes

Resolution 2 – Universal Quality Pre-Kindergarten Access in Massachusetts: No

Resolution 3 – Charter School Reform: Yes

Resolution 4 – Fingerprinting: Yes

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Resolution 5: Reinstitution of Earmarking: Yes

Resolution 6: Unfunded Mandates and New Testing: Yes

Resolution 7: Assessment System in Massachusetts: Yes

Proposals to Amend the MASC By-Laws: Yes

IX. **Reclassifications**

None.

X. **Executive Session/Adjournment**

At 9:18 p.m., Committee Chair, Jennifer O'Brien, noted that there was need for an Executive Session.

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

Vote by roll call:

Mrs. O'Brien – yes  
Ms. Valcourt - yes  
Mr. Davis – yes  
Mr. Luoto - yes  
Mrs. Tousignant Dufour – yes  
Mrs. Hay – yes  
Mr. Maston - yes

Respectfully submitted,

Michele Tousignant Dufour, Secretary  
Hudson School Committee

*Approved*

List of Documents Source and Location

<b>DOC NAME</b>	<b>SOURCE</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>
Superintendent's Report	Superintendent	Superintendent's Office
Minutes of October 7, 2014	Superintendent	Superintendent's Office
Memorandum of Agreement Between the Hudson Education Association, Inc. and the Hudson School Committee	School Committee/Hudson Education Association, Inc.	Superintendent's Office
Elementary Math Transition PowerPoint	Superintendent	Superintendent's Office
Parent Feedback on Elementary Math Program	Superintendent	Superintendent's Office
Contract for Project Management Services	Len Belli	Superintendent's Office
Copy of Letter to Families dated November 1, 2014	Superintendent	Superintendent's Office
Community Conversations: Raising Healthy Teens Flyer	Hudson Youth Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition	Superintendent's Office
Reclassifications (1)	Finance Department	Superintendent's Office