

Approved

**Hudson School Committee
Open Session Minutes**

Meeting Date: December 18, 2018

Location: 155 Aspley Street

Members present: Glenn Maston, Steven Smith, George Luoto, Elizabeth Hallsworth, Adam Tracy, Nina Ryan and Matthew McDowell

Members absent: None

Others present: Dr. Marco C. Rodrigues, Superintendent
Annamarie O'Donnell, Recording Secretary

I. Call to Order 7:02 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by Committee Chair, Glenn Maston.

II. Approval of Minutes:

Regular Meeting: December 4, 2018

A motion to approve the minutes of December 4, 2018 was made by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. Luoto. On a vote of 7-0, the motion passed.

III. Public Participation:

Beth Langlois, Forest Avenue parent, asked if in conjunction with the new facilities policy, consideration was being given to closing the schools to students for election day due to traffic and safety issues. The committee responded that this was planned for the next National Election.

IV. Reports and Presentations:

Report of the Superintendent

a) Report of the Superintendent:

Dr. Rodrigues stated that the report of the Superintendent would be a presentation on the ARC program initiative at Hudson High School. Some members of the Hudson High School staff have researched this initiative for over two years. They would like to start a pilot at Hudson High School. Interim Principal Jonathan Bourn stated this program is unique in that it comes from teachers and administrators. ARC stands for Academics, Relationships, and Community.

Ms. June Murray, World Cultures Teacher at Hudson High School, introduced the ARC program. Ms. Murray played a trailer which will be shown to students in

January. Ms. Murray introduced the team of teachers and the student present, and noted that the group tried to pull teachers from every department and from essentials to AP.

Ms. Murray gave some background on how this initiative started. The team designed a survey to model the nationally known Quaglia survey, which is used to uncover trends in student responses relating to their needs and deficits. She presented some results and trends of the School Voice Survey 2017.

After reviewing the results of the survey, the committee decided to explore options. They visited schools with advisory programs. What the team realized is that there are some flaws with advisory programs and that these types of programs would not meet the needs identified in the survey.

Over a dozen members of the committee went on a site visit to ConVal High School in Peterborough NH. Their program is a reallocation of academic time. Building on this, the committee looked to fit in interventions, enrichments, extensions, and supports as part of the students' day.

ARC reallocates academic time giving students the opportunity to make choices about where they spend a part of their day. A sample schedule was displayed. The ARC period is a forty-minute block between second and third period. Each student will be assigned a mentor and remain with that mentor for the duration of their time at Hudson High School. On Mondays, students spend their ARC period with their Monday mentor and discuss what needs to be accomplished the coming week.

Mr. Bourn stated the need to acquire software needed to schedule students into the ARC blocks during the week. The software works with ASPEN, and would be used by mentors, teachers and counselors, and students.

Ms. Murray continued, describing how the ARC program values align with the District Improvement Plan and its strategic objectives.

Mr. Lonnie Quirion, Hudson High School Psychology teacher, explained to the committee the ways the team would measure the success of the program. He stated that both quantitative and qualitative data, including surveys, attendance, disciplinary referrals, extra-curricular activity eligibility lists, and focus groups will be used.

Discussion ensued. Some of the topics included:

- The scheduling software
- Monday ARC period and time allotted per student
- Mentor assignments and student groups
- Scheduling of students so groups remain small
- Potential loss of time on learning and how to measure/monitor this
- Perceived barriers

- Culture change
- Teacher support- teacher survey
- Communication with parents about the program
 - Letter from Principal Bourn
 - Parent Information session on January 17,2019
- Social emotional impact and measurement
- Challenges with adjusting the lunch schedules

b) Subcommittee Reports

Strategic Goals Subcommittee

Mr. Maston noted that the School Committee Communication Survey is open and will close on December 21, 2018. Ms. Hallsworth stated that the committee would meet after the survey closed.

Other:

Mr. Maston stated that he, Mr. Smith, and Mr. Luoto attended the first ELPAC meeting.

c) Student Presentation

Student representative Ben Carne presented the following update to the Committee. The council has not had a formal session, but did meet with Chartwells to plan some future improvements the students would like to see. They will meet again in January.

V. **Matters for Discussion:**

- a) Old Business
- b) New Business

1. Forest Avenue Elementary School Playground Recognition

Forest Avenue Elementary School Principal Dave Champigny shared a video highlighting the Forest Avenue Playground project from start to finish. Mr. Champigny expressed his gratitude to the community at large, including the Home and School Association, parents and students, the Hudson DPW, Chaps, the buildings and grounds department, the Boys and Girls Club, the Hudson Recreation Department and the many other organizations who donated materials and time. Principal Champigny then recognized and presented certificates to some individuals for their part in taking the project from an idea to a reality in just two years.

2. First Reading of Proposed Adoptions and Revisions of School Committee Policies Section KF and KF-R Community Use of School Facilities

Mr. Smith stated that there have been requests for these policies for a while.

Discussion ensued regarding the fee schedule, groups to be allowed to use the facilities, and if any groups currently using the facility are affected.

Mr. Maston stated that the policy and supporting procedure document would be available for review and feedback until the next meeting.

VI. **Matters for Action:**

- a) Old Business
- b) New Business

1. **Approval of Hudson High School Cheerleading Team attendance at the Battle of the Boardwalk National Competition February 1-3, 2019**

Interim Principal Jonathan Bourn stated that the Hudson High School Cheerleading Team won the state championship and is looking to go to the National Competition. This will result in the students missing one day of school. Cheerleading Team Captain, Rachel Matisko, stated that this has been a very successful season for the team and this is the first state championship since 1993. Discussion ensued with questions about whether or not the cost of the trip could be covered entirely through fundraising. Mr. Bourn stated that there has been discussion with the Athletic Director to ensure that all team members can attend.

A motion to approve the Hudson High School Cheerleading Team attendance at the Battle of the Boardwalk Nation Competition February 1-3, 2019 was made by Mr. Luoto and seconded by Mr. Smith. On a vote of 7-0, the motion passed.

2. **Approval of reclassification of funds**

A motion to approve the reclassification of funds, as presented was made by Mr. Luoto and seconded by Ms. Hallsworth. On a vote of 7-0, the motion passed.

VII. **Items of Interest to the School Committee**

VIII. **Executive Session**

At 8:38 p.m., Committee Chair, Glenn Maston, noted that Executive Session was not needed.

IX. **Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Luoto and seconded by Mr. Smith. On a vote of 7-0, the motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Hallsworth, Secretary
Hudson School Committee