

Approved

**Hudson School Committee
Open Session Minutes**

Meeting Date: December 4, 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 the Meeting to Order 7:00 p.m.

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

II. Minutes of the Following Meeting Presented for Approval:

Regular Meeting: November 13, 2018

Mr. Maston noted that there were two corrections to the minutes. A motion to amend the minutes of November 13, 2018 was made by Mr. Maston and seconded by Mr. Smith. On a vote of 7-0, the motion passed.

A motion to approve the amended minutes of November 13, 2018 was made by Mr. Tracy and seconded by Mr. Smith. On a vote of 7-0, the motion passed.

III. Public Participation:

None

IV. Reports:

Report of the Superintendent

a) Report of the Superintendent:

Dr. Rodrigues updated the Committee on the following activities in the District;

1.) Transportation

The contract with the current transportation provider, North Reading Transportation (NRT), expires in June. The District will be looking at a new bid process in the spring. In preparation, transportation issues challenging our schools are being examined. In particular, there is not ample time between the

bells at Quinn Middle School and the Elementary Schools for the busses to do their run and arrive to school on time. Additionally, the walk zone and safety issues will be reviewed. The District has engaged with NRT to help us come up with different scenarios to bring to a committee. The data will be analyzed to discover what needs to be done to help with the transportation issues and to develop the parameters for the bid process.

School transportation has become challenging due to a shortage of bus drivers nationwide. Additionally, there are new contractual issues such as health care that are impacting the transportation companies. Dr. Rodrigues stated that we can expect a significant change in the cost of busses per day.

Discussion ensued regarding the transportation committee as well as the possibility of changes in start times at the schools.

2.) Dr. Rodrigues stated that one of his priorities is to have a new district website, which is a much more user friendly and ADA compliant. We have received presentations from three vendors. Some of the vendors are on the state bid list. The laborious work of revising and generating content for the website will start after the vendor is secured.

3.) Look/Dual Language

Dr. Rodrigues reported that a new law, LOOK (Language Opportunity for Our Kids), which has been signed by Governor Baker, will affect the District's English Language Learners.

Ms. Erin Goldstein, Director of English Language Learning and Ms. Ana Pimentel, World Language Curriculum Director gave an overview of some of the features the District is planning to take advantage of with this new law.

The Look law requires the creation of an ELPAC (English Learner Parent Advisory Council). The purpose of the ELPAC is to advise on matters regarding English Language Learners. The ELPAC is open to all, but voting members must be parents of ELLS of former ELLS. The first meeting is Monday Dec 10, 2018 at 6 p.m. and will be at Hudson High School.

They shared that we are looking at the possibility of establishing a dual language program starting in the elementary schools. Dr. Rodrigues stated that in January or February the Report of the Superintendent will contain an in-depth report on LOOK and an update on the district's initiatives pertaining to the LOOK law.

4.) Hudson High School Principal search

Dr. Rodrigues reported that we are on track with the original timeline he presented for the search. There have been focus groups for parents, staff and students. The survey will be completed this week. The data from the survey will be tabulated and presented to the public.

5.) Parent Forum

Dr. Rodrigues reported that there had been a parent forum recently. The topic that dominated the discussion was Quinn Middle School. There was also discussion about the Hudson High School Principal Search. Additionally, the attendance policy was discussed. The forum closed with discussion about the great things that are happening in Hudson.

6.) Dr. Rodrigues reported that he had visited classrooms and observed some activities associated with the Project Lead the Way Launch. Ms. Sarah Davis, Curriculum Director for Science and Technology gave an overview of the Project Lead the Way activities recently introduced in Grades K and 3. The Grade 3 activities have the students learning about simple machines and using that knowledge to design compound machines to rescue a tiger from a moat. In Kindergarten, an integrated Science and literacy unit called Structure and Function has been launched. The students have been reading stories and using engineering concepts to build things related to the stories.

b) Subcommittee Reports

Policy Subcommittee

Mr. Smith reported that the Policy subcommittee had met. There will be policies and supporting procedure documentation related to facility usage for review at the next School Committee meeting.

Strategic Goals Subcommittee

Ms. Hallsworth reported that the Communication Survey has been updated and is ready to be translated. The survey will be open on December 10, 2018 and continue for two weeks.

Other:

Mr. Luoto reported that negotiations with the Hudson School Secretarial Association are ongoing.

Mr. Smith attended the ADHD presentation that SEPAC hosted. It was informative and well attended.

Mr. McDowell attended the Quinn Middle School council meeting.

Ms. Ryan attended the Mulready School council meeting.

Mr. Luoto attended the Hudson High School council meeting.

c) Student Presentation

Student representative Ben Carne presented the following update to the Committee.

- The Hudson High School Principal Search Survey was sent out to students and many students have participated. The Community Council has helped to spread the word.
- At the last council meeting, the council generated a list of what they see for their ideal principal. This information was forwarded to Dr. Rodrigues.
- At the last council meeting, Jason Caron was voted Educator of the Month.
- The council is working on furthering the stress free weekends initiative.
- At the next council meeting, there will be time with Chartwells to discuss the council's thoughts on food service options at Hudson High School.

V. **Matters for Discussion:**

- a) Old Business
- b) New Business

1. **Assabet Valley Collaborative Report**

Dr. Rodrigues gave the first update of the year on the Assabet Valley Collaborative. The report included the following:

- Regulations and guidelines
- Appointees for the Board
- Auburn was recently approved as an additional member for the collaborative.
- FY18 accomplishments
- Collaborative goals voted for FY19
 - Refining services and systems
 - Equity Leadership
 - Advocacy
 - Infrastructure to support excellence

VI. **Matters for Action:**

- b) Old Business

1. **Second Reading and Approval of Proposed Adoptions and Revisions of School Committee Policies Section "G"**

Mr. Maston noted that there has been no input after the first reading.

A motion to approve the proposed adoptions and revisions to School Committee Policies Section "G" was made by Mr. Luoto and seconded by Mr. Smith. On a vote of 7-0, the motion passed.

2. **Second Reading and Approval of Proposed Adoptions and Revisions of School Committee Policies EFC and EFD**

A motion to approve the proposed adoptions and revisions to School Committee Policies EFC and EFD was made by Mr. Luoto and seconded by Mr. Smith. On a vote of 7-0, the motion passed.

b) New Business

1. **Approval of Student Activities Report period ending September 30,2018**

A motion to approve the Student Activities Report, period ending September 30, 2018, was made by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. Luoto. On a vote of 7-0, the motion passed.

2. **Approval of minimum GPA criteria for National Honor Society and National Junior Honor Society eligibility at Hudson High School**

Mr. Jonathan Bourn, interim principal of Hudson High School, explained that in the past few years, the GPA scale for Hudson High School has changed from a 4.0 to a 5.0, but the minimum GPA to be eligible to apply to the National Honor Society and National Junior Honor Society had not been updated. Mr. Bourn stated that the recommendation had been to change the GPA to be eligible for National Honor Society and National Junior Honor Society from 3.5 to 4.0. After discussion with the school council, there was agreement that the GPA should change from a required 3.5 to 3.7 on a 5.0 scale for this year.

Discussion ensued.

A motion to approve the minimum GPA criteria of 3.7 for National Honor Society and National Junior Honor Society eligibility at Hudson High School was made by Mr. Luoto and seconded by Mr. Smith. On a vote of 7-0, the motion passed.

3. **Approval of donated equipment from PTC to the Hudson High School Engineering/ Robotics program**

Dr. Rodrigues stated that through connections in our technology department, we were able to secure a donation of primarily hardware from PTC for the Engineering /Robotics department at Hudson High School.

A motion to approve the donated equipment from PTC to the Hudson High School Engineering /Robotics program estimated at \$10,000.00, was made by Mr. Luoto and seconded by Mr. Tracy. On a vote of 7-0, the motion passed.

4. **Approval of Avidia Bank Charitable Foundation Grant FBO Hudson Maynard Adult Learning Center in the amount of \$4000.00**

Discussion ensued with respect to the possibility of capturing the amount of donations district wide.

A motion to approve the Avidia Bank Charitable Foundation grant FBO Hudson Maynard Adult Learning Center, in the amount of \$4000.00, was made by Mr. Luoto and seconded by Mr. Smith. On a vote of 7-0, the motion passed.

Approved

5. **Approval of FY19 Saint Gobain Corporate Foundation Grant in the amount of \$1500.00**

A motion to approve the FY19 Saint Gobain Corporate Foundation Grant, in the amount of \$1500.00, was made by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. Luoto. On a vote of 7-0 the motion passed.

6. **Approval of reclassification of funds**

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

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

Mr. Tracy spoke about a recent article on hate speech. He stated he did not think Hudson had this problem but wanted to acknowledge that the problem was out there.

VIII. **Executive Session**

At 7:48 p.m., Committee Chair, Glenn Maston, noted that Executive Session was needed to conduct strategy sessions in preparation with union personnel (Hudson School Secretarial Association and American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees AFL-CIO, Local Council 93, Hudson Public Schools Custodians Local) because an open session may have a detrimental effect on the legal position of the Committee.

Vote by Roll Call:

Mr. Maston	Yes
Mr. Smith	Yes
Mr. Luoto	Yes
Ms. Hallsworth	Yes
Mr. Tracy	Yes
Ms. Ryan	Yes
Mr. McDowell	Yes

IX. **Adjournment**

At 7:48 p.m., Committee Chair, Glenn Maston, announced that the Committee would enter Executive Session and not return to Public Session.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Hallsworth, Secretary
Hudson School Committee