

**Hudson School Committee
Open Session Minutes**

Meeting Date: May 13, 2014

Location: Administration Building
155 Apsley Street

Members present: Susan Dunnell, Lynn Valcourt, Brian Davis, George Luoto and Michelle Tousignant Dufour

Members absent: Alex Schley, Student Representative

Others present: Dr. Kevin M. Lyons, Superintendent
Julia M. Pisegna, Recording Secretary

I. Call the Meeting to Order – 7:03 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by Committee Chair Susan Dunnell.

II. Special Reports and Presentations

Committee Chair Susan Dunnell welcomed newest member Michelle Tousignant-Dufour to the Committee.

Hudson High School German Exchange Trip: Teachers Emily Smyth and Jeannette McLellan and Hudson High School students, Connor Burke, Karen Dickson, Katie Benson, Alex Benson, Taylor Benson, Edward Andrews, Buren Andrews, Leia Owen, Aneesh Kashalika, Steve Kinsey and Andrew Nugent, who traveled to Germany during April as part of our annual exchange, shared stories and highlights of their visits to Leipzig, Berlin, Potsdam, Wolfsburg, and Braunschweig.

Teacher Jeannette McLellan and students performed a song for Committee members which they sang on their trip.

Dr. Lyons and Committee members thanked the students for the wonderful performance and for sharing their stories and pictures of their trip.

Hudson High School Career Pathways: Scott Darlington presented to Committee members an update on the career development work that is going on at Hudson High School and highlighted the H-Block Internship Program, the Reality Fair held April 16th and the new Online Early College Program.

(Mrs. O'Brien entered the meeting at 7:38 p.m.)

Hudson High School senior Lacey Nelson presented her experiences while interning with Hudson Appliance. Ms. Nelson's responsibilities included inventory, service calls from customers, working with the Wicked Good Cooking Show, and bookkeeping. Ms. Nelson noted that her greatest challenge before her internship was talking to adults and feels that she has now gained confidence in talking to adults, and she also learned that with hard work and perseverance, she can achieve anything she puts her mind to.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Redding were also present and were thrilled with Ms. Nelson and all the challenges that she took on. Mr. and Mrs. Redding thanked the Hudson Public Schools for such a wonderful program and encouraged other local business to join in. Mr. and Mrs. Redding look forward to hosting an intern again in the future.

III. **Approval of Minutes**

Regular Meeting –April 29, 2014: A motion to approve the minutes was made by Ms. Valcourt and seconded by Mrs. Tousignant Dufour. On a vote of 6-0, the motion passed.

IV. **Superintendent's Report – Dr. Kevin Lyons**

Budget Update: The Annual Town Meeting was held on Monday, May 5th. All three school-related warrants were approved. Dr. Lyons noted that the Town meeting failed to adjourn due to the lack of a quorum and will reconvene on Monday, May 19th. Also at that meeting, the School Committee and the Board of Selectmen will vote to fill the vacancy on the School Committee.

Patty Lange and her staff continue their work on the next FY14 expense projections.

Discussion ensued.

Innovation Schools Fellowship Grant: Dr. Lyons was pleased to announce that the Hudson Public Schools was selected as one of three districts in the State to be awarded an Innovation School Fellowship Grant offered by the Governor's Office and the Department of Education.

Dr. Fortuna shared that the District began exploring the idea of Innovation Schools earlier this year through a committee. Hudson High School science teacher, Kevin Hava, submitted an application on behalf of the District to serve as a fellow during the 2014-2015 school year. The fellowship grant has a value of \$75,000.00 for Hudson and will allow the District to hire a one-year replacement teacher for Mr. Hava while he serves as an Innovation School Fellow. Mr. Hava will work with Elementary Education

Director Karen Martin, Dr. Fortuna and the Innovation School Committee to form a proposal for an innovation school within our school system.

Dr. Lyons and Committee Chair Susan Dunnell thanked Mr. Hava, Dr. Fortuna, and the committee for their great work and look forward to future updates.

Special Olympics, May 2nd: Cathy Kilcoyne, Director of Pupil Services, participated in the Special Olympics which was held on Friday, May 2nd at Bowditch Field at Framingham State University and shared some highlights and photographs of the special day.

Dr. Lyons thanked all the coaches and students for their participation. It was a wonderful event and very well attended.

Quinn Principal Search: Applications for the Quinn Principalship will be accepted through May 15th. The Screening Committee will then meet on an accelerated schedule of screening and interviews.

PLTW Trade Show: Dr. Lyons invited all to attend the first Annual PLTW Trade Show to be held on Thursday, May 15th from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. at the Hudson High School Cafeteria and will feature students from the Engineering Design and Development class showcasing their work from the 2013-2014 school year.

Hudson High School Art Show: The Hudson High School Annual Art Show was an incredible success with wonderful creations and exhibits of the student talents. The Superintendent's Award was awarded to Adam Chaves for his piece from the "Eye Project" and to Bradley Jordan-MacArthur for his piece titled "Self Portrait", a monochromatic rendering.

Town Hall Meeting: Underage Drinking, May 21st: Dr. Lyons invited all to attend the "Community Conversations: A Town Hall Meeting on Underage Drinking" which will be held on Wednesday, May 21st at 7:00 p.m. in the Hudson Town Hall Auditorium.

V. **Community Comments**

None.

VI. **Old Business**

Committee Chair Susan Dunnell announced that the Committee would vote on the reorganization of the School Committee.

A motion to appoint Susan Dunnell as Committee Chair was made by Ms. Valcourt and seconded by Mrs. O'Brien. On a vote of 6-0, the motion passed.

A motion to appoint Jennifer O'Brien as Committee Secretary was made by Ms. Valcourt and seconded by Mr. Davis. On a vote of 6-0, the motion passed.

A motion to appoint George Luoto as Committee Member Authorized to Sign Payroll was made by Ms. Valcourt and seconded by Mrs. Dunnell. On a vote of 5-0-1, with Mr. Luoto abstaining, the motion passed.

VII. **New Business**

1. Approval of Student Transportation Contract with North Reading Transportation, Subject to Procurement: Dr. Lyons recommended approval to enter into a three-year contract with North Reading Transportation for student transportation with an option to extend the contract for an additional two years.

A motion to enter into a three-year contract with North Reading Transportation for student transportation with an option to extend the contract for an additional two years was made by Mr. Luoto and seconded by Ms. Tousignant-Dufour. On a vote of 6-0, the motion passed.

Committee Chair Susan Dunnell announced that on Thursday, May 15th, the Hudson School Committee, with the assistance of the Massachusetts Association of School Committees, will be conducting focused discussions with different stakeholder groups in regard to desired qualities of the next Superintendent.

Dr. Jodi Fortuna will be present to respond to questions posed by the Massachusetts Association of School Committees facilitator and from the audience and to discuss her background, competencies and her vision for the Hudson Public Schools

Committee Chair Susan Dunnell invited all to attend.

Dr. Lyons noted that the schedule of focus groups will also be posted on the District website and that an all-call will be sent as a reminder of the event.

2. Approval of Contract with Pen Mar Boiler Cleaning, Inc. in the amount of \$22,960: Dr. Lyons recommended approval of the contract with Pen Mar Boiler Cleaning, Inc. in the amount of \$22,960 for inspection and maintenance of boilers in all seven buildings. A motion to approve the contract with Pen Mar Boiler Cleaning, Inc. in the amount of \$22,960 was made by Ms. Valcourt and seconded by Mr. Luoto. On a vote of 6-0, the motion passed.

VIII. **Reclassifications**

None.

IX. **Subcommittee and Building Committee Liaison Reports**

Mrs. O'Brien noted that the Policy Subcommittee will table the Code of Conduct due to reaching an impasse and will continue to update the Committee on any new developments.

Discussion ensued.

Ms. Valcourt noted that the Budget Subcommittee had met with Home and School Officers and will continue discussion of the possibility of a large fundraiser in the fall. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 21st.

Discussion ensued.

Ms. Valcourt announced three upcoming fundraisers:

- 1) Sunday, May 18th – 5K Race for Jake's Sake at the Hudson Elks at 10 a.m., \$25 to enter, and participants are asked to wear a Star Wars costume.
- 2) May 12th to May 18th - Screen Free Week - Farley Elementary School students will be screen free for a week and will be collecting used DVD's for donation to Boston Children's Hospital.
- 3) May 17th – Fun Run to honor Erin Roderick, a 4-year old that attended Forest Avenue and passed away in March of 2009 from a brain tumor. All proceeds will go to Why Me/Sherry's House in Worcester.

Committee Chair Susan Dunnell shared a concern from a parent regarding Whitsons offered deli meats. There was a question of whether they were Boar's Head brand.

Discussion ensued.

X. **Executive Session/Adjournment**

At 8:55 p.m., Committee Chair Susan Dunnell noted that there was no need for Executive Session.

A motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Valcourt and seconded by Mr. Luoto. On a vote of 5-0, the motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Valcourt, Secretary
Hudson School Committee

List of Documents Source and Location

| DOC NAME | SOURCE | LOCATION |
|--|---|-------------------------|
| School Committee Minutes of March 11, 2014 | School Committee | Superintendent's Office |
| Superintendent's Report | Superintendent | Superintendent's Office |
| Hudson High School Germany Trip 2014 Pictures | Emily Smyth | Superintendent's Office |
| Hudson High School Career Pathways 2014 PowerPoint | Scott Darlington | Superintendent's Office |
| Notification of Award – FY15 Innovation Schools Fellowship Grant – Hudson Public Schools dated May 9, 2014 | Cliff Chuang, Associate Commissioner DESE | Superintendent's Office |
| Memorandum re: Innovation Schools Award | Governor Deval Patrick | Superintendent's Office |
| Hudson High School Art Show Flyer | Brian K. Reagan | Superintendent's Office |
| Superintendent's Award – Eye Project -Adam Chaves | Adam Chaves | Superintendent's Office |
| Superintendent's Award – Self Portrait – Bradley Jordan-MacArthur | Bradley Jordan-MacArthur | Superintendent's Office |
| A.P.P.L.E Application and Correspondence to Richard Robinson, Executive Director | Dr. Kevin Lyons | Superintendent's Office |
| Hudson High School Senior Calendar 2014 | Brian K. Reagan | Superintendent's Office |
| Procurement – North Reading Transportation | Patricia Lange | Superintendent's Office |
| Procurement – Pen Mar Boiling Cleaning, Inc. | Len Belli | Superintendent's Office |
| Reclassifications (none) | Finance Department | Superintendent's Office |