

Approved

**Hudson School Committee
Open Session Minutes**

Meeting Date: March 7, 2017

Location: Administration Building
155 Apsley Street

Members present: Michele Tousignant Dufour, Allyson Hay, Jennifer O'Brien, Glenn Maston, Elizabeth Hallsworth and Steven Smith

Members absent: George Luoto
Ben Carme, Student Representative
Dr. Jodi Fortuna, Superintendent

Others present: Julia M. Pisegna, Recording Secretary

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

The meeting was called to order by Committee Chair, Michele Tousignant Dufour.

II. Approval of Minutes:

Executive Session Minutes from March 1st and March 2nd: A motion to approve the Executive Session minutes was made by Mr. Smith and seconded by Ms. Hallsworth. On a vote of 6-0-1, with Ms. Hay abstaining, the motion passed.

III. Matters for Discussion:

Superintendent Search:

1. Announcement of Finalists:

Committee Chair, Michele Tousignant Dufour, announced that four finalists had been selected for further consideration to be the next Superintendent of Hudson Public Schools beginning on July 1, 2017.

The finalists were selected from a field of 40 applications. A Superintendent Screening Committee consisted of school administrators, central office staff, teachers, parents, community-at-large members, municipal official, SEPAC representative, two School Committee members, one paraeducator, and a member of the Hudson Education Association carefully reviewed the applications and followed up by interviewing several applicants.

Committee Chair, Michele Tousignant Dufour, announced the four finalists as:

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Dr. Laura Chesson - Assistant Superintendent of Arlington Public Schools since 2012. She was the Principal of Maynard High School from 2008-2012 and from 2005-2008 was an Assistant Principal of Leominster High School. She served as an Assessment Coordinator and Teacher in Boston from 2000-2005. Dr. Chesson worked for Hudson Public Schools as a Mathematics Teacher from 1995-1997 and was a teacher in New Mexico from 1993-1995. She started her career as a manager for IBM in NY.

Dr. Brett Kustigian - Superintendent of Quaboag Regional School District in Warren, MA since 2009. Prior to that, he was the High School Principal from 2003-2009, Assistant Principal from 2001-2003, and Athletic Director for Douglas Public Schools from 2003-2004. Dr. Kustigian started his career in 1997 as a Middle School Science Teacher for Tolland Public Schools in CT and later taught Science in the Dudley/Charleton Regional School District from 2000-2001.

Dr. Jahmal Mosley - Assistant Superintended for Curriculum and Administration of Sharon Public Schools since 2014. Dr. Mosley served as Principal for Somerset Berkley Regional High School from 2011-2014. Prior to that, he was Assistant Principal at Brattleboro Union High School in VT and Newton/Middleborough Public Schools from 2002-2011. He started his educational career as a Special Education Teacher in Worcester Public Schools and Cambridge Public Schools from 1998-2002.

Dr. Marco Rodrigues - Chief Academic Officer of Worcester Public Schools. Dr. Rodrigues also served as interim Superintendent for Worcester Public Schools from December 2015-May 2016. He was the former Manager of Special Education and Intervention Services for Worcester Public schools. Prior to that, he was the Executive Director for the Central Massachusetts Special Education Collaborative as well as Director, Assistant Director, Teacher. Dr. Rodrigues is fluent in Portuguese and Spanish.

The School Committee will continue to conduct further research into, and evaluation of, the individual candidates with site visits to their home districts, reference checks and by hosting public interviews of all candidates.

Committee Chair, Ms. Tousignant Dufour, invited the community to attend all meetings or watch them on HUD TV.

The schedule will be posted on the Hudson Public School and Town websites.

2. Discussion of Logistics for Finalist Site Visits and Interviews

Committee Chair, Michele Tousignant Dufour, opened discussion to members regarding site visits to our District and visits to the candidate's District.

Ms. Hay suggested that the interviews of the candidates should be held before the site visits to their Districts.

Discussion ensued.

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Dorothy Presser with the Massachusetts Association of School Committees noted that this format is a typical schedule for a candidate and that the reason for having a site visit and then an interview all in one day is more of an audition for the candidate, where you are able to see them in their current District and then ask questions.

Discussion ensued.

Ms. Tousignant Dufour shared that she will be attending all site visits and invited other Committee members to attend any or all of the scheduled visits.

Discussion ensued relative to site visit schedules.

A motion to approve the Superintendent Candidate District Visits Schedule, as presented, was made by Ms. Tousignant Dufour and seconded by Ms. Hallsworth. On a vote of 6-1, with Ms. Hay opposing, the motion passed.

Discussion ensued relative to the group of people the Committee requests to see on the site visits and the dates. Ms. Presser will contact each of the candidates and set up those meeting groups and dates.

Discussion ensued relative to the meet and greet meetings.

Ms. Hay requested that members be given an extra day for deliberations.

Ms. Presser suggested that deliberations be held on March 30th.

III. A motion to approve deliberations be held on March 30th was made by Ms. Hay and seconded by Mr. Smith. On a vote of 6-1, with Ms. Tousignant Dufour opposing, the motion passed.

Executive Session/Adjournment

At 7:36 p.m., Committee Chair, Michele Tousignant Dufour, noted that there was no need for Executive Session.

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Maston and seconded by Mr. Smith. On a vote of 6-0, the motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Hallsworth, Secretary
Hudson School Committee