

Approved

**Hudson School Committee
Open Session Minutes**

Meeting Date: March 27, 2018

Location: Administration Building
155 Apsley Street

Members present: Michele Tousignant Dufour, Allyson Hay, Glenn Maston, Elizabeth Hallsworth and Adam Tracy

Members absent: George Luoto
Steven Smith
Julia M. Pisegna, Recording Secretary

Others present: Dr. Marco C. Rodrigues, Superintendent
Ben Carme, Student Representative

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

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

Approval of Minutes:

Regular Meeting: March 20, 2018

A motion to approve the minutes of March 20, 2018 was made by Mr. Maston and seconded by Ms. Hallsworth. On a vote of 5-0, the motion passed.

Public Participation:

None.

Reports:

Report of the Superintendent

Dr. Rodrigues updated the Committee on the following:

District News and Update

In the Entry Findings Report, Dr. Rodrigues identified communication as one of the areas for improvement in the District and continuously evaluates the ways in which the District communicates, at all levels, to ensure that the flow of communication, timely delivery, and the accuracy of the content reaches all stakeholders.

Since July of 2017, Dr. Rodrigues has instituted Listening Sessions with families and staff, published weekly *Creating Connections*, scheduled general assemblies with staff, established a

Approved

Superintendent's Student Advisory Council, delivered Report of the Superintendent presentations to the School Committee, and held monthly Principals' meetings and District Leadership Teams. All of these deliberate actions were designed to improve communication and to reach all stakeholders.

On Friday, March 23th, Dr. Rodrigues launched the "*District News & Updates*" publication, a newsletter designed to provide news and updates to all District employees. This publication will occur periodically and will provide information, to the entire Hudson school community, regarding current events, developing work, and accomplishments made by the District.

Kindergarten Open House Event

The District will hold its first open house event on April 3, 2018 at the Quinn Middle School. This event has been designed to welcome incoming Kindergarten students (Class of 2031) and their families. The open house will be filled with fun activities for the incoming Kindergarten students while offering parents/guardians essential information to ensure a smooth transition into Hudson Public Schools.

The event will be held from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in the Quinn Middle School cafeteria with thematic stations assembled to engage parents and students in the areas of curriculum, nursing services, transportation, food services, and more.

A "save the date" note was sent to parents a few weeks ago and the attached invitation was sent to approximately 175 families of registered Kindergarten students.

Dr. Rodrigues encourages Kindergarten families and School Committee members to attend the open house event for an informative, fun-filled evening!

School Safety Update

The Emergency Management System Committee continues to focus their work on evaluating the District practices and ability to respond to emergency situations. Below are highlights of the work the committee has accomplished to date:

1. ALICE Training Video
 - HUD-TV is producing an in-house training video with the assistance of three certified ALICE trainers: Resource Officers Crogan and Veo and Assistant Principal Johnston. The current plan is to have the video available for teacher access by the end of April.
2. High School Entrance
 - Two additional security cameras will be installed at the High School front entrance:
 - One at the entrance to improve face recognition of those seeking entrance during school hours.
 - One in the main corridor to track visitors as they enter the school once "buzzed" through the main entrance to ensure that they stop at the receptionist's station for visitor badges and sign-in.

- Two TV monitors will be wall mounted inside the main office to allow the secretaries to clearly see who is at the main entrance seeking access before they buzz them through and ensure that they stop at the reception desk once inside.
 - One will be placed for improved viewing from the reception desk.
 - The other will be placed for improved viewing from the secretaries' area.
 - The live streaming from these cameras will be continuously recorded.
 - The installation is scheduled for the week of March 26th.
 - Students and Parents will be notified of the front entrance new security protocol.
3. Evacuation Routes and Sanctuary Locations – All Schools
- The confirmed routes are as follows:
 - Hubert to First Steps Pre-School
 - Farley to United Methodist Church
 - Mulready to Forest Avenue
 - Forest Avenue to Mulready
 - Quinn Middle School to Farley
 - Hudson High School to ELKS Hall
 - We also have approval to utilize the Unitarian Universalist Church for any school whose destination location is inaccessible.
4. Warming Blankets
- 400 Mylar Warming Blankets have been purchased (similar to those seen at the end of the Boston Marathon to wrap the runners) for use in the event students are evacuated during inclement weather.
 - 100 blankets were distributed to each elementary school and the middle school. We are awaiting a delivery for the high school.
5. CHAPS – Enhanced Security for Before and After School Programs
- We have been working with the CHAPS team to identify how to best improve security and parent pick-up/drop-off at the schools they utilize for their programs.
 - We have identified the entrances requiring modifications; CHAPS will be purchasing cameras, which will be compatible with their new IOS software.
 - Facilities Department is working with the security company to integrate the CHAPS system capabilities into our current security operation to determine how to electronically identify the person requiring access and to allow a CHAPS employee to release the locking mechanism from their device to grant access.

Student Report

Ben Carne, Student Representative, reported that Hudson High School MCAS testing was in progress this week.

Community Council met and discussed school safety and requested a meeting with Dr. Rodrigues, principals, teachers, students and staff.

Approved

Dr. Rodrigues welcomed the opportunity to meet with students and staff to discuss the importance of school safety.

Subcommittee Reports

None.

Matters for Discussion:

1. Deutsch Williams Update:

Dr. Rodrigues shared with the Committee that Deutsch Williams, the counsel for the School Committee, is undergoing a change in partnership effective April 1, 2018, and will conduct business under the name of Valerio Dominello & Hillman, LLC, and requests the approval of the School Committee to continue with this legal counsel.

Discussion ensued.

Committee Chair, Michele Tousignant Dufour, noted that a vote was not needed, and announced that the School Committee will continue to do business with their current counsel under the new name of Valerio Domincello & Hillman, LLC.

2. First Reading of Proposed Adoptions and Revisions of School Committee Policies Section 'B'

Committee Chair, Ms. Tousignant Dufour, noted that the policies would be posted on the District website for the public to review, and that any issues or concerns raised would be discussed before the vote on April 10th.

Discussion ensued.

3. First Reading of Proposed Adoption of School Committee Policy JFBB *School Choice*

Dr. Rodrigues proposed adoption of School Committee Policy JFBB *School Choice* and noted that the policy would be posted on the District website for the public to review, and that any issues or concerns raised would be discussed before the vote on April 10th.

4. First Reading of Proposed Adoption of School Committee Policy JFBA *Intradistrict Choice Policy*

Dr. Rodrigues proposed adoption of School Committee Policy JFBA *Intradistrict Choice Policy* and noted that the policy would be posted on the District website for the public to review, and that any issues or concerns raised would be discussed before the vote on April 10th.

Discussion ensued.

Approved

5. First Reading of Proposed Adoption of School Committee Policy ECABC Security of School Buildings Policy

Dr. Rodrigues proposed adoption of School Committee Policy ECABC *Security of School Buildings Policy* and noted that the policy would be posted on the District website for the public to review, and that any issues or concerns raised would be discussed before the vote on April 10th.

6. First Reading of Proposed Adoption of School Committee Policy DD Funding Proposals and Applications

Dr. Rodrigues proposed adoption of School Committee Policy DD *Funding Proposals and Applications* and noted that the policy would be posted on the District website for the public to review, and that any issues or concerns raised would be discussed before the vote on April 10th.

Matters for Action:

1. Approval of School Choice for the 2018-2019 School Year

Dr. Rodrigues recommended approval of school choice for the 2018-2019 school year as follows:

Quinn Middle School Grades 5-7 = ten seats per grade
Hudson High School Grades 8-11 = based on availability

Discussion ensued.

A motion to approve school choice for the 2018-2019 school year with ten seats per grade in grades 5-7 at the Quinn Middle School and seats based on availability in grades 8-11 at Hudson High School was made by Ms. Tousignant Dufour and seconded by Ms. Hallsworth. On a vote of 5-0, the motion passed.

Reclassifications:

A motion to approve the reclassifications of funds, as presented, was made by Ms. Hay and seconded by Ms. Tousignant Dufour. On a vote of 5-0, the motion passed.

Items of Interest to the School Committee:

None.

Executive Session/Adjournment

At 7:39 p.m., Committee Chair, Michele Tousignant Dufour, noted that Executive Session was needed for the following reason:

Approved

1. To conduct contract negotiations with union personnel (Hudson Education Association, Hudson Paraeducators Association and Hudson Cafeteria Workers Association) because an open session may have a detrimental effect on the legal position of the Committee.

A motion to enter into Executive Session was made by Ms. Tousignant Dufour and seconded by Ms. Hallsworth.

Vote by roll call:

Ms. Tousignant Dufour – yes

Ms. Hay – yes

Mr. Maston – yes

Ms. Hallsworth - yes

Mr. Tracy - yes

Committee Chair, Michele Tousignant Dufour, announced that the Committee would enter Executive Session and not return to public session.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Hallsworth, Secretary
Hudson School Committee