

Approved

**Hudson School Committee
Open Session Minutes**

Meeting Date: October 24, 2017

Location: Administration Building
155 Apsley Street

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

Members absent: None

Others present: Dr. Marco C. Rodrigues, Superintendent
Julia M. Pisegna, Recording Secretary
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: October 10, 2017

A motion to approve the minutes of October 10, 2017 was made by Mr. Luoto and seconded by Mr. Maston. On a vote of 7-0, the motion passed.

Public Participation:

None.

Reports:

Student Report

Student Representative, Ben Carme, introduced Julia Stukonis who will be the Student Representative in his absence.

Mr. Carme reported to the Committee that the Hudson High School Spirit Committee hosted Spirit Week which was a great success with huge participation from all grade levels.

Community Council held the Student Activities Fair which showcased all the clubs and activities that Hudson High has to offer.

Community Council also held a successful Penny Wars fundraiser with a grand total of \$1,500 raised. The team will look into the purchase of a water foundation renewal system for the school.

Report of the Superintendent

Dr. Rodrigues shared with Committee members the 2017 Next-Generation MCAS and accountability results which focused on the criteria, reporting, and how the 2017 assessment results will serve as the new baseline for target-setting in 2018 and beyond.

Dr. Rodrigues shared that the 2017 Next –Generation MCAS was designed to focus on students’ critical thinking, abilities, application of knowledge, and ability to make connections between reading and writing and also introduced the new achievement levels: Exceeding Expectations, Meeting Expectations, Partially Meeting Expectations and Not Meeting Expectations.

Discussion ensued.

Dr. Rodrigues announced that there will be MCAS Informational Nights for parents which will include the Principals, Assistant Principals and Curriculum Directors being present for discussion and to answer questions. Dates and times will be included in the letter that goes home with the student MCAS results.

Subcommittee Reports

Committee Chair, Michele Tousignant Dufour, shared that the IBB Training Session for interest-based bargaining for the teacher and para unions was held on Monday, October 16th, and the next session is scheduled for Thursday, November 9th at 5:00 p.m.

Matters for Discussion:

1. Discussion of 2017-2018 School Improvement Plans – Principals:

- Discussion of School Improvement Plan – C.A. Farley Elementary School – Principal Melissa Provost presented the *School Improvement Plan* for C.A. Farley Elementary School.
- Discussion of School Improvement Plan – Forest Avenue Elementary School – Principal David Champigny presented the *School Improvement Plan* for Forest Avenue Elementary School.
- Discussion of School Improvement Plan – J.L. Mulready Elementary School – Principal Kelly Sardella presented the *School Improvement Plan* for the J.L. Mulready Elementary School.
- Discussion of School Improvement Plan – Quinn Middle School: Principal Jason Webster presented the *School Improvement Plan* for Quinn Middle School.
- Discussion of School Improvement Plan – Hudson High School - Principal Dr. Brian Reagan presented the *School Improvement Plan* for Hudson High School.

Approved

Discussion ensued.

Committee Chair, Michele Tousignant Dufour, thanked the Principals for their presentation and look forward to future updates as the school year continues.

2. Discussion of 2016 MetroWest Adolescent Health Survey:

Dr. Rodrigues presented the preliminary data from the most recent MetroWest Adolescent Health Survey administered to High School and Middle School students.

Dr. Rodrigues highlighted key behavioral indicators surveyed, including substance abuse, cigarette and alcohol use, violence, bullying, cyberbullying, mental health, stress and physical activity with comparisons to Hudson and the region.

Discussion ensued.

3: Discussion of Whitsons's Committee Update

Patty Lange, Executive Director of Finance and Operations, updated the Committee on the Food Service Committee which has been formed to review the findings of the Food Service Consultant who was hired last fiscal year to review our operation.

The first meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 2nd.

The Committee consists of the following members:

Dr. Marco Rodrigues
Patty Lange
Kelly Sardella
Jason Webster
Lee Waingortin
April Lasky
Barbara Keefe
Pat Luoto
Carrie Walsh
Jen Downin.

Discussion ensued.

Matters for Action:

1. Approval to Exercise the One-Year Renewal Option for the Student Transportation Contract with North Reading Transportation for July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019

Patty Lange, Executive Director of Finance and Operations, updated the Committee that in September, 2017, Hudson Public Schools joined with Marlborough Public Schools to do a joint transportation bid for the period FY18 through FY22. Both Marlborough and Hudson had existing contract options to extend for fiscal year 2018. This meant that if the bid prices were more favorable than the contract extensions prices in effect, both Hudson and Marlborough could choose to enter into a new five-year contract with the lowest bidder.

The result of the bid was that the prices came in significantly higher than the current contract options in effect. For large busses, the contract price is \$314.12 per bus per day in the current contract and the low bid submitted in September, for FY19 is \$355.00, a 13% increase.

Both Hudson Public Schools and Marlborough Public Schools will be exercising the current contract extensions with NRT. NRT Inc., was the only bidder. The District now has the benefit of testing the market and have information for the FY20 budget year, that bussing prices will be increasing significantly.

Discussion ensued.

A motion for approval to exercise the one-year renewal option for the student transportation contract with North Reading Transportation for July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019 was made by Ms. Hay and seconded by Ms. Hallsworth. On a vote of 7-0, the motion passed.

Reclassifications:

None.

Items of Interest to the School Committee:

Committee member, Elizabeth Hallsworth, thanked Dr. Rodrigues for the video on how to use the lunchroom. It was very informative and a great way to increase participation.

Executive Session/Adjournment

At 8:30 p.m., Committee Chair, Michele Tousignant Dufour, noted that Executive Session was needed for the following reason:

1. To conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with union personnel (Hudson Education Association) because an open session may have a detrimental effect on the legal position of the Committee.

Approved

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

Vote by roll call:

Ms. Tousignant Dufour – yes

Ms. Hay – yes

Mr. Luoto – yes

Mr. Maston – yes

Ms. Hallsworth - yes

Mr. Smith – 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