

Approved

**Hudson School Committee  
Open Session Minutes**

**Meeting Date:** October 10, 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 Carne, 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: September 26, 2017

A motion to approve the minutes of September 26, 2017 was made by Mr. Luoto and seconded by Mr. Tracy. On a vote of 7-0, the motion passed.

**Public Participation:**

None.

**Reports:**

**Student Report**

Student Representative, Ben Carne, reported to the Committee that the Hudson High School Spirit Committee has been hard at work organizing their rallies to include all activities, not just sports.

Community Council is planning a Student Activities Fair to showcase all of the clubs and activities that Hudson High has to offer and to increase student participation.

Community Council is also busy looking into water fountain improvement, hosting many successful fundraisers, including a ping pong tournament, candy canes, kiss your crush and penny labs, as well as continuing the discussion on students with an average of 90 or better not being required to take the class final and midterms.

*Approved*

Community Council is also working on a Student Voice initiative to incorporate school-wide discussion where students can meet and talk to School Committee advisors who can report concerns to the Assistant Principal and Principal.

Mr. Carne reported that the number one concern from students continues to be the temperature in the building, some places are too hot and some are too cold.

### **Report of the Superintendent**

Dr. Rodrigues shared with Committee members the events of the District's Professional Development day and introduced Kathy Provost, Acting Assistant Superintendent, who presented the Professional Learning Report which highlighted the following:

- District's Standards and Indicators;
- Massachusetts standard for high quality Professional Development;
- District Improvement Plan – Strategy No. 3 – High Expectations for Teaching and Learning, areas of focus and goals;
- Professional Development Advisory Council; and
- Alignment of Professional Development opportunities.

Discussion ensued.

Dr. Rodrigues shared that it was a successful day, participation was great, and the exit survey and feedback has been very positive.

Committee Chair, Michele Tousignant Dufour, also shared that she received feedback from staff that the day was very positive.

Ms. Hay asked about the timeline and the manner to assess effectiveness.

Discussion ensued.

Mr. Luoto thanked Dr. Rodrigues for getting things off to a good start and for informing parents what the District is doing for Professional Development.

### **Subcommittee Reports**

Mr. Smith shared that Policy Subcommittee had met and has begun the process of reviewing the current policies, beginning with all policies under 'A'. The Subcommittee plans to bring them forward to the School Committee in December.

Committee Chair, Michele Tousignant Dufour, shared that Dr. Rodrigues has sent out meeting dates for the Budget Subcommittee. The first meeting is scheduled for November 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

**Matters for Discussion:**

1. Discussion of Aspen

Ellen Shuck, Director of Technology, shared with Committee members an update on the Aspen Student Information System/Aspen IMS and highlighted the processes that have been completed to date, some of the obstacles, cleaning up of the data, double checking of the GPA, rolling out of student accounts and parent accounts, as well as the current processes and next steps that the Technology Department is undertaking.

Discussion ensued.

2. 1:1 Technology Rollout Update

Ellen Shuck, Director of Technology, shared with Committee members an update on the 1:1 Technology Program and highlighted the processes that have been completed to date, the successful rollout of the Chromebooks, technology Professional Development, student helpdesk, FY19 budget for technology rollout, electronic testing coming up in the future, as well as the next steps that the Technology Department is undertaking.

Discussion ensued.

3. Discussion of Massachusetts Association of School Committee Annual Meeting Resolutions:

Discussion took place relative to the proposed resolutions to be voted on at the 2017 MASC/MASS Conference and recorded as follows:

Resolution 1 – Movement of the Chapter 70 Funding Enrollment Date to March 15:

Discussion ensued.

Vote by roll call:

Ms. Tousignant Dufour – yes

Ms. Hay – no

Mr. Luoto – yes

Mr. Maston – yes

Ms. Hallsworth - yes

Mr. Smith – yes

Mr. Tracy – yes

On a vote of 6-1, with Ms. Hay objecting, the vote passed.

*Approved*

Resolution 2 – Reform of Circuit Breaker Funding:

Discussion ensued.

Vote by roll call:

Ms. Tousignant Dufour – yes  
Ms. Hay – no  
Mr. Luoto – yes  
Mr. Maston – yes  
Ms. Hallsworth - yes  
Mr. Smith – yes  
Mr. Tracy – yes

On a vote of 6-1, with Ms. Hay objecting, the vote passed.

Resolution 3 – Litigation for Fair School Finance:

Discussion ensued.

Vote by roll call:

Ms. Tousignant Dufour – no  
Ms. Hay – no  
Mr. Luoto – no  
Mr. Maston – no  
Ms. Hallsworth - no  
Mr. Smith – no  
Mr. Tracy – no

On a vote of 0-7, the vote did not pass.

Resolution 4 – Privatization of Public Education and the Oversight of Public Schools, Including Small and Regional Districts:

Discussion ensued.

Vote by roll call:

Ms. Tousignant Dufour – abstain  
Ms. Hay – no  
Mr. Luoto – no  
Mr. Maston – no  
Ms. Hallsworth - abstain  
Mr. Smith – no  
Mr. Tracy – abstain

*Approved*

On a vote of 0-4-3, with Ms. Tousignant Dufour, Ms. Hallsworth and Mr. Tracy abstaining, the vote did not pass.

Resolution 5 –Use of Federal Funds:

Discussion ensued.

Vote by roll call:

Ms. Tousignant Dufour – abstain  
Ms. Hay – no  
Mr. Luoto – abstain  
Mr. Maston – yes  
Ms. Hallsworth - abstain  
Mr. Smith – no  
Mr. Tracy – abstain

On a vote of 1-2-4, with Ms. Tousignant Dufour, Mr. Luoto and Mr. Tracy abstaining, the vote did not pass.

Resolution 6 – Foundation Budget:

Discussion ensued.

Vote by roll call:

Ms. Tousignant Dufour – abstain  
Ms. Hay – no  
Mr. Luoto – abstain  
Mr. Maston – abstain  
Ms. Hallsworth - abstain  
Mr. Smith – abstain  
Mr. Tracy – no

On a vote of 0-2-5, with Ms. Tousignant Dufour, Mr. Luoto, Mr. Maston, Ms. Hallsworth and Mr. Smith abstaining, the vote did not pass.

Resolution 7 – Affordable Care Act and Medicaid:

Discussion ensued.

Vote by roll call:

Ms. Tousignant Dufour – no  
Ms. Hay – no  
Mr. Luoto – abstain  
Mr. Maston – no

*Approved*

Ms. Hallsworth - no  
Mr. Smith – no  
Mr. Tracy – no

On a vote of 0-6-1, with Mr. Luoto abstaining, the vote did not pass.

#### 4. Entry Plan Update

Dr. Rodrigues presented an update to his Entry Plan which highlighted the various individuals and groups he has met since beginning in Hudson in July:

- Tom Moses, Town Executive Assistant
- Chief Michael Burks, Hudson Police Department
- Chad Grogan, School Resource Officer
- Shawmus Veo, School Resource Officer
- Chief John Blood, Hudson Fire Department
- Cheryl Langill, Carey Napoleone, Jackie Connely - SEPAC
- Maggie Woodcome and Bruce Hedison – HEA Board
- Laura Walker and Linda MacGrath - HPA Board
- Bri Miele and Michelle Gebo – Secretary’s Union Board
- Steve Freitas and Arthur Redding – CHAPS
- Paul Richard - SHINE Initiative
- Interview with Dakota Antelman - Reporter - Community Advocate Newspaper
- Interview with Zach Comeau – Reporter - Metro West Daily News
- Margie Daniels - Executive Director of Middlesex Partnerships for Youth
- Nina Ryan - Hudson Family Network
- John Parent - Board of Selectmen
- Karl Baldrate - Hudson Maynard Adult Learning Center
- Dr. Lucy Kanjer-Larson – District Physician
- State Representative Hogan
- Steve LaVoie of Boy Scouts of America
- North Reading Transportation Transportation Company
- Andrew Herman - Hudson Cub Scouts

Since September, Dr. Rodrigues has held the following Listening Sessions:

High School Staff Listening Sessions – September 13, 2017  
High School Parents Listening Sessions - September 18, 2017  
Middle School Parents Listening Sessions – September 21, 2017  
Middle School Staff Listening Sessions – September 22, 2017  
Mulready Staff Listening Sessions – September 28, 2017  
Mulready Parents Listening Sessions – October 2, 2017

The Superintendent’s Student Advisory Council met for the first time on October 3, 2017 at Hudson High School.

Discussion ensued.

*Approved*

Issues of *Creating Connections* continues to be published every Friday and is currently reaching over 870 subscribers.

Dr. Rodrigues has reviewed data and records for the following:

- Expenditure data to develop Zero-Based budget process protocols
- Protocols for Emergency Management Systems;
- Protocols for school cancellations and delays;
- Protocols for Educator Evaluation for teaching staff and administrators;
- Revised District Improvement Plan;
- Reviewed Special Education Improvement Plan; and
- Continued review of the curriculum development status

**Matters for Action:**

1. Approval of Legal Analysis and Report of Status of 62 Packard Street Property, TXO#17-215

A motion to confirm the actions and records of 1980, wherein the School Committee turned over, transferred and relinquished control of the Packard Street School building to the Town via the Board of Selectmen, in that it was no longer needed for school purposes, was made by Ms. Tousignant Dufour and seconded by Mr. Maston. On a vote of 7-0, the motion passed.

Discussion ensued.

2. Approval of Hudson High School Overnight Field Trip to Peruvian Amazon – April 10-21, 2018

Dr. Rodrigues recommended approval of the Hudson High School overnight field trip to the Amazon, Peruvian.

Discussion ensued.

A motion to approve the Hudson High School overnight field trip to the Amazon, Peruvian – April 10-21, 2018 was made by Ms. Tousignant Dufour and seconded by Ms. Hay. On a vote of 7-0, the motion passed.

**Reclassifications:**

None.

**Items of Interest to the School Committee:**

Mr. Tracy recently read a new study published regarding adolescent sleep times and school start times and the correlation between depression and anxiety, and would like to consider exploring the idea of changing the school start time.

Discussion ensued.

*Approved*

Committee Chair, Michele Tousignant Dufour, received comments from parents who were concerned to see that the High School had free access into the building during the school day with no buzzer system in place.

Discussion ensued.

**Executive Session/Adjournment**

At 8:33 p.m., Committee Chair, Michele Tousignant Dufour, noted that there was no need for Executive Session.

A motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Tousignant Dufour and seconded by Ms. Hay. On a vote of 7-0, the motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Hallsworth, Secretary  
Hudson School Committee